

KERATAN AKHBAR

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MPSJ plant trees to cut noise pollution

TREES have been planted as a sound barrier along Jalan USJ 2/3, Subang Jaya to further improve absorption of noise from Keras Highway.

The trees were planted under Subang Jaya Municipal Council's (MPSJ) tree-planting programme, launched by Subang Jaya assemblyman Michelle Ng Mei Sze and MPSJ president Noraini Roslan.

"In order to build the LRT line in Subang Jaya, we had to remove sound barrier walls and trees during the construction process.

"After that, we received complaints from USJ 2 residents regarding excessive noise from the highway.

"A decision was made together with Department of Environment (DOE), to plant trees to reduce the noise," said Ng.

She said these trees were expected to grow to between 1.8m and 2.4m in height to be at their most effective in countering the noise pollution.

This year, 140,412 young trees have been planted in areas under MPSJ's jurisdiction as part of a move towards a greener future.

At least 1,550 of the trees, with another 50 slated for planting, are of the species *Baphia nitida*, which is a hedge plant used in screening off areas.

The trees were planted under MPSJ's tree-planting programme to



Ng (in red top), MPSJ officials, residents and representatives from various corporations planting trees in USJ 2.

promote absorption of carbon dioxide as well as reduce the effects of greenhouse gases and global warming.

MPSJ Corporate and Strategic Department deputy director Azfarizal Abdul Rashid said in a press statement that the trees also served to beautify the area and reduce noise pollution from busy roads.

"Through this project, we hope to

realise MPSJ's desire to create a green city by 2030," he stated.

The programme is part of MPSJ's Strategic Plan 2012-2030 and conducted in support of the 11th Sustainable Development Goal – to make cities more sustainable.

The initiative is also in line with the state government's plan to reduce 45% of carbon gas emissions by 2030.

MPSJ plans to plant more trees

along highway sections that are located next to housing areas in Subang Jaya to solve the noise pollution problem.

The tree-planting in USJ also involved Selangor DOE, Keras Highway concessionaire Konsortium Expressway Shah Alam Selangor Sdn Bhd, Prasarana Malaysia Bhd, Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd and MPSJ Residents Committee Zone 4. — By WONG SOOK WEI