



MEDIA RELEASE

CLOSURE AT JALAN BUKIT BINTANG (7.00PM UPDATE)

Kuala Lumpur, 24 April 2014: Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) wishes to provide an update on the road closure at Jalan Bukit Bintang following the detection of depressions beneath the pedestrian walkway on Wednesday and early today.

MRT Corp's Underground Works Contractor MMC Gamuda KVMRT (T) Sdn Bhd has been carrying out backfilling to backfill the voids which had resulted in the road depressions.

For the first depression which was detected at about 6am on Wednesday, about 60 cubic metres of mortar was pumped in to backfill the void beneath the depression. Backfilling work was completed by yesterday evening. Compaction grouting was then carried out immediately.

A second depression was detected at about 7am today, and backfilling work began almost immediately. A total of 8 cubic metres of mortar was pumped in to backfill the void beneath the depression. Backfilling was completed at around 10am this morning.

Compaction grouting for the area, which had already been carried out when backfilling of the first void was completed, is still in progress and is expected to continue overnight. Continuous soil investigation is also being carried out in the area.

In view of this, the 500m stretch of Jalan Bukit Bintang (Jalan Tun Razak-bound) between Chulan Square and Menara Worldwide will remain closed to all traffic.

Throughout the closure, a traffic contra-flow was implemented, whereby traffic from Bukit Bintang heading to Jalan Tun Razak will be directed onto two lanes on the opposite (Bukit Bintang-bound) side of the road. Two remaining lanes remained available for Bukit Bintang bound traffic.

MRT Corp will provide further updates on when the road will be reopened.

Road users are advised to use alternative roads to avoid the area. Traffic from Bukit Bintang heading to Jalan Tun Razak can turn into Jalan Imbi at Chulan Square, and then turn left into Jalan Inai, then left again into Jalan Kampung and rejoin Jalan Bukit Bintang at the traffic lights where they can turn right to head to Jalan Tun Razak. Alternatively, motorists can proceed straight along Jalan Inai and reach Jalan Tun Razak directly near the Indonesian Embassy.



Another alternative route is by proceeding along Jalan Imbi and turning left at the SMART Tunnel entrance road, and proceeding to the Kampung Pandan Roundabout where they can access Jalan Tun Razak. Please see map attached.

Traffic police and ERT personnel will be on the ground to help direct traffic. Motorists are reminded to drive carefully near the area.

MRT Corp apologises for the inconvenience caused.

MRT Corp Director of Strategic Communications and Public Relations, Encik Amir Mahmood Razak said the Standard Operating Procedures imposed by MRT Corp had successfully detected the problem at a very early stage and prevented it from becoming serious.

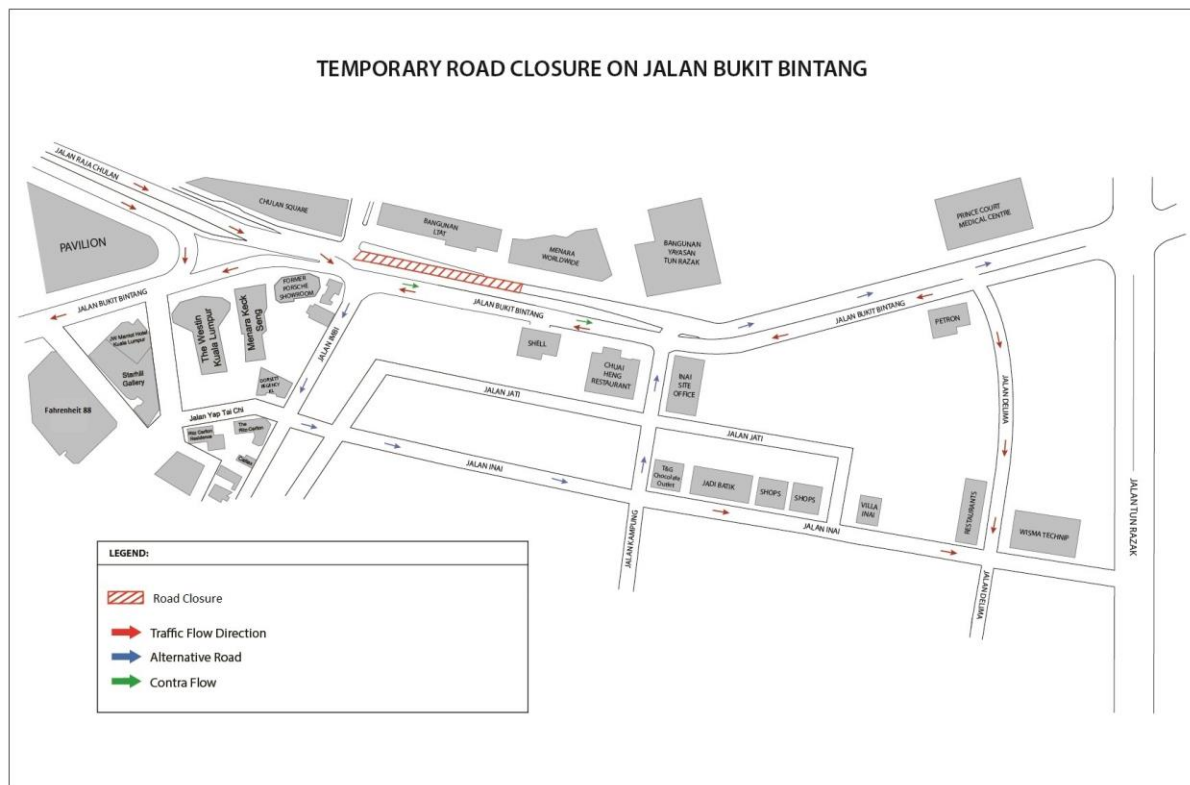
"The fact that we have imposed a requirement that our Underground Works Contractor deploy personnel to monitor the land surface area where tunnelling works are taking place beneath has proven to be invaluable," he said.

Furthermore, Encik Amir said the Variable Density Tunnel Boring Machine which was specially designed to handle tunnelling through the Kuala Lumpur Limestone Formation had managed to reduce incidences of sinkhole formation and bentonite blow-outs.

"Stringent soil investigation has also help us identify many caverns, cavities and voids which we have grouted before tunnelling can begin," he added.

However, he said the risk of voids forming cannot be completely eliminated and MRT Corp and its Underground Works Contractor will always be vigilant to ensure that any risk to the public and property is minimised.

For more information the public can visit the MRT website at **www.mymrt.com.my** or **www.mymrt-underground.com.my**, Twitter **@MRTMalaysia** or **@MyMRT Underground**, Facebook **@MRTMalaysia** or call the MRT Hotline at 1-800-82-6868.



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