

Headline	Big plans for the new year		
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Language	English	ArticleSize	1918 cm ²
Journalist	Christina Low	AdValue	RM 96,897
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Looking ahead with high hopes

From infrastructure upgrades to green initiatives, local authorities in the Klang Valley aim to ensure all projects planned for 2020 will be implemented successfully, spelling good news for residents. >2, 3, 4 and 5

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Ng, seen here launching a straw-free campaign in Bandar Kinrara, says the government will continue its efforts to make Selangor a low-carbon city. — Filepic

perfect lifestyle
HOME expo
3-5 JAN 2020
MID VALLEY EXHIBITION CENTRE (MVEC)
Sale 80%

2020 VISION

By CHRISTINA LOW, OH ING YEEN, VIJENTHI NAIR and BRENDA CH'NG
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FOR Shah Alam City Council (MBSA), the new year will see a big change in rubbish collection services as the city council will hand over domestic waste collection to KDEB Waste Management Sdn Bhd.

MBSA is the last local government to hand over its cleaning and rubbish collection services to KDEB.

"We will continue to focus on providing better services to the people and improve waste collection with the help of KDEB," said MBSA Corporate Communications head Shahrin Ahmad.

He said MBSA would also organise more low-carbon city programmes such as car-free day, community gardens and installation of LED street lights.

"We have allocated additional funding for the Residents Representative Council for 2020," he said.

Aside from that, the city council plans to upgrade and spruce up 24 roundabouts around the city, starting with five, namely Bulatan Setia Jasa, Bulatan Perusahaan, Bulatan Kayangan, Bulatan Stadium and Bulatan Bestari.

These roundabouts will see an upgrade in infrastructure and themed landscapes based on their locations.

Klang Municipal Council (MPK) plans to curb illegal waste dumping by calling out those who engage in this irresponsible act, where whistleblowers will be rewarded for catching them in action.

Meanwhile, the Selangor government has a few initiatives and programmes lined up, including reintroducing hike sharing with geofencing and e-scooters.

"We are still at the planning stage," said state local government, public transport and new village development committee chairman Ng Sze Han.

Big plans for the new year

Selangor local councils to focus on improving residents' quality of life



The Gua Damai International Base Jump will be held in Batu Caves, Gombak, in September. — Filepic

He said this was one of the plans to help Selangor be a sustainable, low-carbon state.

In addition, RM2mil has been allocated for residents associations to improve security in their respective neighbourhoods under the Bandar Selamat scheme.

To tackle the increasing number of strays on the street, the state will start an animal adoption awareness programmes this year.

The factory legalisation programme that was launched in September last year will see about 3,000 unlicensed factories in Selangor being legalised by Sept 30 this year, or risk having their land seized by the District and Land Office. Those who fail to do the legalisation after the deadline will be fined.

Based on a 2013 census, there were about 2,885 unlicensed factories built on 2,638 agricultural plots of land statewide.

Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ) estimates revenue of RM305mil in 2020 and will

allocate about RM5.4mil for programmes involving residents.

MPSJ accountant Mohd Fadzil Mahat said the council's main focus this year was to build a safe, green, smart, prosperous, healthy and women-friendly municipality.

One of the first programmes for the year is the Serdang community sports carnival on Jan 18 at the MPSJ football field Padang Bola Sepak in Jalan 18/5, Taman Seri Serdang.

In Seri Kembangan, Jalan Utama Serdang Raya will get an upgrade in August. This is one of the roadworks in line with the ongoing MRT Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya (SSP) line project, also known as MK12, which is scheduled for completion in July 2022.

MPSJ president Noraini Roslan said 2020 would bring new challenges to all council staff as they graduate to city council status.

As 2020 is Visi Sepang Year, Sepang

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Selayang Municipal Council's football stadium will reopen on Jan 15 following turf upgrades and repairs. — Filepic



A Dragon Fruit Festival will be held on June 20 in Sepang to promote the local fruit. — Filepic



MPKJ will be engaging with residents on its low-carbon initiatives. — Filepic



(Above) MBSA is handing over its cleaning and rubbish collection services to KDEB. — Filepic

Municipal Council (MPSepang) has been and will continue to promote its products and attractions.

One of the municipality's star products is the dragon fruit, and there will be plenty of promotions such as the Dragon Fruit Festival on June 20.

Among the top tourist attractions in Sepang are Bagan Lalang beach and Sungai Sepang Besar river cruise. This year's Bagan Lalang Beach Festival scheduled for Aug 15 and 16 will have games and activities for people of all ages, including an international competition.

MPSepang president Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim said they were targeting five million tourists. From this number, 20% are expected to be international visitors.

"One of the ways to attract tourists is by having international events. For example, during the Bagan Lalang Beach Festival, there will be an international silat competition.

"Our team also went to other countries last year to promote local attractions and products from small and medium industries.

"MPSepang took part in tourism expositions like the Internationale Tourismus Borse (ITB) in Berlin, Germany, to attract tourists from Europe as well as similar events in countries such as Singapore, China, Japan, South Korea and Australia.

"If each tourist spends RM1,000 here, we can have revenue of RM5bil," he said.

Fauzi added that Sepang residents could look forward to a better economy with the influx of tourists.

"For example, we are offering the Banghurus Homestay experience.

"Banghurus is derived from the names of three villages that offer the service — Bukit

Bangkong, Hulu Chuchoh and Hulu Teris. The combined population of 3,000 villagers can foresee greater income by hosting the tourists and offering experiences such as rubber tapping, fruit picking, fishing, folk dancing and classical music.

"These efforts will only get better as 2020 is Visit Selangor Year and more efforts will be made to promote the state on a global scale," he said.

Kajang Municipal Council (MPKJ) is focusing on rolling out more low-carbon city campaigns in its municipality this year.

MPKJ president Datuk Rosli Othman said the initiatives included more car-free days in Bandar Baru Bangi. The response is good and we want to extend it to Kajang town and hold it on a more regular basis.

"Other low-carbon initiatives that MPKJ wants to push are composting, recycling used cooking oil and tree planting.

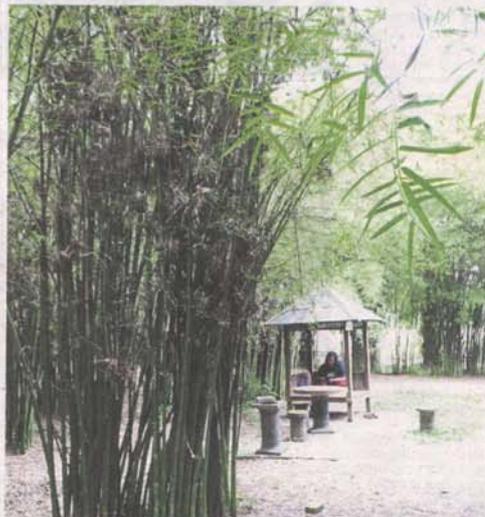
"We are still in the midst of discussing the mechanism to engage with the people and create awareness for our 'low-carbon' initiatives," he said.

Rosli added that a series of townhall sessions would be held in February to discuss a wide range of topics to understand the needs of the people and improve its service.

Sports and outdoor activities would be the highlight for Selayang this year as several key events are set to make a comeback.

Football fans can look forward to visiting the Selayang Municipal Council football stadium which will reopen on Jan 15.

The stadium has been closed since Nov 18 to facilitate turf upgrade and repairs needed ahead of the Malaysian Football League opening season which will begin in February.



(Left) MPSepang tourism offerings include the Banghurus Homestay in Kampong Hulu Chuchoh. — Filepic

Gua Damai International Base Jump is set to take place in September for its 13th edition at the Gua Damai Extreme Park in Batu Caves, Gombak.

The Batu Arang International Cross Country Challenge will be held in November.

Those who enjoy riding on BMX bikes can join the Selayang BMX Challenge and a charity bike carnival in the second quarter of the year.

Selayang Municipal Council president Shamsul Shahril Badliza Mohd Noor said he intended to focus on outdoor activities as well as upgrading and promoting various public parks such as Bukit Lagong Forest Reserve, Templer Park, Kanching Eco Forest Park, Commonwealth Forest Park, Blue Lake in Kundang and the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia.