
IT has been reported that the government is looking into imposing congestion charges to reduce the number of cars entering Kuala Lumpur.

It appears the idea is to charge a fee to deter people from entering KL (Kuala Lumpur).

However, I believe such a charge will not effectively reduce congestion because people who go to KL generally *have to be* there.

A congestion charge would only increase City Hall's coffers without reducing congestion.

Congestion charge won't be effective enough

A congestion charge is a reactive approach to the problem and would be a burden to people.

The government should consider proactive alternatives that would not burden us monetarily.

One idea is to change the way traffic lights are managed.

Currently they are programmed to change after a fixed period of time, irrespective of the volume of the traffic.

Because of this, traffic police

are seen during morning and evening peak hours at major road junctions to control traffic, bypassing the lights, and what they do is relatively effective – kudos.

However, the police cannot be at all major road junctions all day long.

So use road sensors and GPS to manage traffic lights to optimise traffic flow. Traffic light systems managed by computers and artifi-

cial intelligence can be adjusted in real time to respond to changes in traffic conditions.

We also need to strictly enforce regulations on reckless driving, illegal parking, and behaviours that contribute to congestion.

Cracking down on these violations can help to improve traffic flow.

Also, we could remove parking bays along major roads.

Forget about losses in parking

fee collections, it's more important to improve traffic flow by removing such spaces.

Overall, reducing traffic congestion in KL is a complex challenge that requires a multifaceted approach, not the mere imposition of yet another charge on top of all the other tolls and fees we pay.

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