

Thursday June 5, 2008

Friends of Bukit Gasing (FOBG) wants protection for Bukit Gasing land

By DEBBIE CHAN

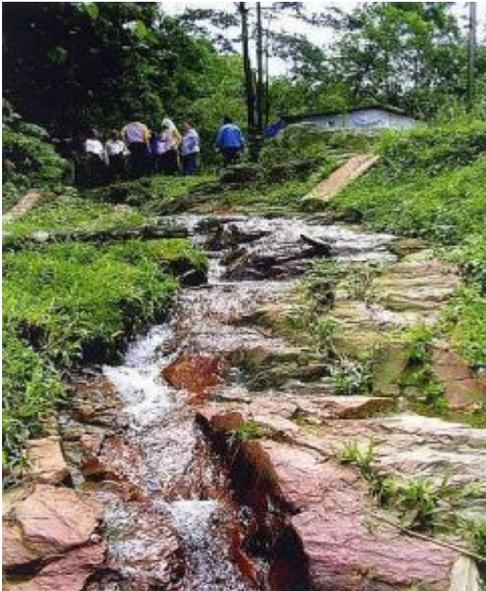
THE Friends of Bukit Gasing (FOBG) is all out to oppose a proposal in the Draft Kuala Lumpur City Plan 2020 that will result in city folk being deprived of a further 14.2ha of green area in Bukit Gasing.

The proposed plan entails the development of a green area that cuts through a stream running across Bukit Gasing.

The FOBG is now waiting to meet the KL mayor to make another appeal against the proposed plan.

Under the proposal, the green area is to be developed into a residential scheme. The lower part of the area is now occupied by squatters.

"There is a clear stream running in the area which supports many life forms, taking away the stream will destroy the eco-system," FOBG chairman Dr Khoo Boo Khean said.



Green area: The stream running through Bukit Gasing is under threat

According to Khoo, the stream is an important part of environment conservation.

"It is a simple food chain principle. If you take away one element of the food chain, the whole system will collapse," he said.

Last year, officials from various ministries visited the site and they agreed that the stream was needed to conserve the entire green area.

"The experts have said that it is necessary to preserve the stream but the ultimate decision lies with the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL)," FOBG adviser Datuk Dr Lim Thuan Seng said.

"It looks like in the new draft plan, the authority has decided to do away with the stream," Lim said.

Bukit Gasing was initially reserved as a green area to act as buffer between Kuala Lumpur and the new satellite town during pre-independence days.

According to Khoo, it was a rubber plantation that eventually grew into a lush green area with a complete eco-system.

