

Guan Eng plans to turn Penang into 'bicycle state'

The Malaysian Insider

November 25, 2011

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 25 — Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said today he hopes to turn Penang into the most bicycle-friendly state within the next five years.

He did not say how much the project was going to cost the state government but said "it will not be cheap".

"This is our effort to be a bicycle state. (We're looking at) minimum five years to connect everything to become a bicycle state," Lim told a press conference, saying bicycle lanes will span 180km across Penang island and the mainland.

He explained that the bicycle lanes will be divided into three categories — dedicated lane (for bicycles only), segregated lane (separate lane for bicycles) and shared road.

Lim said developers with enough property have already been told to set aside land for a dedicated bicycle lane.

"We'll encourage everyone to cycle wherever they go," Lim said, adding that a feedback form was available on the Penang Municipal Council (MPPP) website.

"Penang may be the first state to become a bicycle state. We want views from the public. Whether they support or oppose, we are willing to accept their views."

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