

DBKL approves bridge project despite stakeholders' objections

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KUALA Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) has approved the construction of a pedestrian bridge along Jalan Rozario in Brickfields.

In a statement to *StarMetro*, the Corporate Communications Department said the bridge was a private development initiative to provide accessibility and connectivity in front of Sentral Suites Condominium, and the development order was issued on Sept 13, 2021.

DBKL received an application from the developer on October 2019 for construction of the bridge and it was approved in November 2019 to provide accessibility from Sentral Suites to Jalan Rozario.

"There will also be a sheltered walkway from Jalan Rozario connecting to the Jalan Sambanthan bridge.

"The applicant has been instructed to ensure that the bridge does not obstruct the pedestrian pathway and comply with all



Brickfields residents say Jalan Rozario does not need a pedestrian bridge. — Filepic

technical requirements," said the statement.

StarMetro had reported on Aug 17 that residents and the business community were against the bridge being built

across Jalan Rozario.

They pointed out that Brickfields already had five pedestrian bridges, all within a 1km radius which were mostly underutilised.

"I am disappointed," said long-

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PEDESTRIAN bridges are usually a much-appreciated facility in any busy town.

However, when residents and the business community in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, heard about a proposed pedestrian bridge at Jalan Rozario, in front of the Sentral Suites Condominium project, they were not happy.

This is because Brickfields already has more than five footbridges, all within a 1km radius and they are mostly underutilised.

One of the bridges in front of the Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB) building was opposed by the blind community and demolished last year. It was after a was built.

A second bridge, located at Jalan Harau and connecting to SK 17 Methodist Brickfields in Jalan Tan Seng Guan 4, which had also been considered for demolition, was spared but its lift shafts were removed.

For another one at Jalan Tan Seng Guan, its lift shafts have been under lock and key for a few years now, and the bridge itself has been underutilised.

Stakeholders in Brickfields have been in talks with Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) since last year on whether to rebuild or remove that bridge too.

The local community had been divided on keeping that particular bridge.

Comments about these bridges being built by the authorities to sleep at night have been ongoing for years.

"Brickfields pedestrian bridges are very welcome," say community but it is not what we need."

Brickfields folk irked by planned pedestrian bridge

Stakeholders want to meet DBKL about Jalan Rozario facility



The site of the proposed pedestrian bridge in Jalan Rozario, Brickfields. — AFP/UMM



Christopher Naidu is going to be another while sleeping in Brickfields.

Brickfields Rukun Tetangga chairman SKK Naidu said he had delivered a letter to Kuala Lumpur mayor Dato Sri Mahat Chai Ngie recently, requesting for more information on the bridge project and the mayor promised to look into it.

"We requested for a dialogue to find out why the bridge was being built there and for what."

"Based on past experience, we know what happens in bridges that are underutilised."

"So we would like to have a dialogue and maybe propose a bridge that links Sentral Suites to the Shell building, Joser, Fusion Sentral Condo, Jalan Teras Sentral 3 and Plaza Sentral, which will be a lot more useful," he said.

StarMetro's report on Aug 17.

time resident Dr Christopher Nicholas when told of the decision.

Brickfields Rukun Tetangga chairman SKK Naidu also expressed disappointment that the community was denied a say in the matter.

Vivekananda Ashram committee member A. Tanggaperumal said they were concerned as their

building is located closest to the condominium construction site and future bridge project.

"Vivekananda is a heritage building and there are rules and guidelines pertaining to any construction close to the site under the National Heritage Act 2005," he said, adding that these must be adhered to by the developer.