



Taman Jaya will be closed for a year from 2020 for the upgrading and renovation works. — Photos: LOW LAY PHON/The Star

# 'Make maintenance a priority'

## Stakeholders want MBPJ to focus on Taman Jaya's upkeep after upgrade

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TAMAN Jaya in Petaling Jaya has been slated for renovation and upgrading works in 2020 and will be closed for a year.

The popular park in Jalan Timur, nearby the Section 9 and Section 10 neighbourhoods, has been in a sorry state for some years now.

Despite its rundown condition, it still attracts hordes of visitors each week.

It is also a well-liked place to hold running events and is the venue for the yearly Chap Goh Mei festival.

StarMetro spoke to several park-goers on what improvements they expect to see at the park.

A few concerned residents said the facilities affixed to the park should be sturdy, of good quality and should not disintegrate due to weather conditions.

They said there should be proper supervision when the renovations were carried out and scheduled maintenance work to ensure facili-

ties were kept in good order.

A Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) spokesperson said the park which has been around since 1954, last underwent major renovations in 2001.

"We will deepen the lake and clean it up. We will also upgrade the edges of the lake and fence parts of it."

"However the extent of the renovation works depends largely on the allocation approved at the city council's 2020 budget," said the spokesperson.

He said minor works would first be done to address damaged parts of the walkway so the public could continue using the trail until it was closed next year.

Frequent park visitor Daniel Lee said the Taman Jaya lake emitted a stench, making it rather unpleasant for joggers to use the park.

"I see dead fish floating in the lake. The lake is smelly and looks clogged. I have noticed on several occasions mineral water bottles floating in the lake."



Stakeholders want MBPJ to remove drainage connectivity from the surrounding neighbourhoods into the lake in Taman Jaya.



Lee says the lake emits a foul smell, making it unpleasant for joggers and walkers. (Right) Visitors hope to see more colourful plants in the park.