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PRESS RELEASE

Penang Hill Corporation Launches Penang Hill Upper Station Upgrading Project (Phase 4)

Penang Hill Corporation (PHC) is pleased to launch its Penang Hill Upper Station Upgrading Project (Phase 4) on 20 March 2021. This project – one of PHC's largest hill enhancement work - costs RM9.3 million and is aimed to expand the waiting halls and facilities at the Penang Hill Upper Station. This expansion project is expected to improve visitors' experience on the hill.

Chief Minister YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow, who is also PHC's chairman assures that the architecture and design for the Phase 4 project is environmentally responsible and will abide by the fundamental guidelines stipulated in the Penang Hill Special Area Plan (SAP) 2016 and Special Area Plan 2020.

"The main purpose of Phase 4 project is to increase the comfort of visitors and better position the hill for the future. It is the State Government's interest that this project achieves the Green Building Index (GBI) Gold rating. The architect and consultants of this project will incorporate state-of-the-art technology and innovative sustainable methods in the building design, construction and site management. There will be solar panels on the roof, rain water harvesting system and energy saving fittings installed.

"We intend to keep the existing green elements such as trees around the site to preserve the natural aesthetic and heritage appeal of the summit area," YAB Chow said while officiating the Phase 4 ground breaking ceremony.

The building design will also be friendly for the elderly and physically challenged as they can now have better access to vantage points through elevators and escalators. According to PHC's General Manager Dato' Cheok Lay Leng, the upgrading works will take about 18 months to complete.

"In view that the ancillary works are carried out on a small footprint of the hill whilst the site remains active with its daily operations, the ticketing counter at the Upper Station and existing waiting areas will be temporarily moved. Similar to the Lower Station, a smart queue management system (JustQ 2.0) which was developed in-house will be implemented at the Upper Station to provide visitors a hassle-free queuing experience where they can now wait in comfort. They are only required to get to the station once their batch number is called. Visitors are able to retrieve the batch number through the ticket counter and queue status from display panels or QR code displayed at major public facilities on the hill.

"Although this is a major project and there are constraints due to the terrains of the summit area, we will try our best to minimise inconvenience to the community on the hill. Hence, we would like to appeal to all our visitors and business partners for their understanding and patience during this period. In order to smoothen the entire process of the expansion work at Upper Station, we will provide regular updates on our official social media platforms and on our website. We believe that the outcome of this project will outweighs the temporary inconvenience," Dato' Cheok said.



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About Penang Hill Corporation

Penang Hill Corporation was established in 2009 through an enactment passed by the Penang State Legislative Assembly. Its main focus is to manage the funicular system, maintain and develop Penang Hill as a major ecotourism destination, and its vision is to make Penang Hill the hill resort of choice in Malaysia and the region.

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