

# PJ folk given greater voice

## City council open to feedback from public on its 2022 budget

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PETALING Jaya stakeholders and residents have been given an important role to play in the development of the city.

They are encouraged to voice their opinions and provide input on Petaling Jaya City Council's (MBPJ) annual development budget for next year.

The theme of Budget 2022 is "Petaling Jaya a Responsive and Sustainable City".

City folk have been advised to give their feedback, opinions and ideas on the budget through a link that can be found on the council's website at [www.mbpj.gov.my](http://www.mbpj.gov.my).

The link will be available until Aug 1.

"MBPJ wants to provide the best service while adapting to the crisis brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic," said acting deputy

mayor Sharipah Marhaini Syed Ali when she chaired the full board meeting yesterday.

Apart from that, MBPJ has decided to allow the public to follow the monthly full board meeting starting next month.

Since May, residents and the media have not been able to follow the sessions.

At yesterday's full board meeting, councillor Derek Fernandez highlighted the issue and stressed that it was compulsory for the public to be able to view the full board meeting.

"The media and the public have not been able to follow MBPJ's full board proceedings for the past few months.

"Based on the Local Government Act 1976, full board meetings must be made public.

"The public should also be able to see a recorded version of the meetings.

page 04



Those living in Petaling Jaya can give their opinion and ideas on MBPJ's annual development budget for 2022. — Filepic

"Recordings of past meetings should be uploaded on the council's website so that they can be accessed by the public anytime," he said.

Derek said Sharipah agreed to the request and said the live link for the proceeding would be available online next month.

The meeting also heard that MBPJ has uncollected assessment tax amounting to RM177.638ml

from ratepayers.

It urged the public to settle outstanding tax before Aug 31 to avoid a penalty.

The city council has 266,111 payees in its assessment roll.

Stakeholders can view their online assessment bill for July to December 2021 at <https://ecukai.mbpj.gov.my/mbpjjesalinanbil> and payment can be made online using eCukai@MBPJ or ePay@MBPJ app.

MBPJ also announced that it carried out 13,117 inspections on premises and public spaces such as parks for adherence to the Covid-19 standard operating procedure and violation of council laws.

Fifteen premises were issued closure notices, 26 were sealed or instructed to be vacated, while 30 more were ordered to be closed.

MBPJ also collaborated with the police for 155 operations.