

15/02/2003

Large-scale development plan to transform JB unveiled

JOHOR BARU, Fri. - A large-scale plan to transform a stretch of this city, from Tanjung Puteri to Danga Bay, into a mixed ultra-modern recreational, commercial and residential area was unveiled today during a video briefing attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The briefing, which took place at the site of the Danga Bay integrated mixed development project, showed a plan to complement the Southern Integrated Gateway (SIG) project in the heart of the city.

The project will cover the site of the Johor Baru Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Complex in Tanjung Puteri, the main business district along Jalan Wong Ah Fook and Sungai Seget, Lido Beach as well as Danga Bay.

The part of the project involving Tanjung Puteri and the business district will be carried out by the State Government, while those covering the stretch from Lido Beach to Danga Bay is being developed by Danga Bay Sdn Bhd with Limbongan Ekovest Management Sdn Bhd as its project manager.

Highlighted was the transformation of Tanjung Puteri into a recreational garden once the new CIQ complex, which will be part of the SIG project, becomes fully operational. The city's main business district will, on the other hand, be turned into a "walking city", with the construction of a pedestrian walkway along Jalan Wong Ah Fook and the beautification of areas along the connecting roads such as Jalan Meldrum, Jalan Datuk Onn and Jalan Ibrahim.

Sungai Seget, which runs partly parallel to Jalan Wong Ah Fook and known for its polluted water, will be fully rehabilitated. An art centre, to be named Kompleks Plaza Seni, will be built in the business district.

Further to the west of the coast of the Tebrau Straits is Lido Beach, earmarked for development into a 12.65ha waterfront park with recreational and cultural amenities.

The park will have food, recreational and cultural centres. Among the facilities to be built at these centres are local and international restaurants, an amphitheatre as well as an arts and craft museum.

Development at Lido Beach is part of the Danga Bay integrated mixed development project, which covers a 405ha area stretching to the estuary of Sungai Danga. The project is to be completed within the next 12 years.