

Much ado, little action

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KUALA LUMPUR: For all the brouhaha from various quarters, including Members of Parliament and former ministers, over the Kuala Lumpur City Draft Plan 2020, there has been, to date, only a paltry 400 objections and suggestions.

The closing date for submitting objections and suggestions to City Hall closes in three weeks and a surge in submission is not expected at the last minute.

There are some 1.6 million people living in Kuala Lumpur.

Kampung Baru folk were among the more vocal of the lot voicing objections to development plans for the Malay enclave but only 13 objections have been received from them.

Among the more vocal objections had come from Damansara Penchala where City Hall has received 122 submissions.

Speaking to reporters yesterday, Kuala Lumpur Ab Hakim Borhan said that only three weeks remain for the public to submit their views on the Draft Plan.

"City folk have until Aug 31 to submit their views, after which we will not entertain anymore submission."

"We welcome the public's suggestions on the Draft Plan, which is provided for in the Federal Territories Planning



Ab Hakim Borhan (left) presenting the best rider award to a member of the Kuala Lumpur City Hall's 12th horse mounted unit during a graduation ceremony at Tasik Titiwangsa.

Act 1982," he said after attending the 12th graduation ceremony to induct 20 new members into City Hall's horse mounted unit.

He added that all views sub-

mitted by the public would be heard by the Public Hearing Committee (PHC).

"We have appointed 20 people to sit on the PHC. They are professionals who specialise

in various fields, such as town planners, architects, landscape architects and members of the Malaysian Nature Society and the Environmental Protection Society of Malaysia.

We have also appointed two non-governmental organisations comprising environmental and property consultants," he said.

He added that University

Locations, objections and suggestions

Damansara Penchala	122
Bukit Jalil, Seputih	76
Sentul, Menjalara	58
Wangsa Maju, Maluri	46
City Centre	34
Bandar Tun Razak	32
Kampung Baru	13
Others	19

Kebangsaan Malaysia Institute for Environment and Development (Lestari) Fellow Principal, Datin Paduka Dr Halimaton Saadiah Hashim would chair the committee.

Hakim said that PHC would study, evaluate and report all objections and suggestions that have been submitted by the public.

"Not all of the opinions that have been submitted will be accepted and agreed upon by the PHC," he added.

PHC will present its report to the Mayor as early as February 2009, and after which the report will be presented to the Federal Territories Minister for approval.