

Alam Flora not doing its job in Segambut

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KUALA LUMPUR: Business operators in Segambut are claiming that they have been neglected by City Hall and Alam Flora for years.

The business operators say that Alam Flora, the contractor appointed by City Hall to clean the streets of Kuala Lumpur, are neglecting their duties in the area.

With rubbish piling up at their doorsteps, these business operators say they have had no choice but to hire a private company to clear the rubbish to avoid being fined by City Hall officers.

The business operators have been paying the private contractor RM120 a month to collect their rubbish three times a week.

Business operators at Jalan Segambut, 1/57D came out to air their grievances during a

meeting on Wednesday.

They said there were also people dumping rubbish in the area and clogging their drains. This had resulted in flash floods in the area during downpours.

M. Arumugam, 42, who manages a car accessories shop, said the goods in his outlet were damaged by floods that hit the area recently.

"There is no proper drainage system here and the drains are constantly clogged with rubbish. If the authorities were to clear the drains, we wouldn't be having these problems," he said.

Coffee shop owner Chow Sing Hock, 57, who has been operating at Jalan Segambut Utara for the last 30 years, said they shouldn't have to fork out their own money for these services when they paid assessment to City Hall.

"How can they just collect our money and ignore us?

They should know that this is a busy industrial area and they should be around to service us," he said.

Chow added that the uncollected rubbish posed a health risk to people in the area.

He said he had received several complaints from his customers about the stench of rubbish coming from the alleys.

Chia Kok Wah, 38, who runs a car accessories shop, said that he had been issued more than 15 notices for the rubbish around his area.

"I have no choice but to pay. If I don't, they will revoke my business licence."

Other issues that were raised by the business community included the number of mosquitoes in the area.

"The uncollected rubbish breed mosquitoes. We hope that the authorities can come and fog the area before anyone here falls ill because of

these conditions."

Segambut MP Lim Lip Eng said he had written five letters to City Hall since May requesting for the drainage system to be upgraded.

"For more than half a year I have been asking City Hall to look into the grievances of the business operators here, but they have chosen to ignore them."

When Lim contacted City Hall to enquire about the status of rubbish collection in Segambut, he was told by their officers to contact Alam Flora.

"Isn't it the duty of the local authority to look after the people? I will be contacting Alam Flora, and if they don't give a valid reason for not collecting the rubbish, I will tell all 300 business operators here to cease paying their annual assessments," he said, adding that he hoped the new Mayor Datuk Ahmad Fuad Ismail would look into the matter.



Garbage piling up under a sign that specifically states that no rubbish is to be dumped there, in the industrial area of Segambut.