



# PRESS STATEMENT

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## BUILDING SHELTERS FOR MOTORCYCLIST ALONG HIGHWAYS

**KUALA LUMPUR** - The use of motorcycles is allowed on all highways in Malaysia either on the main or dedicated lanes provided. According to the Concession Agreement, providing motorcycle shelter is not originally within the scope of the concessionaires. However, on the basis of Government concern, all concessionaires have been instructed to provide motorcycle shelters at certain places for the comfort of motorcyclist.

The design of a motorcycle shelter is based on the motorcyclist safety. As of today, all concessionaires have to provide motorcycle shelter at strategic places with reference to the respective guidelines. As a remedial measure, Malaysian Highway Authority (MHA) is suggesting that the construction of a safe motorcycle shelter is to be one of the requirement to the concessionaires.

Public Works Department (JKR) agrees that this matter should be given serious thought especially at design stage where social impact has to be a norm in design parameters and assessments. A comprehensive study should also be made in advance to review the suitability of the location, cost and technical aspects.

JKR believed that special bike lanes should be constructed in addition to building the shelters in view of an increasing statistics of accidents involving the motorcyclists.

If we can provide lay-bys and to some extent even special lanes for buses, it is about time due considerations to be given to the vulnerable road users i.e the motorcyclist. They make a large percentage of existing road users plying the highways as well other roads. It becomes a pitiful sight when rain comes where these motorcyclists would take the nearest shelter; under the bridge or underpass being the most convenient place. That imposes great danger to the motorcyclists and other traffic as well. Drivers are temporarily blinded by the heavy rain, which may turn out to be tragic if they ram into the motorcyclists who are taking shelter under the bridges.

As an immediate measure, all the parties involved in maintaining the highways and federal roads should provide some space or clear the surrounding area under the bridges or underpass where it is ascertained that these are the most likely locations the motorcyclists would take shelter.

Future road design and construction has to incorporate these safety elements for motorcyclists as well as other road users.

JKR has prepared two guidelines on motorcycle: 1. Guidelines on the design of motorcycle facilities; and 2. Geometric design for motorcycle lane.

The guidelines are preventive measure to ensure that accidents involving motorcycle users is minimalised, in addition to providing a more secure shelter during heavy rain. For the realization of this bike lanes, adequate provision should be provided in each of the projects implemented in the future.

**MINISTRY OF WORKS MALAYSIA**  
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Dikeluarkan oleh:

**Unit Komunikasi Korporat | Kementerian Kerja Raya Malaysia**

☎ : 03- 8000 8000 / D.L :03-2771 4616 / 4627 | 📠 : 03-2711 1101

Laman Web : [www.kkr.gov.my](http://www.kkr.gov.my) |  Kementerian Kerja Raya |  @MOWorks |  Pro@kk.gov.my