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RM1m allocation to beautify Subang Jaya

Suryani Dalip

THE Subang Jaya Municipal Council has set aside RM1 million for beautifying areas under its jurisdiction.

Council president Ahmad Fuad Ismail said the project was in preparation for international meetings such as the Asean Trade Meeting and the Commonwealth Games in September next year.

He said priority would be given to beautifying main roads.

"We will engage a consultant to design the beautification plan which will include the planting of trees," he said.

Ahmad Fuad said the council has also made it a requirement for developers to carry out landscaping as they develop their areas.

"When the development is completed, the trees would have grown bigger.

"If the developers refuse to comply with the rules, the council will take stern action such as freezing the approval for the certificate of fitness of the building," he added.

He said that for road widening projects, contractors will be asked to relocate trees which will be replanted in other places such as along main roads or in vacant plots.

Ahmad Fuad said the council would decide on suitable places to replant the trees.

"Not all trees have to be shifted as there are those that can be cut down," he said.

He added that within this month, the council with the co-operation of Sime-UEP, one of the developers of Subang Jaya, will launch a tree planting programme in an effort to encourage residents to beautify the neighbourhood by planting trees.

"Tree planting is not the responsibility of the council alone.

"Everybody has to make the effort to green Subang Jaya by planting trees.

"We also would like to encourage individuals to plant trees and we applaud their efforts," he said.

Ahmad Fuad has plans to have an annual landscaping competition as an incentive.

"We will differentiate the types of residence - bungalow, link houses and flats as well as industrial premises.

"We started this in 1992 but we want to improve the programme and hold it at the end of the year," he added.

Ahmad Fuad said that before the nationwide launching of the tree planting campaign by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last month, the council has a vision to plant 10,000 trees by the year 2000, but the number has been increased.

"If one tree is planted in the compound of one house, we want them to plant three more.

"If there are empty spaces, we want to fill them with big, shady and strong trees.

"On the road dividers, we will plant palm trees like royal palm and cabbage palm.

"If possible, I want the roadsides in the municipality to be covered with tall trees," he said.

Ahmad Fuad noted that the council has three nurseries - in Puchong, and Taman Subang Ria and Sime-UEP Industrial Park, both in Subang Jaya.

He said the council was recruiting more staff as it was facing a staff

shortage.

"We need more hands. The most important thing about greening projects is maintenance.

"Although the planting work is done by the contractors, the council will take over the task of maintaining the trees planted after six months," he said.

Ahmad Fuad said the council will organise talks on tree planting and landscaping, inviting speakers from Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Saying that he loves gardening, he would also like to learn from Kuala Lumpur City Hall how it managed to green the federal capital.

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