ASSESSMENT ON ACCESSIBILITY OF MASS RAPID TRANSIT (MRT) LINE IN KLANG VALLEY

BY

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A thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Built Environment)

Kuliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design International Islamic University Malaysia

AUGUST 2022

ABSTRACT

Mass Rapid Transit System is the rail-based public transport providing connectivity between fringe and the city centre. Nevertheless, in Klang Valley the targetted ridership has yet to be attained due to several identified issues, including first and last mile connectivity, stations' facility and dominance of private vehicles undermining the efficiency of buses as an attractive alternative mode for road-based movement. Equitable accessibility is the most ambitious achievement for sustainable transport which is still unsolved. In ensuring a high accessibility level, the integration among various modes of public transportation is essential. The newly deployed MRT Sungai Buloh – Kajang Line should adopt strategies and passengers' initiatives to reduce the dependency on private vehicle which is a major contributor to traffic congestion and other related issues in Klang Valley. The thesis aimed at assessing the MRT accessibility in maximizing connectivity in Klang Valley. Three objectives were formulated based on problems identified by literature review as well as answering the respective research questions. These objectives are to examine factors influencing the access trip pattern to MRT station, assess the accessibility quality of MRT SBK Line, assess factors that influence trip behaviours through user perception and satisfaction, and to recommend a better plan or program in improving the accessibility level of Mass Rapid Transit. This thesis also constructed a multi-variable assessment tool for accessibility testing, by focusing on MRT SBK Line user-based experience and aspiration. Some 700 samples were intercepted at 10 identified stations, with unequal distribution based on convenient sampling strategy through questionnaire survey forms consisting of parameters adopted from the literature. These assessment variables included station facilities, signages, convenience, pedestrian walking facilities, waiting time, parking facilities, trip characteristics laid out as likert scale from 1 (least) to 4 (most). Out of these 700 samples, only 511 were deemed meaningful and useful after data entry and cleaning. Finding of parameter estimates indicated all but one (parking facilities) variables had positive and direct relations with satisfaction levels in regard to accessibility. As such, it is suggested that to achieve equitable accessibility, MRT SBK Line operator should focus on providing improved station facilities such as station convenience, more effective signages and higher quality pedestrian facilities. Muzium Negara MRT Station (3.39 mean value) was perceived as highly accessible station and Bandar Utama MRT station (3.122 mean value) was viewed as the least one. The thesis contribution was the improvement towards the framework of accessibility assessment, with a development of an indexing mechanism to evaluate each new, existing and planned rail station quantitatively, which can be applicable and trasferrable to other alike cases study and beyond.

Keywords: Mass Rapid Transit System, Klang Valley, Accessibility

خلاصة البحث

نظام النقل الجماعي السريع هو وسيلة النقل العام القائمة على السكك الحديدية عن قصد لتوفير الاتصال بين المناطق الهامشية بالمدن الكبرى؛ ومع ذلك، لا تزال نسبة الركاب موضع تساؤل والتي تتأثر بقضايا إمكانية الوصول. إن توفير إمكانية الوصول العادل هو أكثر الإنجازات طموحًا للنقل المستدام الذي لم يتم حله بعد. يجب أيضًا مراعاة تكامل وسائل النقل العام لضمان وصول أفضل للمستخدمين. كنظام مستخدم حديثًا في منطقة كلانج، يجب أن يكون أحد الاستراتيجيات والمشاريع الفعالة في تقليل الاعتماد على MRT SBK Line المركبات الخاصة التي تساهم بشكل مباشر في تقليل مشكلة المرور الخطيرة في منطقة كلانج. MRT ومن ثم، تم اقتراح هذا البحث عن قصد للتحقيق في مستوى إمكانية الوصول إلى في توفير اتصال أفضل في منطقة كلانج. كما يبني هذا البحث تقييمًا متعدد المتغيرات لاعتبارات . لقد MRT SBK Lineإمكانية الوصول لفحص كيفية وصول المستخدم إلى نظام من خلال الاستبيان الذي MRT SBKتم جمع 700 عينة في 10 محطات محددة لخط يراعى في الوقت نفسه جوانب إمكانية الوصول لمرافق المحطة واللافتات وراحة المحطة ومرافق المشى للمشاة ووقت الانتظار ومرافق وقوف السيارات والرضا العام للمصدر والوجهة. كان عدد العينة 511 ذات مغزى للمحلل. ومن المثير للاهتمام أن المستخدمين راضون ومقنعون الذي تعتبر جميع المتغيرات التي تم اختبارها في النموذج تقريبًا مهمة MRTجدًا عن نظام بشكل إيجابي باستثناء مرافق وقوف السيارات. يقترح هذا البحث أنه، للحصول على إمكانية وصول عادلة، يجب أن تركز السياسة على توفير مرافق محطة أفضل في تعزيز اللافتات الملائمة (متوسط القيمة Muzium Negara MRT والفعالة ومرافق المشاة. يُنظر إلى محطة 3.39Bandar Utama) على أنها محطة يمكن الوصول إليها بسهولة وكان أقل محطة يمكن الوصول إليها (متوسط القيمة 3.122). لقد ركزت المناقشة المكثفة MRT في هذا البحث على فهرسة إطار العمل وآليات الفهرسة والمعلمات بعد تحديد أهم السمات في التأثير على مستوى إمكانية الوصول

APPROVAL PAGE

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is the result of my own investigations, except where otherwise stated. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted as a whole for any other degrees at IIUM or other institutions.

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Date 04 AUGUST 2022

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Thank You Allah,

Ya Rabbul Jalil, Ya Barik, Ya Zal Jaa Li Wal Ikram,

Thank you, Mom and Dad,

This thesis is dedicated specially for my beloved parents who raised me that I could reach this point.

Thank you to all my kind-hearted supervisors, lecturers and former lecturers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In this column, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all the people who had given me a helping hand and shared me knowledge in the journey of my thesis completion.

Praise to Allah SWT. Ya Barik, Ya Razzak, Ya Fattah, Ya Mujib. I am highly grateful for this opportunity and success Ya Robb.

First and foremost, the most important mahaguru that I want to express my sincere appreciation to is my supervisor, Associate Professor. *TPr.* Dr. Syahriah Binti Bachok for her dedication in sharing her knowledge, giving endless support and useful advice for the completion of my thesis. To my co-supervisor, Professor *TPr.* Dr. Mariana Binti Osman and Associate Professor Dr. Muhammad Faris, thank you for your attention and input for my thesis enhancement.

To both the heroes of my life, Hj Mohamad Bin Hj Hussin and Hjh Rahimah Binti Mohammad, I would like to sincerely say that I love you until my last breath. Thank you for your patience and sacrifice financially and morally in supporting me to finish my PhD Journey. The two of you have always been my backbone and I know you will always be.

Not to forget, my former academic advisor in University of Malaya, Dr Faizah Binti Ahmad. I am touched with her vigorous supports, therefore I would like to thank her. Subsequently, thank you to all my former lecturers in University of Malaya for the guidance, knowledge, experience, support and prayer along my journey in this research.

Thank you to my partners in crimes, Oladejo Aliu Olabayonle, Mohammad Zarif Zahari, Nurathifah A.Kadir who had engaged in my research in sharing knowledge and for the willingness to help me in this thesis preparation.

To all my undergraduate brothers and sisters in IIUM, I am grateful for your willingness to help me participate in my questionnaire survey.

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