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KL's carbon neutral blueprint launched

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KUALA Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) has launched a blueprint to achieve its carbon neutral city target by 2050.

The blueprint called Kuala Lumpur Climate Action Plan 2050 was developed to identify all short-, medium- and long-term climate action plans.

Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Dr Shahidan Kassim said five main strategies were outlined in the blueprint — mobility and infrastructure; green city adaptation; energy efficient and climate- proof buildings; smart waste management; and disaster management.

He said Malaysia had voluntarily pledged to reduce carbon emission in terms of gross domestic product distribution by 45% in

2030 in the Paris Agreement 2015.

“As such, DBKL also outlined 245 low-carbon initiative programmes under its Kuala Lumpur Low Carbon Community Action Plan 2030, aiming to reduce carbon emission by 70%.

“Some of the main ways to tackle climate change is by using green technology and leading a low-carbon lifestyle,” he said at the launch in Kuala Lumpur, which coincided with the Kuala Lumpur Low Carbon seminar organised by DBKL for non-governmental organisations and corporate clients in the city.

British High Commissioner to Malaysia Charles Hay was also present.

Shahidan said everyone's participation was needed to achieve the carbon neutral status as people's habits and activities were contributing factors leading to the

increase in carbon dioxide emission and global warming, resulting in climate change.

Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Mahadi Che Ngah said the Climate Action Plan 2050 was a collaboration between City Hall and C40 — an international organisation comprising mayors from around the world to fight the climate crisis.

Mahadi said DBKL had implemented low carbon initiatives in its management of the city.

“Some of the initiatives include imposing on developers to use at least 30% renewable energy components in projects, installation of solar photovoltaic systems at DBKL buildings, planting one million trees and preparing an inventory on greenhouse gases in the city.

“Wangsa Maju has been selected as an area for the city's carbon neutral pilot project.



(From left) Hay, Shahidan and Mahadi launching the Kuala Lumpur Climate Action Plan 2050 in Kuala Lumpur.

“Other projects include the construction of more bicycle and pedestrian lanes to connect residential areas such as Damansara Heights, Kenny Hills and Bangsar Hills to the city centre.

“There is also a plan to use electric buses as GoKL buses,” he said, adding that DBKL staff would be educated on climate change too.

Mahadi highlighted that DBKL staff should lead by example.

“Since September, DBKL staff

relying on public transportation get RM30, which allows unlimited rides on the RapidKL rail and bus network monthly, to encourage them to take public transport.

“Staff are also asked to dress down on Fridays to reduce use of air conditioners.

“The management is also studying the feasibility of closing the DBKL headquarters' carpark on Fridays to encourage use of public transport,” he said.