



Speaking up: A resident voicing his concerns on the MRT project.

Details wanted on MRT project

Bukit Bandaraya residents worried about congestion and noise

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CONSTRUCTION of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang line of the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) is set to begin as a pre-construction survey for affected Bukit Bandaraya residents in Bangsar will be completed this month.

The stretch, between Section 16 and Pusat Bandar Damansara, along the back of townhouses in Jalan Medang Serai on the Sprint Highway, goes right up to Jalan Semantan in Damansara.

Some 50 residents from Bukit Bandaraya in Bangsar attended a meeting with MRT Corp recently over the Sungai Buloh-Kajang line, particularly along the Sprint Highway stretch.

During the meeting, residents voiced their concern over the line with construction starting as early as the last quarter of this year.

Bukit Bandaraya Residents Association president M. Ali said residents raised many questions on the project during the meeting.

"During the last meeting held in January last year, we had suggested to MRT Corp to go underground so that the residents will not be affected. However, they insisted that it is not possible," he said, adding that one of the problems that the residents were concerned about was the traffic.

"The area is already very congested. Imagine the volume of traffic in the area when the multi-storey carpark is built in the area. It will be a massive mess.

"We already have two LRT stations in Bangsar and Abdullah Hukum. We do not

really need an MRT station here as the residents can use the LRT with feeder buses, so the MRT is not a necessity as such," he said.

He added that other concerns included the noise pollution caused by the MRT as well as safety and security worries when the project was completed.

"The residents were also not happy as they were not given details on the exact scale of the project. We do not know how close the line will be to our houses and how much noise we have to bear," he said.

"Everything they have given is approximate. If they have given us the exact details at least the residents can estimate how many houses will be affected and how far is the line from our houses," he added.

MRT Corp strategic communications and public relations assistant general manager Leong Shen-Li, who was present at the meeting said MRT Corp would look into all the concerns raised by the residents.

"Whatever that was committed in the last meeting will be carried out; there is no question about that.

"We have also taken note of whatever the residents have raised today," he said, adding that MRT would start the pre-construction survey on the area.

"It is a very common construction practice. If we start work and cracks appear on house, we would not know what is causing the cracks as there might also be some other construction nearby," he added.

"We will be having more meetings for other residential areas as well to keep residents informed of the phases and updates on the construction of the project," added Leong.

Closing in: Residents looking at the blueprint of the MRT line.

