

Free bus service in Johor

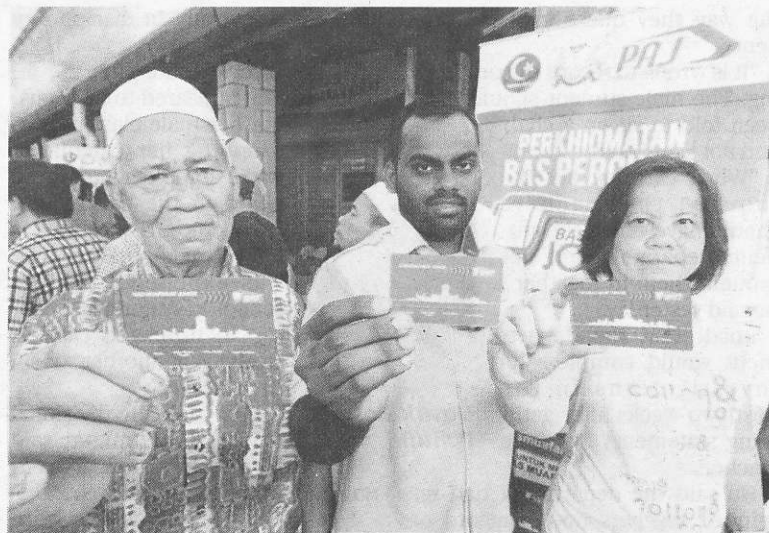
INTER-CITY TRAVEL:
30 buses to ply 15
priority routes from
next month

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SOME 50,000 travel pass cards for Bas Muafakat Johor are expected to be snapped up by commuters before the launch of the service by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin at the Larkin bus terminal on April 22.

The Bas Muafakat Johor, an inter-city free bus service, which is scheduled for a soft launch on April 1, might be increased if the response from the public is encouraging.

Johor Public Transportation chief executive director Suhairi Hashim said 30 buses will be plying 15 service routes in four localities — Johor Baru City Council (six routes), and three routes each in Johor Baru Central Municipal Council, Pasir Gudang Municipal Council and Kulai



Commuters with their Bas Muafakat Johor travel pass cards at the bus service's road show programme at the Kulai Bus Terminal in Johor Baru yesterday. Pic by Hairul Anuar Rahim

Municipal Council.

Suhairi said the programme was an initiative by the state government to help those living near here to cope with the rising cost of living.

"This is an alternative way for people living in Johor Baru to get around without having to fork out travelling expenses," said Suhairi at the Bas Muafakat Johor inaugural road show at the Kulai Bus Terminal

here yesterday.

Suhairi said the 15 designated routes encompass housing and school areas. Each municipality will have two or three service routes, with an interval bus service between 30 to 60 minutes per trip.

Suhairi said if the feedback from commuters is positive, Handal Indah Sdn Bhd, which operates the buses, will increase the services to

meet public demand.

He said the bus service will operate between 6am and 8pm in priority locations and 7am to 7pm at other locations.

"The priority locations are routes in the vicinity of schools to enable schoolchildren to get to their schools on time."

In conjunction with the event, there was a registration drive for the Bas Muafakat travel pass card for commuters.

The registration campaign was launched by Kulai Municipal Council president Abdul Rahman Salleh.

Suhairi said although the bus service was free, commuters still need to have the Bas Muafakat card, which has an annual membership fee of RM10 for adults, senior citizens and the handicapped, and RM5 for children aged 7 to 17, while children under 6 can ride for free.

"Commuters need to swipe their cards at the scanning machine when they board and alight from the bus."

The card can be obtained from registration counters at TJ Mart Kulai and Eonsave Senai on April 12 and 13 and at Kulai terminal or RTC Kulai on May 9 and 10.

The public can also register online at www.basmuafakatjohor.com

Dataran Bandaraya Johor Bahru tumpuan peminat kasut roda

MESKIPUN bermain kasut roda bukan satu perkara baharu namun, aktiviti riadah bagi mengisi waktu senggang yang seakan bermusim itu kini kembali popular. Ternyata sukan ini mempunyai peminat tersendiri dan semakin diminati dalam kalangan generasi muda sehingga mencetuskan satu fenomena di sekitar bandar raya Johor Bahru, Johor.

Mengambil peluang yang terhidang ini memberi idea kepada Noor Rael Zulfaqhar, 27, dan isterinya, Nurul Faizatul Anna Mazlan, 26, untuk membuka syarikat Real One Roller Blade bagi menjalankan perniagaan menyewa kasut roda kepada orang ramai.

Dua lokasi perniagaan pasangan ini ialah di Dataran Bandaraya Johor Bahru dan kawasan parkir di belakang ban-

gunan Jakel Bandar Baru Uda, Johor Bahru.

Menurut Noor Rael, beliau memperuntukkan kira-kira RM7,000 bagi membeli pelbagai saiz kasut roda untuk disewakan kepada orang ramai.

Harga sepasang kasut yang dibelinya adalah kira-kira RM300 sepasang.

Katanya, kasut-kasut roda itu disewakan kepada para pengunjung dengan harga RM10 untuk tempoh bermain selama satu jam tanpa mengira saiz.

“Alhamdulillah, sambutan yang kami terima agak baik walaupun baru beroperasi hampir empat bulan lalu di daerah ini.

“Walaupun aktiviti bermain

Jom Singgah



kasut roda bukanlah perkara baru, tetapi ramai yang berminat untuk mencubanya termasuk kanak-kanak, remaja dan golongan wanita,” katanya kepada *Kosmo!* ketika ditemui di Dataran Bandaraya Johor Bahru baru-baru ini.

Jelas Noor Rael, dia dan isterinya membuka perniagaan itu dari pukul 10 malam

hingga lewat pagi tetapi bergantung kepada cuaca.

Mengulas lanjut, bapa kepada seorang anak ini memberitahu, pada awal memulakan perniagaan ini, dia hanya memiliki enam pasang kasut namun, kini mampu tersenyum selepas mampu memiliki 30 pasang kasut dan pendapatan agak baik.



NOOR RAEI (berdiri, enam dari kanan) bergambar bersama pengunjung yang menyewa kasut roda di Bandar Baru Uda, Johor Bahru.

Menurut Noor Rael lagi, berdasarkan sambutan daripada orang ramai, pihaknya kini

dalam proses mendapatkan lesen kebenaran daripada pihak Majlis Bandaraya Johor Bahru.