

Headline	Parking area near Taman Jaya LRT station underutilised		
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Parking area near Taman Jaya LRT station underutilised

DESPITE being the only park-and-ride facility in Petaling Jaya offering free parking, the lot near the Taman Jaya LRT station still remains unoccupied.

Opened in the middle of last year, the parking facility provided by the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) aims at serving both Taman Jaya LRT commuters and visitors to the Section 10 commercial area along Jalan Gasing.

With the parking facility located in a semi-hidden area, behind a row of houses, there is a chance that not many drivers know about it yet.

To access it, motorists have to turn left after the Section 10 commercial row and drive past Catholic High School along Jalan 10/4 to access the entrance, which is located at the end of the road.

"Honestly, I do not think many people know of the existence of this park-and-ride facility as it is pretty hidden.

"I do hope more people will use it," said Bukit Gasing assemblyman R. Rajiv during a site visit there.

He believes that with more people using the free parking facility, it will put less stress on the Asia Jaya MBPJ park-and-ride facility, which is already operating at maximum capacity.

"At the Asia Jaya parking lot, peo-



The empty park-and-ride facility near the Taman Jaya LRT station, although it is free of charge.

ple have to pay RM3 and it is so full that you can see cars just parking wherever they can," he said, adding that both the Taman Jaya and Asia Jaya stations are actually not that far apart.

Apart from this free parking facility, the only other available open space parking near the Taman Jaya LRT station is the two privately-owned lots right opposite

choices, the free park-and-ride facility is the furthest away and commuters will have to walk a minimum of 700m from their cars to the Taman Jaya LRT station.

"Yes the walking distance is a little far but there is ample parking here and a five to ten minute walk can be treated as exercise," Rajiv said.

This parking lot has 302 parking spots and three disabled bays, complete with a covered pedestrian walkway linking to the LRT station.

What is lacking however is lights under the covered walkway.

For now, there are only a few lamp posts at either side of the parking facility and more lights are needed to help improve safety.

"There is certainly much that can be improved on here and, in the meantime, I will be writing to MBPJ asking for more lighting here," Rajiv said.

When asked if a multi-storey car-park located nearer to the LRT station would be more feasible to shorten the walking distance and increase capacity, he explained that it was not possible.

"LRT tracks in the city run alongside the high tension cables and we cannot build a multi-storey structure underneath or beside it and there is no available space beside the station either," he said.

the station which has steep hourly charges.

A bit further away, there is also the RM0.60 per hour MBPJ parking lot available located between the Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) building and the Taman Jaya park and another free parking space behind the park meant for park-goers.

Compared to these four parking