

MPK: Use garbage bags or risk RM2,000 fine

Council gets serious about rubbish disposal at morning and night markets

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MORNING and night market traders in Klang must place rubbish in garbage bags for more efficient waste disposal or risk being fined RM2,000.

Traders are expected to adhere to the directive with immediate effect to facilitate easier waste collection.

Klang Municipal Council (MPK) acting president Elya Marini Darmin said enforcement action would be taken against those who fail to keep their premises clean.

"Once businesses close for the day, rubbish must be placed in garbage bags then sealed properly so that the private cleaning contractors can collect the bags with ease.

"We do not want the trading area to look like a rubbish dump each time the night or morning market closes for business," said Elya, adding that the initiative was in line with a pilot project launched by Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin in September last year.

"Good ideas need to be put into practice in Klang."



Elya handing over a notice, regarding the RM2,000 fine to be imposed on traders, to representatives of a residents association in Klang.

She added that cleanliness at the night and morning markets must be prioritised at all times as markets were often located near residential areas.

She said indiscriminate rubbish dumping could pose a danger to people's health.

"Our aim of imposing a fine on

traders is not to earn extra revenue but to keep public spaces clean.

"Clean spaces will draw more people to visit the market," Elya said.

Elya said there were 72 night and morning markets comprising 1,200 traders in Klang that operate

from Monday to Sunday.

"Each trader is charged RM4 to trade and RM1 goes towards cleaning services.

"We do not make a profit as MPK spends RM600,000 annually on rubbish disposal and cleaning services at markets," she said, adding that the council supported the traders as it encouraged greater involvement in business.

"We consider the night and morning markets as viable business opportunities for the young to become entrepreneurs as their investment is small but there is opportunity to earn good income."

Elya said MPK would also step up enforcement to weed out unlicensed traders at markets.

"In 2019, our Licensing Department nabbed 30 unlicensed traders at the morning markets while 200 unlicensed traders were caught trading in night markets," she said.

Earlier, she gave out notices regarding cleanliness and the RM2,000 fine to 10 residents associations, for them to be displayed at night and morning markets.

"We will also look into traffic issues at these markets and will find ways to improve the situation," she said.