

Projek sungai untuk mentransformasikan KL

Kategori: [Arkib](#) Published: Oct 04, 2022

2 - New Straits Times - Saturday, 2/7/2011

River project to transform KL

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KUALA LUMPUR: With the launch of a RM4 billion river cleaning up and beautification project, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak today said Kuala Lumpur will eventually become one of the great cities in the world.

However, he said the project required not just physical development but a change in the people's thinking and attitude, especially towards rivers.

The RM4 billion project along the river through the city is an urban renewal project aimed at transforming the river into a vibrant and beautiful waterway with high standards.

Initiated as an Urban Policy Project under the Greater Kuala Lumpur Strategic Vision (GKLSV) by the Ministry of Urban Planning and Construction, the RM4 billion project aims to transform the Klang and Sungai Gombak into an urban waterway of the city with the vision for London, Paris, Melbourne and Amsterdam by 2020.

Apart from sewage being cleaned into the river, Najib said about 120 acres of parking also being built to ease the traffic congestion, but the government managed to wrap up only 25 acres.

To realise the Klang-Gombak river project to best capacity, the project is the first example of the transformation of a polluted and dirty river into a vibrant river, complete with beautiful walkways, bridges and amenities, 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 will be completed along a 120km stretch throughout the Klang river basin.

The beautification project entails, from the upstream Klang River to the downstream Klang River, which would make the river suitable



RM4-billion project to transform the Klang-Gombak river project in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — NST pictures by Anwarudin Saad

for recreational activities by 2020.

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

The beautification project will include beautification 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 22 and they have shortlisted two of the 22 entries.

There are three international firms

partner with two local planning companies.

The winning plans are available for the public to view and vote at www.riveroflife.com.my — from 6pm to 10pm 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 and the project will get started. The winning proposal will be announced on July 29.