

StarMetro • 6.1.22 (Thursday) • 03:1

Solve the dead fish problem at park, authorities urged

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KUALA Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) has suggested installing a machine to enable aeration in the lake at Kepong Metropolitan Park, Kuala Lumpur.

However, Kepong MP Lim Lip Eng said there was no sign of the suggestion being implemented yet.

His political secretary Lee Jia Haur said he received many complaints from nearby residents and park visitors every year about the pungent smell from dead fishes in the lake.

"This happens two to three times a year.

"We have complained to DBKL many times before regarding this issue and they have taken the lake's water sample to the lab before to investigate.

"They concluded that there were no toxic chemicals or substances in the water and explained that the fish were dying because of the over-production of algae in the lake, which competed with the fishes for oxygen," he said.

He added that dead fishes in the lake had been a problem at the Kepong park since 2018.

"What looked like grease to us on the water surface, DBKL said was just thick algae.

"DBKL suggested installing an aerator that will increase oxygen in the lake.

"However, we don't see any machines being built so far.

"This is a concern for the people who come to the park as not only is it smelly, but the cleanliness is not up to par and the view of the lake is unpleasant.

"There are also people starting to move into the newly built condominium next to the lake and they will face the same problem.

"We will continue to write to DBKL to find a way to prevent this from happening in the future," he added.

Lim said Federal Territories Ministry had

informed him that RM570,000 was allocated yearly in the 2020 and 2021 budget to maintain and clean Kepong Metropolitan Park, while RM1.1mil and RM1.9mil had been allocated respectively in 2020 and 2021 to improve and enhance the landscape.

He said the allocations were not reflected in the state of the park.

"The dead fishes in the lake is a testament to this."

He said the issue had also been highlighted to Environment and Water Minister Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man, and urged the ministry to come up with a solution this year.