



City News

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K U A L A L U M P U R C I T Y H A L L

Cleaning Up Brickfields - Walking the talk

City Hall senior officials led by the Mayor Kuala Lumpur City Hall 'invaded' the Brickfields area with support staff from the Landscape and Urban Cleanliness Control Department, Licencing Department, Hawkers and Petty Traders Management Department, Planning and Building Control Department, Public Works Department, Urban Transport Department and other departments to apply the "Solution Kluang" approach to resolve various outstanding issues and problems in the area.

Applying the 'Walkabout Management' technique senior officers walked and toured the whole area identifying problems and 'fixing' them immediately. Some of the problems identified would take a bit longer to be resolved, but nevertheless will be overcome as soon as possible.

Broken drain and road kerbs, blocked drains, potholes, missing drain covers, garbage and hawker problems were acted upon immediately. Illegal dirty and dilapidated hawker stalls were brought down and removed immediately. All hawker stalls and other impediments to the visually challenged people will be cleared so that the pedestrian walkways can be used by the public, particularly the visually impaired with a barrier free path. An unusually high number of visually challenged people reside in Brickfields as a few institutions for the blind and visually challenged are located in the area. A sizeable visually impaired community also work and reside in the area.

Illegal and unlicensed car wash operations will be asked to cease operations and apply for a licence from City Hall to operate. Stall operators who do not have garbage bins will be compounded and their licences withdrawn if they are found to flout the law.

Trees were pruned and pollarded while garbage was removed with the help of Alam Flora workers. The Mayor and his entourage was also accompanied by local journalists, some politi-



An illegal car-wash water tank infested with aedes larvae placed on the road kerb attracts the attention of the Mayor, Datuk Mohamad Shaid bin Mohd. Taufek (second from left) and senior DBKL officers. - Photo KL City News.

cians, community and business leaders in the area.

The local residents and businessmen were much elated that the Mayor himself had 'turun padang' to resolve the long standing issues of hawkers, cleanliness and damaged or broken infrastructure.

They hoped that this is done regularly and frequently so that the situation is monitored and followed through diligently by City Hall.

Datuk Mohamad Shaid reiterated that the "Solution Kluang" is not a "one off" approach but a long term one to bring about change and fulfill the expectations of the *rakyat*. Everybody will be kept on their toes.

He hoped the public, particularly the rate payers and citizens of Kuala Lumpur work together with City Hall to keep the living environment and habitat a conducive, living and livable place.

The Mayor and the senior officials will visit Brickfields within two weeks to ensure that the problems are resolved and if any further action is needed.

Efforts will also be made to identify the owners of the empty plots of land with a view to convert them into parks or open fields that could be utilized by the local residents for leisure and healthy lifestyle activities. Other areas in the city will soon see the 'Solution Kluang' implemented.



Covering open-drains with concrete slabs. - Photo KL City News



From the Mayor's Desk

CITY HALL – A PUNCHING BAG

On Sunday, 23 May 2004, the Public Complaints Bureau in collaboration with Kuala Lumpur City Hall held a Dialogue Session at the City Hall Auditorium with residents living in the City.

The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Federal Territories, YB Tan Sri Hj Mohd Isa Bin Hj Abdul Samad. In attendance were the Deputy Minister of Federal Territories, YB Dato' Zulhasnan Rafique, Public Complaints Bureau Director General, Khalid Ibrahim, KL City Hall Director General, Datuk Ruslin Hassan, senior officials from DBKL and other departments and agencies in Kuala Lumpur.

I was away in Birmingham, United Kingdom on official business. What transpired at this Dialogue Session, I am informed was interesting to note. Some of the questions posed, suggestions and remarks were valid and worthy of attention, while others sad to say took the opportunity to use Kuala Lumpur City Hall as the 'punching bag'.

Most of the issues on garbage disposal, illegal migrants, lighting and strata titles are not directly under the jurisdiction of City Hall per se, but under other government and privatized agencies. Of course, the stray dogs problem is within the ambit of City Hall. The dialogue session was well attended by about 600 residents and interested parties.

It is quite obvious from the issues raised, a large sector of the City's population do not understand the work and functions of DBKL vis a vis the other agencies. As DBKL is the most visible of all government agencies in the Federal Capital, it is inevitable that the public's perception is that DBKL is responsible for all the ills faced by City folk.

DBKL however, as a responsible government agency strives to overcome the problems although it is not its job or role in addressing the problems, and finding a solution.

On the other hand, most of the issues were old ones, which are perennial and recurring in nature. As is usually the case, just like any other Local Authority faced with similar problems, DBKL strives hard to overcome them daily.

The Complaints Unit in DBKL itself receives on the average about 3,500 complaints a year. In 2003, 4149 cases were received of which 57.4% were resolved. The other complaints are still under investigation and will be resolved soon.

As is the normal practice, those problems and issues that do not concern DBKL are referred to the appropriate agencies for their attention. For example, potholes can only be resurfaced after PUAS or IWK have repaired the broken pipes.

With the 'Solution Kluang' in place it is hoped that DBKL will be able to resolve problems faced by the public. Close cooperation and collaboration between all government agencies in the true spirit of 'Malaysia Boleh' will hopefully help solve most of the problems.

TOWING VEHICLES

A total of 963 vehicles were towed to City Hall storage depots for obstructing traffic from 1 April 2003 until 30 April 2004. Out of this number, 921 vehicles were redeemed by the owners while 21 vehicles were released without settling their compounds because they were involved in police cases or were released due to orders from higher officials.

City Hall collected a sum of RM104, 670.00 as towing, storage and compound fees. Vehicle towing operations were taken over by City Hall's Enforcement Directorate from 1 April 2003 from private towing companies after public outcry, accusing tow truck operators as being unmerciful, mercenary and irresponsible.

Towing was first privatized on 1 April 2000 due to irresponsible vehicle owners who parked their vehicles indiscriminately causing traffic jams in the city centre.

From April 2003 until February 2004, City Hall used three cranes/tow trucks and from 25 March 2004, seven additional cranes/tow trucks were used making it a total of 10 used for towing away vehicles parked haphazardly and indiscriminately.

City Hall's policy is to educate the public and vehicle owners to be more disciplined, responsible and to observe the Law. Normally, a whistle is sounded to attract the vehicle owner's attention and to give the owner time to remove the vehicle. If after 10 minutes, the owner does not show up, a compound notice is issued. If the owner still does not turn up and removes his vehicle, it is then towed away.

However, since City Hall took over the operations, the numbers of vehicles towed away have declined dramatically and fewer complaints from the public are recorded.

A total of 66,285 vehicles were towed away until 31 March 2003 since tow truck operations were privatized on 1 April 2000. Four tow truck companies were given the contract to tow away vehicles that caused traffic obstruction.

Number of vehicles towed (by year)

Year	Total of vehicles towed
2000 (July – Dec)	5,491
2001 (Jan – Dec)	24,145
2002 (Jan – Dec)	31,337
2003 (Jan – March)	5,312
Grand Total	66,285

CITY'S ELECTED PARLIAMENTARIANS

Following the 11th General Elections, the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur will see the following personalities representing the City's 1.5 million population in Parliament. They are as follows:

YB Tan Seng Giaw
Kepong

YB Ng Lip Yong @ Ng Lip Sat Batu

YB Yew Teong Look
Wangsa Maju

YB Tan Kee Kwong
Segambut

YB Zulhasnan Rafique
Setiawangsa

YB Astaman Abdul Aziz
Titiwangsa

YB Fong Kui Lun
Bukit Bintang

YB Shahrizah @ Sharizat Abdul Jalil
Lembah Pantai

YB Teresa Kok Suh Sim
Seputeh

YB Tan Kok Wai
Cheras

YB Tan Chai Ho
Bandar Tun Razak

YB Tan Sri Hj Mohd Isa bin Dato' Hj Abdul Samad, the former long serving Menteri Besar of Negeri Sembilan is now the Minister for Federal Territories (which includes Kuala Lumpur). YB Datuk Zulhasnan bin Mohd Rafique has been appointed the Deputy Minister and YB Encik Yew Teong Look, the Parliamentary Secretary. The former Minister of Federal Territory, YB Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor became the first Member of Parliament for the newly created Putrajaya Parliamentary Constituency.

City News congratulates all winners and successful candidates and welcomes the appointment of YB Tan Sri Hj Mohd Isa, YB Zulhasnan and YB Yew.

THE CITY HALL YOUTH COMPLEX

The first City Hall Youth Complex was built in 1975 on a 5-acre land at KM 6, Jalan Cheras, Kuala Lumpur. The 7-storey Youth Complex Hostel costing RM 4.2 million located within the complex has 404 residential units.

Initially, there were 396 residential units for female youth starting with Sri Sabah 3A and 3B flats, which are able to accommodate 144 residents. The second complex, Sri Kota can accommodate 48 residents. All three complexes are located in Cheras. Sri Selangor located in the centre of the town consists of 2 blocks (Block 7 and Block 9), which comprise of 16 units in Block 7 and 15 units in Block 9. Both these blocks are able to accommodate 124 residents. Two more complexes were built in Sentul (Sri Perak and Sri Pangkor). Sri Pangkor comprises 6 units, which can accommodate a total of 24 residents. Another complex, which is under construction in Gombak is anticipated to be ready in 2006.

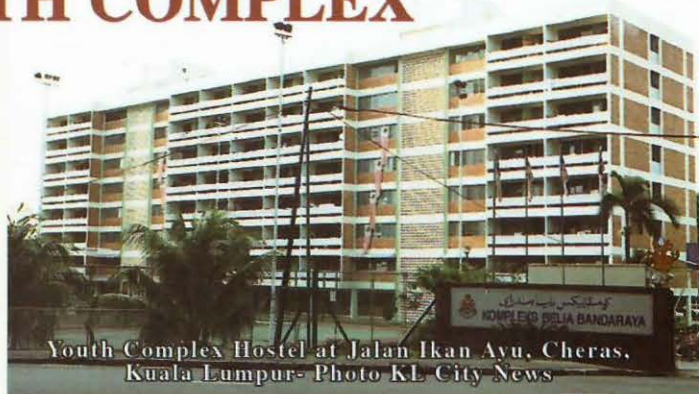
There are two other complexes in Cheras (Sri Johoria) and Gombak for male youth. Sri Johoria, which can accommodate 116 residents, will be opened soon after the necessary furniture is installed. Another complex in Gombak is still awaiting the Certificate of Fitness (CF).

These complexes were built to provide accommodation as well as recreational facilities for youth who come from outside the capital and working in the vicinity of the Federal Territory especially in Kuala Lumpur.

The complexes are fully furnished units with various amenities such as library, gymnasium, prayer room, guest room, television room, meeting room, cafeteria, laundry shop, etc. Currently 417 male and female residents occupy these hostels.

Currently, there are 383 units available for rent. Any individual who is a bachelor aged between 18 and 40 years, with a monthly income between RM 400 to RM 1,200 coming from outside the capital and working in the vicinity of the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur is eligible to rent any of the above hostel units.

As can be observed from the above statistics, City Hall has made fair allocation for males (404 units) and females (396 units). As there are 383 units still vacant, single working women and bachelors can apply to City Hall (See Box article). Interested parties should call first and seek further information before applying.



Youth Complex Hostel at Jalan Ikan Ayu, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur- Photo KL City News

RENTAL RATES CITY HALL YOUTH HOSTELS

City Hall Youth Complex
Jalan Ikan Ayu KM 6,
Jalan Cheras
56100 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 9284 8896
(For males only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM190.00

Normal (2 beds)
RM180.00
Executive (1 bed only)
RM200.00

Perumahan Awam Sri Sabah
Block 54, Jalan Ikan Ayu
Cheras, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 9284 6719
(For females only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM 50.00

Perumahan Awam Sri Sabah
3B, Block 68,
Jalan Ikan Ayu
Cheras, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 9285 0319
(For females only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM 50.00

Perumahan Awam Sri Kota
Block 92, Bandar Tun Razak
Cheras, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 9171 3853
(For females only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM 50.00

Perumahan Awam Sri Selangor, Block 7 & 9
Jalan San Peng,
Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 9221 1763
(For females only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM 50.00

Perumahan Sri Pangkor
Bandar Baru Sentul
Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 4043 1231
(For females only)
Normal (4 beds)
RM 70.00

RENTING CITY HALL FLATS

The children of parents renting City Hall flats can continue to rent the flat provided their names are registered together with the original tenant (the parents). It is the policy of City Hall to transfer the tenancy agreement if the names of the children are included in the original agreement.

However, the children will have to fulfill certain conditions imposed by City Hall before transfer of tenancy can be executed.

The conditions are:

- * Married and have a family
- * Husband and wife are Malaysian citizens
- * Both husband and wife live / work in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur

- * Combined income of both spouses not less than RM300 and does not exceed RM2,000 per month
- * Do not possess a house or land within a radius of 35 kilometres from the City Centre including the Klang Valley and
- * Do not have a criminal record, drug addiction or insane

For further information, please call:-

Noor Arzmi Bin Mohd Yusof
Assistant Director
Housing Management Department
Tingkat 9, Menara DBKL 2
Bandar Wawasan, Jalan Raja Abdullah
50300 Kuala Lumpur
Tel : 03 2617 6155
Faks : 03 2698 3722