

River project to transform KL

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River project to transform KL

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KUALA LUMPUR: With the launch of a RM4 billion river cleaning up and beautification project yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri S. Subramaniam will inaugurate the project.

However, he said the project required long-term physical development that a remedy to the people's thinking and attitude, especially towards rivers.

The RM4 billion project along the river through the city is an urban renewal project that will transform the river into a green and vibrant waterway and create a vibrant urban landscape with high connectivity.

Initiated as an Urban Policy Project under the Greater Kuala Lumpur, Klang Valley Regional Development Plan, the RM4 billion project aims to transform the Klang and Sungai Gombak into an urban waterway of the city that is clean, safe, healthy, green, vibrant and accessible to all.

Apart from bringing the river back to its original state, the project will also create a network of parks and green spaces along the river, which will be managed to bring up to 25 acres.

The project is a long-term urban project to boost the city's greenery and to create a vibrant urban landscape with beautiful walkways, bridges and parks, he said, when launching the River of Life project last year.

The River of Life project comprises three components, which are the cleaning up, beautification and river water development along the river corridor. The cleaning up will be completed along a 12.5km stretch throughout the Klang river basin.

The beautification project includes the creation of parks and green spaces along the river, which will be managed to bring up to 25 acres.



RM4-billion project to transform the Klang and Sungai Gombak rivers into an urban waterway of the city. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak (right) and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (second from left) look at the River of Life project plan after the launch of a RM4-billion river beautification project in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — NST pictures by Anwarudin Saad

for recreational activities, he said.

A sum of RM2 billion had been allocated for the clean-up and beautification works.

The beautification project will include development of the river banks from Telok Anson to BUKIT KUALA.

The Kuala Lumpur City Hall held a River of Life project plan competition that started on June 11 and they have shortlisted two of the 22 entries.

There are three international firms

participating with two from local planning companies.

The winning plans are available for the public to view and vote at www.riveroflife.com.my — from 6pm to 11pm on July 28.

A panel of expert jurors have also been appointed to assess the plans. The winning plan will be based on a combination of votes from the public and the jurors. The project will be completed by July 2012.