



PM LAUNCHES WARISAN KL: WARISAN IBU KOTA MALAYSIA MADANI
Catalytic Culture-Based Development Effort Driven by Kuala Lumpur City Hall and Think City to Revitalise the Capital's Historic Core

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 April 2025 – Prime Minister YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim this morning launched Warisan KL, a transformative urban regeneration initiative, that seeks to breathe new life into Kuala Lumpur's historic downtown.

Warisan KL aspires to create a vibrant, inclusive and globally recognised hub for creativity, culture and community living.

The launch event, held at the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) Auditorium, was also attended by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories), YB Datuk Seri Dr Zaliha Mustafa; KSN and Kuala Lumpur Mayor, Dato' Seri TPr (Dr.) Maimunah Mohd Shariff. Also present was Khazanah Nasional Managing Director Dato' Amirul Feisal Wan Zahir and Think City Managing Director Datuk Hamdan Abdul Majeed.

Warisan KL is a culture-based urban regeneration programme that responds to the evolving challenges of downtown Kuala Lumpur. Decades of rapid development has left many historic spaces in the city underutilised and disconnected.

What is particularly unique about Warisan KL is that it places culture, creativity and community at the heart of the urban regeneration process. "Warisan KL is not just about restoring buildings and infrastructure but restoring the identity of our city," said Maimunah Mohd Shariff, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur. Warisan KL signals a shift in how cities grow: not merely through bricks and mortar, but through the reactivation of public life and civic purpose.

Led by DBKL and Think City, with the support of the Ministry of Finance and Prime Minister's Department (Department of the Federal Territories), the ambitious initiative brings together federal agencies, community organisations and private sector partners in a shared mission. It builds upon the foundation of the Kuala Lumpur Crea CAPtive and Cultural District Master Plan and the Kuala Lumpur Local Plan 2040. Warisan KL is a coordinated series of catalytic interventions across the city's historic centre.

Ten pilot flagship projects have been identified for the initial phase of implementation. These include the rejuvenation of the Dataran Merdeka Heritage Area, the revitalisation of the Masjid Jamek Enclave, the adaptive reuse of Carcosa Seri Negara and the activation of cultural and commercial precincts linked to fashion, textiles, design and food. These catalytic projects form part of a wider heritage and cultural ecosystem.

Warisan KL also aligns closely with the principles of the Ekonomi MADANI framework. It pursues a dual mission of uplifting creative industries and urban competitiveness while improving the quality of life, economic resilience, and cultural dignity for local communities. Warisan KL embraces culture as an engine of innovation and as inspiration towards a creative economy.

Minister of Finance II, YB Senator Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said the dual goals are achievable and important to Kuala Lumpur's future. *"Anchored in the Ekonomi MADANI*



framework, Warisan KL embodies the nation's dual mission: to raise the ceiling by promoting creative entrepreneurship and global economic participation, and to raise the floor by improving quality of life, boosting livelihoods, and strengthening community resilience in our city centre."

YB Datuk Seri Dr. Zaliha Mustafa, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories), underscored the initiative's civic significance. *"Urban development is not just about growth – it must uphold dignity, memory and equity. Warisan KL affirms that our heritage belongs to everyone. This is a movement to rehumanise the city."*

Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, YBhg. Dato' Seri TPr (Dr.) Maimunah Mohd Sharif described Warisan KL as a catalyst for integrated urban transformation. *"Warisan KL is not just a heritage agenda – it is an urban strategy focused on liveability, inclusion and cultural resilience. We are not just restoring buildings – we are reactivating identity and public life. This is a critical chapter in reimagining KL as a capital for all Malaysians."*

For Think City, Warisan KL is the culmination of a long-term effort to place heritage and people at the centre of city-making. Dato' Hamdan Abdul Majeed, Managing Director of Think City, said, *"We believe heritage is not just about conservation – it is about transformation. From George Town to Downtown KL, we've seen how culture-led regeneration can create economic value and civic pride. Warisan KL is a blueprint for how cities can adapt, thrive and reconnect. We are proud to work with DBKL, our partners and communities to make this a model of inclusive, sustainable urban change."*

As Kuala Lumpur gears up for Visit Malaysia Year 2026, Warisan KL helps to amplify the capital's unique identity while strengthening its social and cultural assets. Implementation will be done in phases, starting with conservation works, public realm enhancements and creative programming.

Over time, Warisan KL will become a platform where policy, partnership, planning and public life converge. It will be where restored buildings meet renewed meaning, where heritage guides innovation and where communities, businesses and visitors experience a city that reflects both its roots and its reach.

Warisan KL will ensure that Kuala Lumpur's next chapter is not only forward-looking, but deeply grounded in who we are, what we value and what we aspire to become – as a capital city built by the people, for the people. It is a national effort to ensure that the soul of the city continues to thrive in the lives of every Malaysian.

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About Think City

Think City is an impact organisation established in 2009 to create more sustainable and equitable places for the benefit of all. Our knowledge, skills and strategies focus on urban solutions, the environment, social communities, and the cultural economy. Think City is a wholly owned subsidiary of Khazanah Nasional Berhad (the sovereign wealth fund of the Government of Malaysia). For more information, log on to thinkcity.com.my.



About Kuala Lumpur City Hall

The Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) is the local authority in Malaysia responsible for administering the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. This agency operates under the Federal Territories Department. DBKL is responsible for public health and sanitation, waste management and disposal, urban planning, environmental protection and control, economic and social development, and the general maintenance of urban infrastructure.