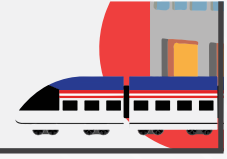


Towards A Smarter Tomorrow: Sarawak and Johor, Similar Yet Different



Monday, 19 April 2021, Kuching – A recent article by The Edge posed the question: How Smart Are Our Cities?

The intriguing piece listed Sarawak, Selangor, Penang, and Johor as the four states embarking on developing Smart Cities.

Of the systems, Sarawak and Johor are leading the way to better public transportation with Automated Rapid Transit (ART) with Johor investing in the Iskandar Malaysia Bus Rapid Transit (IMBRT) and Sarawak in the Automated Rapid Transit (ART) for the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS).

KUTS' ART features a bus-train hybrid that has three carriages and runs on rubber wheels. This vehicle can transport 300 passengers at a maximum speed of 70km/h.

What sets KUTS' ART apart from alternatives is that it can be self-operating, with sensors to navigate on virtual tracks, and runs on renewable energy such as electricity and hydrogen.

These features make ART a smart and modern solution to challenges like traffic congestion and environmental degradation.

Unlike Johor's IMBRT, Sarawak's ART will have dedicated tracks as the system works close to "driver-independence". Additionally, Sarawak will be the first in the world to have a hydrogen-powered ART. This is in line with efforts to ensure KUTS provides the highest standard in performance and safety.

As the Project Management Consultants of Line 2 for KUTS (Batu 12 to The Isthmus), Maltimur will play an essential role in alleviating Kuching's connectivity and realizing Sarawak's Smart City initiative.

