

SPAD to coordinate all state transport master plans

PETALING JAYA: The Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) has been tasked to coordinate all state transport master plans to ensure comprehensive and holistic land transport development across Malaysia.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the decision, made during the first National Transport Council meeting which he chaired, was to avoid redundancy and wastage of resources.

“We were briefed by SPAD on current and future land transport plans, as well as initiatives to be undertaken. “It is my fervent hope that this council will continue to build upon the discussions initiated and the partnership created between Federal and state governments, as well as related agencies,” he said in a statement.

The council is a platform to coordinate, discuss and resolve issues relating to transportation matters with the involvement of various ministries and agencies nationwide.

The meeting agreed to discuss land, aviation, maritime and logistics sectors, including setting up a working committee to oversee Sabah and Sarawak transport matters.

“I am happy to note that the council received undivided support and commitment from members on both Federal and state levels. “This is a testament to our aspirations for the nation’s transport system to be on par with that of advanced economies and benefit the rakyat,” he said.

In a separate event, Liow said there was no issue of “double jeopardy” for road users with a single offence registered under both the traffic offence demerit system (Kejara) and the Automatic Enforcement System (AES).

He said offenders would not be charged in court twice for the same offence. “All this is already addressed in the Road Transport Act which states that the authorities can issue a summons and demerit points.

“Double jeopardy is when you are charged in court twice for the same offence which is not the case here,” he said. Liow called on the public not to panic, assuring them that the Road Transport Department (JPJ) and his ministry would provide more details. “Some information is already on the JPJ website,” he told reporters after launching the Klang Valley Double Track project yesterday.