

Cracking whip on traffic offenders

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DBKL issues compounds, tows vehicles parked illegally and obstructing walkways

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KUALA Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) is increasing enforcement efforts in traffic hotspots around the city.

From January to Feb 12, a total of 164 vehicles and 35 motorcycles were towed to the DBKL depot in Brickfields for various offences.

During the most recent operation by DBKL in Jalan Bangsar, six cars and eight motorcycles were towed away for obstruction.

Some of the vehicles had been parked on pedestrian walkways while others were found occupying bays meant for the disabled.

In a statement on its Facebook page, DBKL said the operation in Bangsar was part of its effort to step up enforcement at traffic hotspots.

"Regular checks and monitoring will be carried out by our traffic wardens based on public complaints," it noted.

During the operation, 44 compounds were issued for various offences under the Road Transport Act 1987.

In photos shared by DBKL, several motorcycles were seen parked on a walkway in front of the Bangsar LRT station.

All towed cars and motorcycles were sent to a depot in Jalan Pahang for further action, added DBKL.



DBKL traffic wardens removing motorcycles parked on the pedestrian walkway in front of the Bangsar LRT station.

For Brickfields, a DBKL spokesperson told *StarMetro* that the traffic unit in the area would issue a daily average of about 80 summonses to errant motorists and at least 10 vehicles would be towed away.

"Brickfields is a high traffic area due to the commercial shops and residential buildings there. Here it's like fighting fire. We remove one car, another one comes in.

"People will park on the pedes-

trian walkway, on tactile blocks, double park, triple park, throughout the day," added the spokesperson.

DBKL is also appealing to management committees of Hindu temple and churches in Brickfields to liaise with its traffic officers during major religious events.

The spokesperson from the traffic unit said prior engagement was important to ensure a smooth traffic flow.

"Talk to us when you need support to plan and manage big events like Thaipusam where certain roads need to be closed.

"We have 55 enforcement and traffic officers working on shifts in Brickfields every day to ensure traffic is smooth," he added.

During the recent Thaipusam festival, traffic snarl in Brickfields resulted in massive congestion everywhere.

"This could have been avoided had the temple management asked for help to manage traffic," he said.

There are about 14 Hindu temples and churches in Brickfields.

In a separate non-traffic related operation, three restaurants in Bukit Jalil had their wares confiscated for taking up space on public walkways and parking bays.

The operation in Jalan Jalil Perkasa also found an abandoned stall and a scooter rental service.

DBKL said 75 items, including 14 scooters, plastic chairs and tables, as well as gas cylinders and a stove were impounded.

"Ten compounds were issued for violation of the Street, Drainage and Building Act 1974," it said, adding that the seized items were sent to a storage facility in Taman Miharja.

Meanwhile, DBKL said several areas in Kuala Lumpur had been designated as a "Free Rubbish" zone.

The areas include Jalan Bukit Bintang (from in front of Pavilion Kuala Lumpur to Jalan Alor), Jalan Raja (Dataran Merdeka area), Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman (from in front of Sogo Shopping Centre to Jalan Tun Perak) and Little India in Jalan Tun Sambanthan.

"Those found guilty of littering in these areas are liable to a compound of up to RM500," added DBKL.