



MAJLIS PERBANDARAN AMPANG JAYA
BAHAGIAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM DAN SEKRETARIAT
MENARA MPAJ, JALAN PANDAN UTAMA,
PANDAN INDAH, SELANGOR,
55100 KUALA LUMPUR

KERATAN AKHBAR
09 OGOS 2018 (KHAMIS)

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

- Hope in sight for park

Metro centre - 03



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Metro **CENTRAL**

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Hope in sight for park

The controversial condo project in Taman Rimba Kiara in Taman Tun Dr Ismail could be scrapped if DBKL and the developer agree on a compensation package. >4



'Reserved' by the thoughtless

Public parking bays are in short supply in Ampang and Pandan as many are blatantly 'booked' by businesses like this car workshop in Pandan Indah for their own use. — MUHAMAD SHAHRIL ROSLI/The Star >2&3

STAR METRO INFO BASE

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

ARKIB NEGARA	03-6209 0600
BANK NEGARA	03-2698 8004
CUSTOMS	03-7806 7200
FIRE & RESCUE	03-8892 7600
IMMIGRATION	03-8880 1000
INCOME TAX	1-800-88-5436
JABATAN ALAM SEKITAR	03-8889 1972
JAKIM	03-8886 4000
JPA	03-8000 8000
JPN (KL)	03-6201 1106
JPN (PJ)	03-7956 2634
JPJ (KL)	03-4145 0800
JPJ (SELANGOR)	03-5566 9595
JKR (PETALING)	03-78392400
JKR (FT)	03-92875436
KLSE - BURSA M'SIA	03-2026 5099
MANPOWER DEPT - JTR	03-8886 5555
METEOROLOGY	03-7967 8000
MIDA	03-2267 3633
MIMOS	03-8995 5000
POS MALAYSIA	1-300-300-300
REG OF COMPANIES	03-2299 4400
ROYAL CUSTOMS	03-8776 6575
SIRIM	03-5544 6000
SOCSCO	03-4264 5000

EPF

HEAD OFFICE	03-2694 6566
CALL CENTRE	03-8922 6000
CHERAS	03-9200 3304
GOMBAK	03-6185 0780
KAJANG	03-8737 5223
KEPONG	03-6258 9521
KLANG	03-3325 1626
PETALING JAYA	03-8922 6000
PUDU	03-2078 6788
WANGSA MAJU	03-4149 9499
SHAH ALAM	03-8922 6000

HOSPITALS

TUNI HUSSEIN ONN NATIONAL EYE HOSPITAL	03-7718 1488
UM MEDICAL CENTRE	03-7949 4422
SERDANG HOSPITAL	03-8947 5555
PUTRAJAYA HOSPITAL	03-8312 4200
TENGGU AMPUAN RAHIMAH HOSPITAL	03-3375 7000
INSTITUT JANTUNG	03-2617 8200
SHAH ALAM HOSPITAL	03-5526 3000
GHKL	03-2615 6391
SELYANG HOSPITAL	03-6126 3333

RADIO/TAXI SERVICE

PUBLIC CAB	03-6259 2020
COMFORT	03-8024 0507
KLTEKSI	017-2733372
RADIO TAXI	03-9221 7600
SAUJANA	03-2162 8888
SUPERCAB	1-300-888-294
SUNLIGHT	03-9057 5757
CITYLINE	03-9222 2828
TELETAXI	03-9131 8080
WIRA CAB	03 2144 3530

POLICE STATIONS

PETALING JAYA HQ	03-7966 2222
BUKIT AMAN HQ	03-2266 2222
DAMANSARA UTAMA	03-7722 2222
SEA PARK	03-7874 2222
SELANGOR POLICE HQ	03-5514 5222
SHAH ALAM	03-5520 2222
SG BULOH	03-6196 1222
KOTA DAMANSARA	03-6142 2222
TAMAN TUN DR ISMAIL	03-7728 6222
SG WAY	03-7875 2222
AMPANG	03-4289 7419
BRICKFIELDS	03-9051 6222
CHERAS	03-9284 2222
DANG WANGI	03-2070 2222



Parking bays legally reserved by business proprietors for their customers would have red lines painted to demarcate a lot. In Ampang, businesses are allowed to reserve a maximum of two bays. — Photos: MUHAMAD SHAHRIL ROSLI

In dire need of parking space

MPAJ's quota system for allocation of reserved bays results in some business owners occupying spots for public use

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN

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PUBLIC parking lots are precious commodity in an increasing automotive environment. This has resulted in constant jostling for space especially in business-centric areas.

Most business operators who want to provide easy access to their premises are willing to pay for reserved parking bays but in some municipalities, the local council's quota system makes it difficult for them to get even one bay.

Then there are others, who take advantage of the lack of enforcement as well as public ignorance to abuse the system.

Parking bays reserved by business proprietors for their customers are easily noticeable from the red lines demarcating them.

In some instances, there are special stands or barriers placed in the centre of a reserved bay.

Sometimes, the local council's acronym is indicated at the reserved bay.

Public parking bays are identifiable by the yellow or white lines.

Problem in Ampang

In the vicinity of Ampang and Pandan, automobile workshops and car accessory shops are required to reserve at least one parking bay as part of their premises licence.

Each premises is allowed a maximum of two parking bays at RM240 per lot per month.

However, the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) only allocates a quota of 10% to 20% of the total number of bays that can be reserved by business owners.

With this rule in place, many business owners get away with not paying for parking bays in front of their shops, subsequently depriv-



A familiar scene in many areas in Ampang, where business operators place obstructions on public parking bays to 'book' the space for themselves.

ing the public of parking space.

MPAJ's sporadic enforcement frustrates the public as parking in commercial districts like Pandan Indah can be difficult with numerous shops "booking" bays for their use.

Commercial areas in Ampang and Pandan are dotted with automobile workshops, car wash centres and car accessory shops.

But only a small number have proper reserved parking bays in front of their shops.

There is also the problem of bays with faded red lines, making it difficult for the public to know if these are reserved.

Some workshops also place their tools, advertisements and even vehicles they are working on in public parking bays either directly in front of the shops or adjacent to it.

Under the Road Transport Act 1987, no one is allowed to block a parking space.

"A member of the public can rightfully park in these bays but no one would do it for fear that something would happen to their vehicles," said insurance agent C.L. Tan, 35.

Tan, who frequents Pandan Indah to meet clients, said he refrained from parking in front of automobile workshops even when public bays were available.

Resident Zaini Talib added that many auto repair shops also took for granted that parking bays in front of their shop belonged to them, even if they were not reserved.

The argument they put forward is that customers have to drive their vehicle into the shop, so the parking bay outside the shop must

be left vacant.

"As always, when it comes to enforcement of these rules, it all falls apart," Zaini lamented.

He also pointed out that it did not make sense for the council to approve so many car wash centres and workshops in the one area.

"There must be some kind of ruling that limits the number of similar businesses in a particular area," he said.

Along Jalan Pandan Indah 4/10 for example, there are at least 10 car workshops and car wash centres, occupying almost half the bays there.

Some businesses have one reserved bay that meets the council's minimum requirement while other shops resort to using public bays.

The only exception was a car wash occupying two shoplots that



There is no indication that this parking bay in front of this car workshop is reserved, and many operators take advantage of public fear that no one will park in these bays.



Abdul Hamid says the quota for reserved parking will be adjusted when necessary.



In Ampang, automobile workshops and car wash centres are required to reserve at least one parking bay as part of their premises licence.

rented four parking bays. At one corner, a workshop took up six parking bays but none were marked reserved. This situation is repeated many times over in other areas such as Pandan Mewah, Pandan Jaya and Ampang Point.

On the flip side

Operators say it is not always easy to request for additional reserved parking bays because of the limited numbers available to them.

A manager of a car wash in Jalan Pandan Indah 4/3 said he applied for two more reserved bays but was rejected by MPAJ.

"We applied for lots adjacent to our shop's entrance because we could not fit all the vehicles in the shoplot.

"MPAJ told us that the quota was used up and we had to wait until next year. In the meantime, we have no choice but to use the public bays," he said.

Motorcycle workshop owner Kenny Teoh said he was not only competing with other workshops or car wash centres for the reserved bays, but also with other types of businesses.

"Clinics and lawyers' offices also need reserved parking for their customers. It is definitely not

enough," he said, adding that he would not want to move to a different location as most of his customers were from the surrounding area.

MPAJ president Abdul Hamid Hussain said the council would adjust the quota of reserved parking when necessary.

"It (the quota) is based on a first-come, first-serve basis. The minimum quota is 10% of the total bays but if necessary we can increase them to 20%," he said.

"But even in areas where there is allocation for reserved bays, some do not want to pay the fees.

"They assume that motorists will not park in front of car workshops and a car wash even if there is no indication that the lots are reserved," he said.

Abdul Hamid said although MPAJ has increased enforcement efforts against those who misuse public parking bays, it was not possible to monitor them every day.

"We are not able to carry out enforcement in all areas all the time. But, if we find any obstruction, we will compound them," he added.

This action can be taken under Section 46 (1)(G) of the Street, Drainage and Building Act 1974 for obstruction which carries a maximum fine of RM250.

MPAJ reserved parking lots			
Area	Total number of parking lots	10% quota of reserved parking lots	Number of parking lots approved
Pandan Indah	1,920	192	132
Pandan Jaya	976	98	97
Pandan Prima	357	36	24
Pandan Cahaya	442	44	11
Lembah Maju	480	48	22
Pandan Perdana	1,149	115	15
Taman Muda	883	88	42
Pandan Mewah	318	32	3
Taman Maju Jaya	282	28	32
Cheras Indah	81	10	11
Avenue Ampang	198	20	20
Bandar Baru Ampang	1,273	127	84
Bukit Indah	425	43	4
Taman Kosas	441	44	6
Keramat Permai	638	64	44
Taman Permata	442	44	29
Taman Melawati	1,633	163	116
Ampang Point	1,364	136	136
Pekan Ampang	131	13	13
Taman Putra Sulaiman	575	58	27
Ampang Utama	195	20	14
Taman Dagang	160	16	10

Source: Ampang Jaya Municipal Council



ROAD CLOSURE

● The internal road and road shoulder closures are in place at Jalan Kepong (Kepong-bound and KL-bound) until Dec 26.

● Lane closures in stages are in place at Taman Kaya along Jalan Tapah, Jalan Khalsa, Jalan Cumarasami, Jalan Vethavanam and Jalan St. Thoma until Dec 26.

SALVATION ARMY OPEN DAY

The Salvation Army Banting Corps Open Day will be held on Sept. 10 from 9am to 3pm at No 1, Jalan Emas 2, Bandar Sungai Emas, Banting, Selangor. The public can purchase the open day coupon book for RM10. For details, call 016-3455 586 or visit www.salvationarmy.org/malaysia

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS DAY

Ibu Family Resource Group is organising its Breastfeeding Awareness Day on Aug 12 from 9.40am to 1pm at Kinderia, E-1-12 (1st Floor), Block Eaton, Plaza Arkadia, Jalan Residen 3, Desa Parkcity, Kuala Lumpur. For details, visit www.ibufamily.org

OLD BOYS' REUNION

The Muar's St Andrew's School will hold a reunion dinner on Aug 18 at the school in Jalan Hashim. The Andreans Reunion Dinner will start at 7pm. Alumni members of other La Salle associations are also welcome. For details and tickets, call 019-332 0941 (Goh), 012-6801 866 (Lim) or 019-666 7554 (Leo).

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

Bandar Country Homes Residents Association (BCHRA) is holding the 17th blood donation campaign on Aug 12 from 9am to 4pm at BCHRA Building, at Jalan Desa Ria, Bandar Country Homes, Rawang. For details, call 012-348 0894.

YOGA THERAPY AUTISTIC KIDS

A free yoga therapy session for children with autism will be held on Aug 11 and 12 from 8.30am to 5pm at Brickfields Asia College, Petaling Jaya Campus in Jalan Utara. It is open to parents, teachers, therapists and those involved with special needs children. For details, call 011-1147 2526.

CHARITY NIGHT

SMK Methodists ACS, Klang, is holding a charity event to build a multipurpose sports hall and celebrate its 125th anniversary on Aug 18 from 7pm to 11pm at the Midlands Convention Centre, Shah Alam. For details, call 012-385 0854 (Wan Hamirah) or 012-295 0879 (Anne).

MBSA FLOWER MARKET

Shah Alam City Council will hold a Flower Market and Orchid Exhibition from tomorrow to Aug 12 at Laman Budaya, Taman Tasik Shah Alam, from 8am to 8pm. There will also be booths selling vegetables, compost, organic fertiliser and flower pots. An orchid workshop will be held on Aug 12, with a fee of RM10. For details, call 03-55105 133 ext 1284/1498.

ART COMPETITION

The Usaha Tegass Heritage Art Competition by Usaha Tegass Sdn Bhd (UTSB) is back. Young artists are invited to compete for a chance to win cash prizes. To be eligible, young artists must be Malaysian students pursuing their tertiary education locally. The artworks will need to fall under one of the five categories – oil or acrylic, watercolour, charcoal or pencil or oil pastel or ink, print making as well as mixed media. Registration closes Aug 30. To register, email UTHeritage@ut.com.my