

Headline	More solar panels to be installed at Ipoh city council buildings		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	03 Sep 2021	Language	English
Circulation	175,986	Readership	527,958
Section	Metro	Page No	4
ArticleSize	288 cm <sup>2</sup>	Journalist	IVAN LOH
PR Value	RM 43,482		



## PERAK

# More solar panels to be installed at Ipoh city council buildings

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IPOH City Council (MBI) wants to instal more photovoltaic solar panels on its properties in line with its plan to be a smart and low-carbon city by 2030.

Mayor Datuk Rumaizi Baharin said MBI started the ball rolling by installing solar panels at Perak Urban Transformation Centre (UTC).

“We will continue doing so with our other buildings,” he said in a press conference after visiting the electrical room at UTC.

Also present during the visit was Perak Tenaga Nasional Bhd general manager Mohd Azhar Abd Rashid.

“Next, we are planning to instal the solar panels at sports facilities, including Stadium Indera Mulia, Tuanku Zara Aquatic Centre and maybe Perak Stadium,” said Rumaizi.

He planned to encourage installation of solar panels at all government buildings in the city next.

The mayor said the installation work at UTC was completed in July after a Renewable Energy Supplies Agreement was signed with Tenaga Nasional Bhd and GSPARX Sdn Bhd in March.

The solar-energy project, he said, was expected to save the city coun-



Rumaizi (right) and Mohd Azhar showing the blueprint for the solar energy system that will be implemented by the council.

cil up to RM2.5mil over 21 years.

“MBI is expected to save up to RM47,964 in the first year.

“In August alone, the electricity bill at UTC reduced by about 22%,” he added.

Rumaizi said the city council wanted to use less fossil-based power and move towards using renewable energy.

“Based on the system’s projection in the electrical room, this technology can save about 47 trees a year,” he said, adding that carbon emission was also cut by 70%.

Carbon emission, he said, had impacted climate change globally and the city council wanted to do its part to be more environment-friendly.

“We have often read about the icebergs in the Arctic melting because of climate change.

“About 10% of the land on Earth will submerge, including Malaysia, so we need to change our way of life by lowering our carbon footprint, using new technologies and moving towards sustainable living,” he said.