

KK working to resolve flash floods

KOTA KINABALU: A committee made up of several departments is working out a long-term solution to the flash flood problem in low-lying and densely populated areas in the city.

Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Department Datuk Edward Khoo said flood control gates were being proposed for Sungai Petagas and Sungai Sembulan, which are the main drainage outlets for the Lido Basin covering an area of some 2sq km bordering the city and Penampang district.

He said state Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) engineers had concluded that the back flow of drainage water was among the key causes of the frequent flash floods in the basin.

"So, the engineers are coming up with the design for the proposed flood control gates for the two rivers.

"Once this is done, we will submit the matter to the state Cabinet for approval," Khoo said, after chairing the Kota Kinabalu flood and drainage committee

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DATUK EDWARD KHOO

meeting yesterday.

The committee comprises officials from the DID, Public Works Department and City Hall.

Khoo said the committee had been working to resolve the flash flood problem in pocket areas around the city since July.

"We are ensuring the drains are cleared. The solutions to the flood problems around the city are being worked out," he added.

Flash floods struck parts of Kota Kinabalu, including Taman Mesa, Taman Che Mei, Lido, Jalan Penampang and parts of Luyang as well as Sabah College in Sembulan on Dec 19.