

MRT Corp inks deal with nine

16 out of 24 property owners in Jalan Sultan have signed POA

KUALA LUMPUR: The owners of 16 out of 24 properties situated in Jalan Sultan here have signed the Points of Agreement (POA) with MRT Corporation (MRT Corp) for the development of the MY Rapid Transit project.

This follows the latest signing of 10 POA with nine owners of the properties, a statement from MRT Corp said yesterday.

"The signing marks a significant point in the efforts of MRT Corp towards concluding a Mutual Agreement (MA) with the property

owners in Jalan Sultan, which were faced with mandatory acquisition of their properties before this," said CEO Datuk Azhar Abdul Hamid in the statement yesterday.

He said he had personally taken the position of getting the owners' mutual agreement, instead of mandatory acquisition.

"To that end, we engaged the property owners through a series of activities to explain to them exactly what we were doing," he said.

Azhar said MRT Corp wanted to show the owners that the Jalan

Sultan alignment was the most ideal one, to ensure that no private property would either be acquired involuntarily or demolished and that the project was meant to improve not just the access to the area, but also offer growth to it.

On the protest held on Sunday, Azhar said he was surprised that despite ongoing engagements, some parties still felt a need to take to the streets.

He said MRT Corp had been engaging the owners directly or through their lawyers or representatives, in

which the last meeting was held at Parliament House chaired by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz.

"We are acting within the boundaries of the law. The signing of the POA with so many property owners suggests that those who participated in the protest on Sunday may have been misguided.

"This project is for the benefit of the people, especially in the Klang Valley and to address the city's current traffic congestion," added Azhar.



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- DATUK AZHAR ABDUL HAMID