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# Plans afoot for idle land

## MBPJ seeks state's help to utilise abandoned TOL sites in the city

PETALING Jaya City Council (MBPJ) will work with the state government to identify land with Temporary Occupational Licence (TOL) that is no longer being used.

Mayor Datuk Mohd Sayuthi Bakar hoped the state would allow the council to use such land for its various activities.

"We can use such unused land as car depots, parking lots or even for small scale businesses," he said during the council full board meeting yesterday.

Responding to this, city councillor Rahibah Che Omar said there was one such plot in SS7 that was used as a nursery but the upkeep was poor.

She said neighbouring residents called for the area to be better managed and suggested for the land to be converted into a public carpark.

Mohd Sayuthi said the council had no jurisdiction over the land and suggested for her to seek response from the district land office.

On a different matter, councillor Farhan Haziq Mohamed sought

clarification as to why a child daycare centre in Section 22 was given an extension period to delay its relocation until Dec 31.

"The initial plan was for them to move out in May but now it is August and the council has given them approval to move in December.

"I am answerable to the residents as to why there is a delay," he said.

Farhan said the daycare centre was operating like a private school for children between the ages of five and 17.

"It is like an international school with many students. It is not like an ordinary daycare. The residents have to put up with a lot of traffic and noise too," he said.

Answering his question, Mohd Sayuthi said the centre needed extra time to relocate and the coun-

cil could understand its predicament.

"When it comes to school and daycare centres, we have to allow them additional time, between three and six months. They need time to move and parents too need time to find a new place for their children," he said.

MBPJ also saw the appointment of a new city councillor yesterday. Sakinah Bibi Nagoor, a person with physical disability, was sworn in at the meeting.

The 30-year-old of Sino-Kadazan and Indian parentage, was born in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.

She has replaced former councillor Pua Ghin Chu who resigned from the post to pursue her non-governmental works for persons with disabilities.

Sakinah, a law undergraduate, wants to focus on matters relating

to education, mental health and the disabled community.

"I became a disabled in 2010 after a motor vehicle accident. I was working in the banking sector and then got involved in teaching children under the Impian Malaysia project.

"I was roped into this field by councillor Loyis Uding and I have worked under Energy, Technology, Science, Climate Change and Environment Minister Yeo Bee Yin when she was the Damansara Utama assemblyman," she said. Sakinah said she loved teaching children from underprivileged backgrounds.

"Education is extremely important for our children in this day and age.

"The community with the means has to do its share to help empower them with education," she said.



Sakinah will champion issues affecting the disabled community.

# PPR tenants owe DBKL RM50mil in rental

By FARID WAHAB  
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RESIDENTS of low-cost flats managed by Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) owe the local authority rental totalling RM50mil.

Mayor Datuk Nor Hisham Ahmad Dahlan said more than half of the 46,000 People's Housing Projects (PPR) households had not been paying the monthly rental.

"An estimated 26,000 PPR unit tenants in the city have not paid their rent regularly. The monthly rental for these units is RM124.

"There are tenants who have not been paying for more than 20 years, with some households accumulating up to RM10,000 in arrears," he said.

Nor Hisham said it was important for them to pay up to ensure DBKL could carry out maintenance and provide quality service.



(From fourth left) Nor Hisham and Khalid with winners from each block in PPR Pekan Kepong.

The arrears, he said, used to be higher in 2015, which stood at RM80mil.

"We were able to recover the payments through various

programmes conducted by DBKL to engage with the residents," he added.

Nor Hisham, however, said although DBKL had the right to

take legal action against the errant households, it was important to be sympathetic towards their plight too.

"We need to understand that

they may have financial difficulties to pay up.

"If we were to take legal action, we may end up making their lives worse," he said.

Nor Hisham was speaking to reporters after he accompanied Federal Territories Minister Khalid Abdul Samad during the launch of the neighbourhood cleanliness campaign by DBKL in PPR Pekan Kepong, Kuala Lumpur.

Khalid urged residents to work together with the local authority to maintain cleanliness in their respective neighbourhood.

"There is a misconception that the responsibility towards cleanliness lies solely with the local authority.

"However, everyone should take care of the cleanliness of their surroundings."

During the event, Khalid also presented cash prizes to resident groups from Blocks A, B and C for the cleanliness competition.

# Trash interceptor may be used to clean up Sungai Klang

By EDWARD RAJENDRA  
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A DUTCH-designed trash interceptor resembling a boathouse in Sungai Klang meant to remove floating rubbish in the river is expected to be commissioned next week.

It was moored behind Masjid Bandar Diraja Klang since last Wednesday.

The trash interceptor caught the interest of Klang folk who thought it was a boathouse or floating restaurant.

Klang councillor Ngian Yoke Mooi said the trash interceptor which is currently being tested, was from the Netherlands and it would be used to remove plastic waste and other floating debris from the river.

Saying that it required only two people to navigate, she added that initial tests were expected to begin next week before it starts operating officially.

"We have too much rubbish floating around. Local monsoon drains also gather dumped rubbish that ends up in the river," she said.

Ngian said the trash interceptor was a component of the Selangor Maritime Gateway project under Menteri Besar Inc (MBI).

Landsan Lumayan Sdn Bhd has been mandated to clean, rehabilitate and develop Sungai Klang.

Ngian said the river rehabilitation was part of the state government's master plan by 2030 to revitalise Klang and transform the royal town as part of the state government's main economic thrusts.

The river rehabilitation involves a 56km stretch from Petaling Jaya to Klang.

"I am made to understand that MBI has entered into partnership with Dutch non-governmental organisation called The Ocean Cleanup that is based in Rotterdam.



Ngian hopes the trash interceptor will trap waste before it ends up in the ocean.

"It will offer guidance in the rehabilitation work," she said.

Ngian hoped the trash interceptor would become a meaningful machine for trapping waste "before tide, wind and currents carry it out to the open ocean".



The rubbish interceptor moored behind Masjid Bandar Diraja Klang was mistaken for a boathouse or floating restaurant.