

Iskandar's rapid transit system to be operational by mid-2021

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By **Zazali Musa**

JOHOR BARU: Work on the Iskandar Malaysia Bus Rapid Transit (IMBRT) project is expected to start in the first quarter of 2019, and its services up and running by mid-2021.

Iskandar Regional Development Authority (Irda) chief executive officer Datuk Ismail Ibrahim said the IMBRT would cover 90% of Iskandar Malaysia, spanning 300km of trunk and feeder routes.

He said the RM1bil funding for the project would come from the Federal Government as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak last October.

"The remaining RM1.6bil will come from the private sector under a public-private initiative," Ismail told a media briefing on the project at the Irda headquarters here on Wednesday.

He said the next 12 months would see the development planning of the project, designs of the stations, land acquisition, public engagements and related matters.

He said priority would be given to Malaysian companies, and he encouraged them to form partnership or joint ventures with foreign companies if they did not have the technology or expertise to undertake the project.

Ismail said Iskandar Malaysia had received RM250bil in cumulative commuted investments from 2006 until Nov 30, 2017, 60% of that total coming from domestic investors and 40% by foreigners.

He said that Irda was confident of achieving RM383bil worth of investments by 2025, adding that it is aiming to receive RM25bil investment this year.

TAGS / KEYWORDS:

Iskandar Malaysia Bus Rapid Transit , IMBRT , Johor