

## MEDIA RELEASE

### TANDEM BIKES TO ENCOURAGE BONDING AND INCLUSIVENESS AT OCBC KL CAR FREE MORNING

Kuala Lumpur, 18 February 2016 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad, title sponsors of the popular bi-monthly *OCBC KL Car Free Morning*, is officially rolling out two-seater tandem bikes this Sunday (21 February) to help the masses bond with a companion while cycling and to foster inclusiveness.

The provision of the ten new bicycles is a significant addition to the 100 bicycles that the Bank has been making available since September 2014.

*OCBC KL Car Free Morning*, organised by Kuala Lumpur City Hall, is held from 7am to 9am every first and third Sunday of the month and features closed roads for people of all walks of life to cycle, handcycle, run, skateboard, rollerskate, rollerblade or simply walk. It starts from Dataran DBKL near Dataran Merdeka and leads participants through about 7 kilometres of major streets in Kuala Lumpur's Golden Triangle.



Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik, CEO of OCBC Al-Amin (centre) and Mr Lee Teik Khoon, a visually impaired staff of OCBC Bank who actively participates in OCBC KL Car Free Morning (right), demonstrating how the tandem bikes are used, while Datuk Naim Mohamad, Chairman of the Implementation Committee of OCBC KL Car Free Morning (left) gives the thumbs up

According to Datuk Naim Mohamad, Chairman of the *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* Implementation Committee, the provision of the tandem bicycles by OCBC Bank is a timely enhancement to the event that will benefit those who wish to ride with their families and also those who find it difficult to ride without a companion, for example in the case of visually impaired and handicapped individuals.

“We have seen a growing number of families enjoying the opportunity to bond through *OCBC KL Car Free Morning*. For many of them, Sunday mornings out on the KL streets has become pretty much a weekend family fixture. An added attraction like the new tandem bikes provided by OCBC Bank will certainly enhance their experience.

“In addition, the tandem bikes promote an inclusive spirit and will ensure those who cannot cycle alone can go ahead and enjoy the sport as well. This would include those with coordination difficulties and the visually impaired,” he said.

OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad Chief Executive Officer Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik said OCBC had been keen from early on to have tandem bicycles feature at *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* as the platform represents the perfect avenue for couples and families to strengthen their relationships and for the visually impaired to get involved as well, in addition to protecting the environment and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

“At the start of the year, we pledged to progressively grow the *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* platform, and the provision of these 10 tandem bicycles, together with the other interactive activities being rolled out progressively at the OCBC Cycle booth, are part of the overall plan.

“We are confident this will resonate with the masses. We are already seeing people cycling with their elderly parents seated behind them. Perhaps these tandem bicycles will pave the way for the elderly folks and the visually impaired to pedal along as well in a safe way,” he said.

Present at the brief “handover” ceremony was a visually impaired staff of OCBC Bank, Mr Lee Teik Koon, who recently “tested” out the *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* route and the tandem bikes and duly gave both the thumbs up.

“I am glad that the visually impaired like me now have the opportunity to participate in the *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* as well. The experience riding on the tandem bike during the event was exhilarating. I hope to be back on the road more often,” said Mr Lee, who has been with OCBC Bank for over 30 years.

The OCBC Cycle booth at *OCBC KL Car Free Morning* features, among other things, interactive games and activities for the public to participate in.

The *OCBC Cycle* bicycles are available for the public to use from 6am every event day. Cyclists need to show an ID with photographic identification when borrowing the bicycles from Menara OCBC, which is a short walk from the starting point. Use of the bicycles is on a first come first served basis and there is no charge involved. All cyclists are responsible for bringing their own helmets.

For further information about *KL Car Free Morning*, the public may visit <http://www.klcarfreemorning.com/>.

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## **About OCBC Bank**

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank has been ranked Asean's strongest bank and among the world's five strongest banks by Bloomberg Markets for five consecutive years since the ranking's inception in 2011.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has over 630 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and regions. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and more than 90 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

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