Gigantic SS14 Tree to be Relocated

Syarikat Prasarana Negara Berhad to finance relocation of Ketapang tree along Jalan SS14/1 to make way for LRT guideway

The tree is presently located along Jalan SS14/1 alongside Persiaran Jengka. It is in the LRT guideway construction path. Prasarana group communications chief Masinizam Hisham said the company had decided to accept the proposal by residents in the area to have the tree relocated instead of allowing it to go under the axe.

Masinizam said Prasarana will work hand-in-hand with the Subang Jaya Municipal Council and the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) to ensure the success of this relocation and that the tree survives the effort.

“We will have our main contractor Trans Resources Corporation Sdn Bhd (TRC) assist with all that is necessary such as heavy equipment to excavate and transport the tree to its new home, which will be identified by MPSJ,” Masinizam said.

According to reports from FRIM, the tree could be transplantable. It would however have to be trimmed, treated and allowed to undergo a hardening period of between two to three months before it’s moved to its new location.

The process will include treating the root ball and ensuring that the tree is properly packed up and supported to avoid any tilting.

ADUN Subang Jaya Hannah Yeoh greeted the news with total support for the effort undertaken by Prasarana.

“I am glad Prasarana is funding the cost for this relocation. My office had received a petition earlier with 196 signatures expressing their concern about the fate of the tree. FRIM’s assistance will be invaluable in this effort which will involve MPSJ as well. We do want to see Subang Jaya greened and our urban forest initiative in USJ3C where 1,111 trees have been planted is testimony to that,” she said.

MPSJ Zone 1 councillor Rajiv Rhyakumar said the initiative to relocate the tree was unique.

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MPSJ Zone 1 councillor Rajiv Rhyakumar said the initiative to relocate the tree was unique.

“I am surprised and overwhelmed by the decision to relocate the tree. I never thought our petition would be taken seriously.”

“I was sceptical about starting the petition when it was first suggested to me. We were not expecting a miracle but we just decided to start the signature drive,” he said.

Vijayan said the momentum for the signature drive increased as residents and regular customers began signing the form he had left at the counter.

Editor’s Note: If you would like to share your opinion about this story, write to us at editor@sjecho.com.my and we will try our very best to publish it in our September edition. Please include your full name and contact number for us to contact you for any clarification. Thank You.