



Technical Visit To Alor Enclave, Jalan Alor And Blue Pool, Jalan Raja, Kuala Lumpur

by Ir. Rusnida Talib

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As part of the 2nd Women in Science, Engineering and Technology Conference (WiSET 2018) events, a technical visit was organized by Women Engineers Section for the participants to showcase our city to the participants, our visit was to Alor Enclave on 17th Jul 2018.

Our host, being Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur, Architect Natasha introduced and explained about Alor Enclave and its aim. This is one of the six laneways project under DBKL. The whole project consisted of four sub-projects, which took about 4 months to complete 50-meter-long laneways, a month to clear the infrastructures and utilities works and another two months for mural paintings by local artists.

As we strolled along the Alor laneway, Natasha explained, that 'Alor' in Bahasa Malaysia means 'stream'. It is believed that there was a stream along this lane and that was how the name 'Jalan Alor' was initiated. She further explained the design concept of Alor Enclave. Butterflies and rainbows were chosen as an image to represent the vibrant colours, a girl represents the friendliness of Alors' people.

Asked about the challenges DBKL encountered during the project, Natasha said that initially, there were negative responses when DBKL approached the community. To prove them wrong, DBKL cleaned the areas, and started infrastructure works, and continued with mural paintings. The community applauded the transformation to the area, and this also led to good cooperation between DBKL and the community.

After a break for dinner, the visit continued to another project carried out by DBKL; that is 'Kolam Biru' or 'Blue Pool' located near Dataran Merdeka. DBKL's Mechanical Engineer, Norayati briefed the visitors. Blue Pool, situated at the convergence point of Klang River and Gombak River, was designed to visually transform the rivers into a stunning and sensory experience.

Equipped with dancing symphony fountain, blue corridor, fog and lighting effects, it surely is an iconic attraction to Kuala Lumpur. It has created a place for both locals and tourists to gather. A newly built pedestrian bridge called 'Jambatan Sultan Abdul Samad', connecting Dataran Merdeka to Jamek Mosque, has reduced the travelling time by half.

Blue Pool is also part of the River of Life (ROL) project, which aims to increase Kuala Lumpur's liveability index, while achieving a world class city status. The main objective is to enhance, rehabilitate and preserve the river and its environment compatible with Greater Kuala Lumpur. ROL also, aims to improve and sustain the quality of Klang River to Class IIB Water Quality Index (IKA). Besides that, it will also provide adequate level of flood mitigation protection to the project area.

Norayati further explained about the components of ROL that are, river cleaning, river master planning and its beautification and river development. This project started in 2011, and is being executed in stages until its final estimated completion in 2020.

As we strolled along the blue corridor, we were lucky enough to listen to the dancing symphony fountain which started around 9pm. We ended our tour there with the hope that people will appreciate what has been done by DBKL for us locals and tourists who visit us.



A group photo in front of Blue Pool



Mural paintings works at building facades