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BSB Masterplan workshops continue



Steven Townsend (L), Project Director of BSB Masterplan, with Francis N L Sootoo, Director of MVA Asia Ltd, at the BSB Masterplan seminar. Picture: BT/Jefrisalas Al-Haadi Abu Bakar

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

Thursday, March 25, 2010

THE Visions Workshop for the Bandar Seri Begawan (BSB) Development Masterplan continued yesterday at the Bumiputra Commercial Trade Centre, to explore ideas, issues of concerns and visions of key stakeholders for the development of the capital.

The workshop, attended by senior officers from various government departments involved in Bandar Seri Begawan's development, has been touted as an opportunity to document project goals, define key programme components and formulating initial concepts that will become the basis for the development of the plan.

Led by Chirayu Bhatt, a HOK representative, the so-called "group discussions" yesterday saw key questions on private land access issues, among others, such as process of land use change, statutory enforcement of land use (mechanism), zoning, strata title act, Kampong Ayer title issues, inaccessible privately owned land and acquisition of private land being put on the agenda.

However, speakers at the seminar declined to be comment after the seminar had closed.

Recently, during the previous State Legislative Council (LegCo) meeting, Minister of Home Affairs Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Hj Adanan Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Hj Mohd Yusof said that HOK is halfway towards completing the masterplan, which is currently in the stages of carrying out the inception, interim survey, interim proposals and strategies.

He further highlighted the strategic objectives of the masterplan which includes, among others, BSB as a "City in the Garden" with a clean and sustainable environment that is free from pollution; as an attractive and beautiful tourist destination with its own unique characteristics, such as its culture, treasures and historical heritage; and strengthening administration, management and capability of the BSB Municipal Board and Department to become a more efficient and effective public organisation.

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