

Press Release

BUKIT DUMBAR RECREATIONAL PARK IS A “DAYTIME” PARK

PENANG, 9/1/2014: The Bukit Dumbar Recreation Park is meant for public use and access during daylight hours, and not at night.

Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) General Manager Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa said the park, just like any other public recreation area in Penang, is meant to be used during the day.

“There are two key reasons for why we say this: Firstly, a public park is not meant to be lighted up. The lighting at the park was installed to facilitate PBAPP personnel to maintain the treated water facilities during the night. Hence, from the safety standpoint, the risks of exercising in any park, when it is dark, are inherently higher. People, especially senior citizens and young children, may trip, slip or fall when they cannot see clearly.

“Secondly, people frequent parks to exercise so that they may enjoy fresh, oxygen-rich air. During the day, plants release more oxygen than they use for respiration as a by-product of photosynthesis. At night, when there is no sunlight, most trees and plants absorb oxygen instead for respiration and release carbon dioxide,” he explained. It is hereby not recommended to use the park at night.

Ir. Jaseni said PBAPP had set up and maintained the Bukit Dumbar Recreation Park as “a people-friendly public initiative” because “Bukit Dumbar is technically a restricted area which houses treated water supply infrastructure”.

“Since we are given to understand that people are now using this area for exercise until the hours after dark, we will conduct a study to improve public safety and security. For now, we will consult the police about increasing the number of patrols in the area to deter incidences of petty crimes,” he added.

“While we will do what we can to ensure that people will continue to enjoy the Bukit Dumbar Recreation Park freely and safely, we also seek their understanding to use it wisely,” he said.

“Since this is a public park, we do not stop anyone from entering. When you use the park, please understand that you are responsible for your own safety. While seeking to be healthy, please also exercise prudence, especially after dark,” he said. “Similarly, please note that while free car and motorcycle parking lots are provided for you, parking in these areas is at your own risk.”

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