

For Immediate Release

Press Release

25 October 2024

Close collaboration among implementing agencies vital for success of KUTS Project

KUCHING: Minister for Transport Sarawak, Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin has called for close collaboration among all parties involved in the implementation of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project to ensure timely and successful completion.

During his visit to several KUTS project construction sites recently, Lee emphasised the importance of teamwork and coordination between Sarawak Metro and the various state agencies, as well as the contractors involved, to deliver Kuching's first modern and efficient public transport system.

The site visit was also participated by Datu Wong Hee Sieng, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Transport Sarawak and representatives from several state agencies, including the State Financial Secretary's Office, Economic Planning Unit Sarawak, State Implementation Monitoring Unit (SIMU), Jabatan Kerja Raya Sarawak (JKRS), Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak, and Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC).

Among the key locations visited were Rembus Depot and sites of stations along the Blue Line alignment at Sungai Kuap Bridge and near the Heart Centre as well as the Interchange station at Simpang Tiga.

Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin reiterated on the need for continued collaboration and communication between Sarawak Metro and all relevant agencies to overcome challenges and ensure the project remains on schedule.

"Sarawak Metro must monitor this project closely so that it can update on its progress continuously on a timely basis so that the public are kept abreast with its development," Lee said.

He expressed his confidence that the project would significantly transform Kuching's public transportation landscape once completed.

End.

About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to modernise public transport through the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

Sarawak Metro has been entrusted to implement, operate and maintain the KUTS project.

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The 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 Damai.

Construction of the first package for the Blue Line is expected to complete by the fourth quarter of 2025 and all three lines are scheduled to be fully completed by the end of 2027.

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.

Photo and Caption:



Minister for Transport Sarawak, Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin (left) inspects the progress of the Sg Kuap bridge.

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Minister for Transport Sarawak, Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin (third from right), being briefed by KUTS Project Director Zafrin Zakaria (right).



Mazli (left) briefed Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin (third from right) on the progress of the Rembus Depot.



The delegates observed the piling activity at the Rembus Depot

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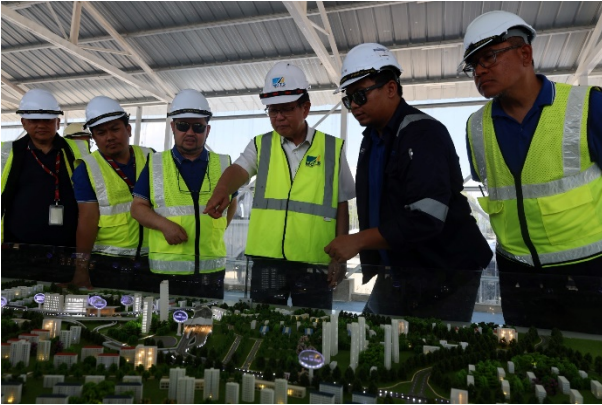


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Lee (3rd from right) views the scale model for Red Line while being briefed on the progress at the SR10 Simpang Tiga Interchange Station.



The delegates and Sarawak Metro team gathered in front of the Red Line scale model, showcasing the project's progress and vision.

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