

For Immediate Release

Press Release

7 June 2024

Sarawak Metro hosts delegation from Rapid Bus for closer look at hydrogen powered public transport

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) recently hosted a delegation from Rapid Bus Sdn Bhd (Rapid Bus) and shared with them the efforts being planned and implemented under the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

The delegation from Rapid Bus was led by its Chief Operating Officer, Ku Jamil Zakaria and its Central Region Head, Khairul Azhar Hamidulah.

The delegation also had the opportunity to experience a ride on Sarawak Metro's hydrogen bus, enjoying the scenic Downtown Heritage Loop route.

This ride not only showcased the operational capabilities of the hydrogen-powered buses but also highlighted the environmental and economic benefits of transitioning to sustainable renewable energy solutions.

Ku Jamil Zakaria said their visit was aimed at gaining a better understanding of the hydrogen technology system implemented on the buses and he expressed admiration for the approach adopted by Sarawak Metro.

He also pointed out that the visit highlighted the significance of knowledge-sharing within the public transport industry.

For media enquiries, please contact the Sarawak Metro Corporate Communication team :

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Rapid Bus manages and operates bus services in Greater Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Penang, Kuantan and the BRT-Sunway Line.

On hand to brief the Rapid Bus delegation were Sarawak Metro's Deputy Project Director, Nor Nasyriq bin Shahirudin and Senior Manager of Operations & Maintenance, Mohamed Fairoze bin Mohamed Hadli.

Ends

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 is the implementer, operator and maintainer of 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.

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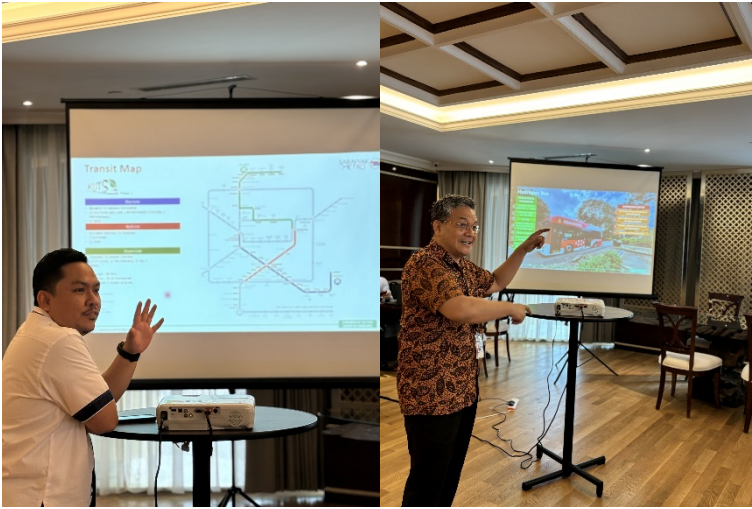
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Photos and Captions:



Nor Nasyriq (left) and Fairoze (right) presenting the KUTS project and hydrogen bus.



Sarawak Metro and Rapid Bus team, together with officers from Ministry of Transport Sarawak, posing for a group photograph.

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The group enjoying the scenic Downtown Heritage Loop route during the ride in the hydrogen bus.



Fairoze (2nd from right) explaining the various elements of the hydrogen bus to the guests.



The Rapid Bus team posing with the hydrogen bus.

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