

MRT necessary, but historical value of Jln Sultan must be maintained

THE Mass Rail Transit (MRT) project is necessary for the convenience of the people, but the historical value of Jalan Sultan which forms part of the project route must be protected.

Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLS-CAH) chief executive officer Tang Ah Chai said such development was necessary for a busy city and the construction of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang MRT project was the best move in overcoming the traffic congestion.

Tang hoped that the MRT project could change its route that had to pass through Jalan Sultan and suggested that the route be changed to Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock heading to Plaza Rakyat.

"This is among the suggestion that we have made in our memorandum in November as an alternative route for the MRT project so that it would not affect the buildings along Jalan Sultan," he said.

Last November, the KLS-CAH had urged the government to change the route of the MRT project which had been planned to pass through Jalan Sultan Ismail and Jalan Bukit Bintang by handing over a memorandum to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Seri Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz.

KLSCAH secretary-general, Yong Yew Wei said the construction of the MRT project at the location would affect business in the area as well

as the heritage buildings there.

A German tourist, Catriena Varia, 29, said although she did not know about the MRT project that would affect Jalan Sultan, she hoped the project construction would not affect the historical buildings there.

A local youth, Raymond Ng, 20, supported the government's proposal to build the MRT in the city but hoped that the historical sites would be maintained.

The construction of the MRT project would begin in stages in the second quarter of next year while work on the tunnel stretching 51km from Sungai Buloh to Kajang would begin in the second quarter of 2014. — Bernama



CITY TREASURE: Construction of the MRT project at the location would affect the heritage buildings there