

For Immediate Release

Press Release

25 October 2024

Sarawak Metro awards feeder bus contract to JV company

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) has awarded a contract for the supply of hydrogen powered feeder buses to a joint venture company comprising SKS Coachbuilders Sdn Bhd and Sun Credit Sdn Bhd.

Under this contract, the joint venture company is entrusted to undertake the works of designing, engineering, procurement, manufacture, supply, installation, delivering, testing, commissioning and handover of 55 single-deck hydrogen fuel cell feeder buses.

The contract, valued at RM122,441,222.00 including options, will be executed over a period of 43 months.

The hydrogen-powered feeder buses will support the Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) system network under the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project, in providing the first and last-mile connectivity.

A total of six (6) tender submissions were received at the close of the tender exercise on 26 July 2024.

At the signing ceremony, CEO Ts. Mazli Mustaffa signed on behalf of Sarawak Metro. The joint venture companies were represented by Muhamad Zaidi bin Toha, Director of SKS Coachbuilders Sdn Bhd and Sempurai Petrus Ngelai, Chairman of Sun Credit Sdn Bhd with Dato' Roy Soo Kum Kin, CEO of SKS Coachbuilders Sdn Bhd and Timothy Lim Teng, Director of Sun Credit Sdn Bhd as witnesses, respectively.

"The award of this contract represents a significant step towards building a more reliable, convenient and eco-friendly public transport network in Kuching," Ts. Mazli said.

"To the JV company, let us work together towards this goal for the betterment of Sarawak's public transportation system," Mazli added.

Sarawak Metro, a subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), is tasked with the implementation, operation, and maintenance of the KUTS project, which is under the purview of Ministry of Transport Sarawak.

End.

About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

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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.

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:



Dato’ Roy Soo Kum Kin (4th from left) handed a bus model to Mazli after the signing ceremony.

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