

KL town hall session highlights stalled urban renewal projects

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DELAYS in urban renewal projects and the urgent need for more community involvement took centre stage at Kuala Lumpur's "Dialog Bandar Raya" (City Dialogue) 2025.

The town hall, the first of 11 scheduled across the city this year, aims to forge stronger ties between Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) and its residents.

Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif, who led the session, assured the public that their concerns would not only be heard but acted upon.

"We are here to understand and act," she emphasised, signalling a commitment to channel feedback directly to her team and department heads for prompt follow-up.

"There will be action," she said after hearing feedback from residents in the Bandar Tun Razak parliamentary constituency.

"Some can be resolved quickly, others will require inter-agency coordination, but we are not here to just hear – we are here to understand and act."

The event was held at Bandar Tun Razak Sports Complex with top City Hall officials and agencies as well as about 100 resi-



dents in attendance.

It also drew participation from resident associations, residents representative council (MPP) sub-zone leaders and community non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Many used the platform to raise long-standing concerns.

A recurring issue was the delay in urban renewal projects.

A representative from Sri Labuan said over 200 residents were still living in ageing flats with limited facilities.

"We are still there. We are not

asking for much – just asking DBKL to check in on us," he said.

MPP Sub-Zone 1 chairman Hanafiyah Mahamin raised concerns about the redevelopment of Taman Ikan Emas.

He said the project had proceeded without involving key local representatives.

"The redevelopment of Taman Ikan Emas affects the entire Sub-Zone 1 area. But so far, all discussions have only involved DBKL and NGOs; the MPP and the MP's office were not included," said Hanafiyah.

"When residents come to us with complaints, we don't know how to respond."

Representing Bandar Tun Razak MP Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail was Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's political secretary Datuk Azman Abidin.

Azman acknowledged that redevelopment plans for areas such as Sri Pulau Pinang, Sri Johor and Sri Melaka had been stalled for over 15 years.

The mayor said DBKL was in the midst of forming a dedicated

task force to support its urban renewal division.

She said the agency would also prioritise community involvement in the process.

Concerns about enforcement against unlicensed businesses were also raised.

In response, Maimunah assured continued joint enforcement operations involving multiple government departments.

Several stakeholders also raised traffic congestion and infrastructure planning issues during the dialogue.

To this, Maimunah said DBKL's engineering and planning teams would review the issues and provide status updates to her office within a week.

Some MPP leaders said there was lack of communication between DBKL and community representatives, particularly on developer-led projects.

The mayor acknowledged the concern and said all DBKL-led initiatives – whether small infrastructure projects or major redevelopments – must include a strategic communications component.

"Even if the project is small, we must explain who is doing it, how long it takes and what it is for."

"We can't just enter a community without informing people."

Maimunah (front row, eight from left) with Azman (on the mayor's left) and attendees at the 'Dialog Bandar Raya' town hall session at Bandar Tun Razak Sports Complex.