

Race against time to award 52 contracts: Mass Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) is racing against time to award the remaining 52 contracts for the construction of the 51km Sungai Buloh-Kajang line.

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Race against time to award 52 contracts



Pic by Shahrin Yahya

(From left) MMC Gamuda KVMRT (PDP) Sdn Bhd general manager (GM) Leng Hua Teng, SMPP chief operating officer Ir Bakri Ishak, TRC project director Muhamad Shahaizi Abdul Hai, Amir, SMPP managing director Ku Harris Ku Mahmud and MMC Gamuda KVMRT (PDP) GM Mohd Amjad examining the plans for the construction of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang line

by FARAH SAAD

MASS Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) is racing against time to award the remaining 52 contracts for the construction of the 51km Sungai Buloh-Kajang (SBK) line.

According to MRT Corp director for strategic communications and public relations Amir Mahmood Razak, the contracts must be awarded in the remaining six months of the year.

"No matter what happens we have to give out the contracts by the end of December," said Amir, during a press conference in Kuala Lumpur.

So far, MRT Corp has created a total of 85 contracts. Of these, 33 were awarded during the first-half of the year. Another 21 contracts are currently being evaluated and 31 more contracts have yet to be called.

It is learned that the total value of contracts awarded currently stands at RM15.5 billion.

MRT Corp says the contracts must be awarded by end-December this year

"At least four more packages will be awarded in the current quarter (July-September), with the biggest tender being the RM1.6 billion rolling stock deal, which will be announced at the end of the month," said Amir. He, however, declined to comment on the total value of the remaining contracts.

The company has also received bids from Changchun Railways Vehicle Co Ltd, which supplied 38 units of Keretapi Tanah Melayu Bhd's newest rolling stock, Siemens SMH Rail Consortium and CSR Zhuzhou Electric Locomotive Co Ltd.

Amir said Phase 1 of the MRT line from Sungai Buloh to Semantan will be operational by December 2016 and Phase 2, from Kajang to Maluri, will be up and running the following June.

Meanwhile, construction is set to begin on the northern part of the SBK line for two work packages awarded by MRT Corp earlier this year.

The two contractors are Syarikat Muhibbah Perniagaan & Pembinaa Sdn Bhd (SMPP) for Viaduct 1 and Trans Resources Corp Sdn Bhd (TRC) for the Sungai Buloh depot.

SMPP's package is worth RM1.09 billion and will see the construction of the viaduct guideway (elevated tracks) from Sungai Buloh to Kota Damansara, with a deadline for completion set for the fourth-quarter of 2014 (4Q14).

The works will cover a 5.4km stretch and will align four MRT stations, Sungai Buloh, Kg Baru Sungai Buloh, Rubber Research Institute (RRI) and Kota Damansara.

TRC's contract is worth RM459.6 million and is set for completion in the 1Q16. The depot will be constructed on a 65ha plot on RRI's premises.