

Council to use geobags to shore up riverbank

TAMAN Mayang residents in Petaling Jaya can breathe a sigh of relief as a solution will be implemented starting this week to deal with the eroding riverbank near their houses.

The banks of Sungai Kayu Ara will be strengthened with geobags (a type of sandbag) and the work to restore the riverbank to its original state is estimated to cost at least RM340,000, according to Damansara Utama assemblyman Yeo Bee Yin.

A Taman Mayang resident whose house directly faces the river, said under the condition of anonymity that he was alarmed by the speed of the erosion.

"It started last year and I could see the distance between the riverbank and my house kept getting nar-

rower.

"Last year, the distance was about 9.1m but now the gap has been reduced to about 4.6m," he noted.

Yeo said it was normal for Sungai Kayu Ara to be inundated by periodic rainfall over the past 20 years.

"The problem started a month ago when the area constantly experienced heavy rain as the monsoon season has started," she said.

She explained that a water pipe and an electric cable ran across the river, necessitating the involvement of Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Syabas and the Selangor Public Works Department to solve this issue.

She added that before strengthening work could start, the power cable had to be removed first.



Work to repair the eroded riverbank is expected to start this week.