



Mini bus services should be expanded to more housing areas. FILE PIC

'Boost use of travel passes, mini bus'

KUALA LUMPUR: The government should expand its initiatives on public transport to reduce the cost of living.

Universiti Putra Malaysia economic analyst Dr Mohd Yusof Saari said incentives like the My100 and My50 unlimited travel passes should continue.

He said mini bus services should be expanded due to the high demand for them, especially in residential areas in the city.

"The introduction of mini buses is a good thing because we know public transport doesn't reach some housing areas. The problem is inefficient connectivity."

To encourage people to use public transport, Yusof proposed a single-ticket system to ease mobility and reduce consumer costs.

"This is so consumers do not have to get multiple tickets. Now, to go from one place to another,

people have to buy separate tickets. That is not time or cost effective."

On public transport in rural areas, Yusof said the government must think of a convenient and flexible solution that did not require high costs.

Citing examples in Sabah, he said locals in some interior areas used van services to commute.

"Short routes, such as from villages on the outskirts of the city to the city centre, do not need buses as it is not cost effective due to the small population. So using vans is easier and cheaper."

Malaysian Institute of Transport deputy director (industry network and commercialisation) Dr Shahrin Nasir agreed that the unlimited travel passes should continue as they reduce the cost of living.

He said the passes could be extended to other cities. **Bernama**