

were unable to afford the sign
rent.
"The ideal social housing

"In fact, we have submitted
our feedback at the draft Kuala
Lumpur Structure Plan 2020

long-term vision to provide sustainable
like parks, drainage systems and
green buildings," said DBKL.

DBKL says most of the feedback received involved improvements to
public facilities and infrastructure. — Filepic

MRT Corp says parking spots reserved for staff, disabled



You highlighting the fact that parking bays at the Kepong Baru MRT station are off limits to the public. — SS KANESAN/The Star

By HARITH PRISAM
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THE parking spaces at Jalan Rimbunan Raya 1 near Kepong Baru MRT station in Kuala Lumpur are for the use of staff and persons with disabilities, says Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp). The response comes in light of questions raised by local activist Yee Poh Ping regarding the newly installed signs at the carpark entrance.

The signs had led some to believe that the bays were exclusively designated for individuals with disabilities, but a barrier prevented access to them. "We have kept the parking area reserved for our staff, but

we have also opened up the bays for individuals with disabilities, so as

"if you wish to park, just give us a call using the number provided at the entrance. One of our employees will promptly come down, open the gate and guide you to the parking space," the spokesperson said in a media statement.

Yee had in a recent conference pointed out the limited number of parking spaces available for commuters at the Laman Rimbunan commercial area.

Over the last six to seven years, he said, commuters tended to double-park which led to traffic congestion in the area. He said that out of the total 52 reserved parking bays designat-

ed for staff and persons with disabilities, a significant number remain unoccupied and unused.

"The MRT Corp to address the parking issue in the area, which has been highlighted by commuters over April 23.

"We want drivers to see the sign clearly for themselves and

discuss the signs with us. The parking bays should be open to the public as it would be more convenient for MRT users to park their cars than having to occupy spaces in the commercial area," he said.

He promised that MRT Corp would provide facilities for staff and persons with disabilities while opening up the reserved parking spots for public use.



Businesses at Laman Rimbunan say many commuters park their vehicles for the whole day near the Kepong Baru MRT station. — Photos: ONG SOON HIN/The Star

StarMetro report on the parking issue on June 7.

More parking soon at MRT Kepong Baru

22 out of 52 bays will be made available for public use, says MP

By JAROD LIM and SHRUTHIPRIYA SELVARAJAN
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MORE parking bays located next to the Kepong Baru MRT station in Kuala Lumpur will be open to the public soon.

Out of 52 bays previously allocated to MRT Corp staff, 22 including two for the disabled will now be made available to commuters.

Kepong MP Lim Lip Eng said visitors and business owners in the Laman Rimbunan commercial area nearby would benefit from the move.

"The MRT authorities have agreed to open up some of the parking space, hopefully by the middle of October," he said during a press conference at a restaurant in Jalan Rimbunan Raya.

The opening of the MRT station

had drawn more commuters who parked their cars all day at Laman Rimbunan, he said.

This resulted in fewer parking spots for visitors to the shops there and it had badly affected their business, he elaborated.

Lim said he would discuss a long-term solution with Kuala Lumpur City City Hall (DBKL) to turn an open space next to the MRT Kepong Baru station into an extra carpark.

"We also hope to introduce a two-hour parking policy in the commercial area.

"This has been done by local councils like Subang Jaya and Petaling Jaya.

"If cars are not removed by the two-hour mark, fines will be issued," he added.

Lim's special assistant Dic Lai said motorists who took the MRT would need to pay only RM4.30



(From left) Lai and Lim showing a sign stating that the parking space is for MRT Corp staff only.

"Motorists who take the MRT would need to pay only RM4.30 to park for the whole day."

Dic Lai

to park for the whole day.

"Those who do not take the MRT have to pay RM3.30 an hour to park there.

"There is a multi-storey carpark near Metro Prima MRT station, with 212 bays available," Lai highlighted.

Village de Cafe owner Jane Gan said her business had been affected by the train station located opposite her restaurant.

"I open at 7am and I see many commuters parking here.

"Their cars take up bays for the whole day and my customers



Gan says her customers complain about the lack of parking bays.

complain they have nowhere to park," she said.

Community activist Yee Poh Ping had previously raised concerns about the parking issue.

He had called for the reserved bays near MRT Kepong Baru to be opened to the public, in an April 25 report in *StarMetro*.

In a follow-up report on June 7, MRT Corp responded that the bays were also for the disabled.

Yee said MRT Corp staff should park in other stations like Sri Delima.

"MRT Corp should open all 52 bays as this will also benefit both commuters and businesses at Laman Rimbunan," he said.