

What's happening with RapidKL?

Contributed by Administrator
Friday, 02 May 2008
Last Updated Friday, 02 May 2008

Unfortunately, it looks like RapidKL is going through another hiccup in its operations. I'm not sure if the word is hiccup or slowdown, but it's certainly a period of uncertainty and lack of reliability. Unfortunately again, I have not been able to ride much of RapidKL buses recently, but I received a report that the frequency of route U7 is not every 10 minutes from 4pm to 8pm (peak hours) as previously stated in RapidKL's website, but more like every 30 minutes up to 7pm. I spoke to someone from the operations side of RapidKL and he said that yes, for the past month or so, RapidKL as a whole has been cutting down on its number of buses. In fact, RapidKL has been going through what looks like a change of regime. First off, Dutch CEO Rein Westra left to join the World Bank, Corp Comms manager Katherine Chew left as well. Now it turns out their Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Buses Mohd Ali Mohd Nor and bus operations GM Captain Khairuddin has left too.

Well, what's for sure is that the frequencies published in bastrenKL for RapidKL are now out of date. My apologies.

For example, now, for route U7 (Segambut & Chow Kit KL), frequency is around 15 minutes in the morning. From 4pm to around 7pm (Segambut) or 8pm (KL), frequency is 20 to 25 minutes. After 8pm, half of the buses and drivers go off duty, and the frequency approximates to 30 minutes. The difference between then and now can be approximately compared thus:

Then	now
06:00 & 09:00	10
15 09:00 & 16:00	15
20-25 16:00 & 20:00	10
20-25 20:00 & 22:00	15
	30

It looks as if we may now be experiencing a slide down in reliability and frequency of RapidKL buses. Also, there might apparently be significant changes in store for RapidKL routes within the next couple of months.

I will try to keep you up to date.