

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SECTOR INCENTIVES TOP DAMANSARA REALTY'S BUDGET 2018 WISHLIST**

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**Kuala Lumpur, 23 October 2017** - Government consideration towards incentives to raise awareness and to encourage proper facilities management ('FM') services arising from Malaysia's rapid urbanisation is vital, says Damansara Realty Bhd.

Group Chief Executive Officer of DBhd, Brian Iskandar Zulkarim said education and increasing awareness is urgently needed on the importance of proper building maintenance and management.

This will ensure and maintain a safe and healthy environment for the people who use them every day.

"There has been a huge growth in Malaysia's built environment, and these properties, whether residential, commercial or industrial, have long lifecycles. We hope the Government will incentivise the education of asset owners to see the value of integrated facilities management ('IFM') as a crucial business objective that will contribute towards the long-term appreciation and sustainability of their property," he said.

"Without long-term strategic or integrated facilities management, asset owners will face problems with shortened lifespans and reduced asset values," he added.

In addition, flexible schemes, incentives or tax relief should be introduced for property owners to provide facilities management as part of long-term sustainability which improves life cycle costs.

Brian said as Malaysia migrates towards a more knowledge-intensive service type economy, it is estimated that the services sector will contribute 58 per cent to GDP by 2020, with IFM as an imperative feature within this sector.

"FM today is evolving beyond its traditional maintenance services to IFM by integrating different multi-disciplinary activities in order to address changing business needs alongside the advancement of technology."

"Whilst we have built our cities on a global competitive scale, what's crucially needed are more government-backed qualification programmes to help create highly competent, well-trained, knowledgeable and skilled workforce in

integrated facilities management across Malaysia in order for our nation to attain the status of developed country by the year 2020,” added Brian.

DBhd also hopes that Bank Negara Malaysia could consider easing the strict lending guideline limit for the broad property sector in order for developers to obtain financing for development of more affordable homes for the nation

Further, DBhd said that housing affordability issue affects the whole nation due to rising living cost and urged for the relaxation of stringent mortgage loan requirements, not just for first home buyers, but to all potential homebuyers to facilitate home ownership for everyone.

“In support the nation’s homeownership aspirations for the rakyat, we remain focused on synergising our property and land development, IFM as well as project management and consultancy services to provide affordable housing whilst ensuring a clean, safe and healthy environment for all home and building owners.

“We hope our proposals will be considered in the upcoming Budget 2018 as we believe there is huge potential in IFM sector towards the development of Malaysia both in terms of helping businesses achieve corporate objectives and also in the economic welfare of the country and its citizens,” concluded Brian.

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**About Damansara Realty Berhad**

Damansara Realty Berhad is an investment holding company with three major business segments, namely property and land development, integrated facilities management (IFM) as well as project management and consultancy services. For more information, please visit [www.dbhd.com.my](http://www.dbhd.com.my) or email [corporateinfo@dbhd.com.my](mailto:corporateinfo@dbhd.com.my)

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