

# Mayor: No project approved for Gasing

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**K**UALA LUMPUR City Hall has confirmed that they have not approved any development order to develop a privately owned land by Tetuan Gasing Meridian Sdn Bhd (previously known as Sanctuary Gasing).

Datuk Bandar Ruslin Hasan clarified that no decision had been made about the land though he confirmed that City Hall had received an application for development from the developer in 1996.

"We have looked into the safety, geotechnical and environmental details as well as sought the people's views and we told the developer that we will only approve if certain guidelines were followed including implementing a phase-by-phase development.

"But they (the developer) did not agree and had submitted an appeal which was rejected," Ruslin said.

According to Ruslin such applications would have to go through a lengthy process under the scrutiny of a technical sub-committee.

Requirements include providing a space for recreation, ensuring that there's more than one road leading into and out of the neighbourhood; and adhering to other environmental factors.

"With the findings of the sub-committee, City Hall and the Federal Territories Ministry will then confer with the FT Committee for Sensitive Environment or JPPKSAS (Jawatankuasa Kawasan Sensitif Alam Sekitar Wilayah Persekutuan) whose members comprise City Hall, Department of Environment, the Drainage and Irrigation Department, the Land Office, Public Works Institute of Malaysia (Ikram) and other relevant organisations.

"Only when all the findings are reported will the committee look into the feasibility of developing the land," he said, adding that a meeting would most likely be held in mid December.

Ruslin said soil testing on the land was required to ensure that the area would be able to withstand development.

"We need to test the soil to look at the structure of the land before any decision is made," he said.

"The developer has the right to apply to develop the land but at the end of the day we will look into every aspect and make a decision," he added when commenting on the protest staged by residents in Bukit Gasing regarding slope tests carried out by the developer on the land.

Residents were angry that a portion of the hill slope was cleared and that the landowner had covered up the clearing with patches of grass and newly planted banana trees.

The Joint Action Committee for Bukit Gasing wanted more information about the land, the applications and the status of application.

Its chairman Derek Fernandez had said that such information should be made available to the public.

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Ruslin briefing reporters on the Bukit Gasing green belt.

## Hillside protest

Some 500 people, living around Bukit Gasing gathered at a playground recently to voice their dissatisfaction over development on the hill. The protest was organised by the Bukit Gasing Joint Action Committee recently after a slope was cleared for soil tests on Nov 7.



StarMetro's front page headline on the recent protest by Bukit Gasing residents.