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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Construction of ART lane across Sungai Kuap nearer to completion with installation of final girder structure

KOTA SAMARAHAN: The Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project reached another important milestone recently with the installation of the last girder for the 400-meter bridging structure crossing Sungai Kuap.

With this final girder in place, work will now focus on completing the bridge in time for the pilot operation of the Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) service scheduled at the end of this year.

This bridge will connect the dedicated ART lane for the 27.6 km Blue Line from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Hikmah Exchange in Kuching, towards providing reliable and seamless connectivity for commuters in the future.

The Blue Line – currently in construction under two works packages – includes 15 stations, and is part of Phase 1 of the KUTS project.

Package 1 of the Blue Line is from the Rembus ART depot to the Northbank-IBRACO ART station at the Northbank area.

Package 1 of the Blue Line is being undertaken by the joint venture company of Ibraco Construction Sdn Bhd and China Railway Engineering Corporation (M) Sdn Bhd (ICJV).

Phase 1 of the KUTS project also includes two other lines: the 12.3 km Red Line from Kuching Sentral to Pending and the 10.5 km Green Line, which runs from Pending to the Yayasan Sarawak roundabout in Petra Jaya.

This development is a key step in enhancing urban transit infrastructure in Kuching, aiming to deliver a modern, efficient public transportation system to benefit the city and its surrounding areas.

ENDS

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Photos and Captions:

The last girder (concrete structure with the red banner in the centre) being put in place for the completion of the bridging structure works

ONE FOR THE ALBUM…Sarawak Metro management together with ICJV management posed for a group photograph to celebrate the milestone.

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About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), a State-owned enterprise, has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to modernise public transport through the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

Sarawak Metro is the implementer, operator and maintainer of the KUTS project.

The KUTS project is being developed in phases, and Phase 1 includes the development of three lines: the Blue Line from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Hikmah Exchange in the city centre; the Red Line, from Kuching Sentral to Pending; and the Green Line, from Pending to Yayasan Sarawak.

The backbone of the KUTS project is the introduction of the zero-emission Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) hydrogen vehicles.

The ART vehicles will be operated on dedicated lanes, meaning they will not share the lane with other road users. The ART hydrogen vehicles will run on rubber tires, and hence the dedicated lanes will be trackless. The lanes will mostly be at-grade (road level) while certain sections of the alignment will be elevated.

The ART operation will be supported by a network of feeder buses, which will also consist of hydrogen-powered vehicles to offer the 'first mile and last mile' connectivity for commuters.

The move to use hydrogen is in line with the Sarawak Government's aspirations to advance the hydrogen economy and to decarbonise public transport in Sarawak.

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