

## **BAPPENAS AND SPECIAL RUU IKN COMMITTEE SURVEYS KEY LOCATIONS AT STATE CAPITAL SITE**

**PENAJAM PASER UTARA AND BALIKPAPAN** – The Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, along with the House of Representatives' (DPR) Special Committee for the Drafting of the State Capital Bill (RUU IKN) surveyed several locations in Penajam Paser Utara, East Kalimantan related to the new national capital city development on Friday (14/1).

Lead by Special Committee Head Ahmad Doli Kurnia Tandjung, the survey, primarily conducted from the air, is one of the most important steps towards the drafting of the state capital city bill (RUU IKN) which is currently being deliberated on by the government.

"We surveyed a number of important locations and were updated on the progress of several projects including bypass roads, the planned airport-main government area (KIPP) toll road, the Balang Island bridge, the KIPP ring road, the Sepaku Semoi dam as well as possible locations for the House of Representatives' building and the State Palace, the latter of which we consider as the 'ground zero' for the entire development plan," said the Head of the State Capital Project (IKN) Communications Team Sidik Pramono.

Meanwhile, the Special Committee for the Drafting of the State Capital Bill will continue to review sites such as the Borneo Bay City and Grand City Balikpapan, to review plans to establish vertical housing projects.

The peak of the visit was a meeting and discussion between the Special Committee with local community leaders and non-government organizations, who were invited to provide suggestions and further input for the future of the IKN. The organizations include the East Kalimantan Dayak Customary Council, the East Kalimantan Dayak Alliance, the National Dayak Customary Council, National Dayak Intellectuals Association, the Regional Mass Organizations (Ormas) Association, the Dayak Customary Institution, the Paser Customary Institution, the Borneo LAP Paser Customary Council, the East Kalimantan Paser Dayak Traditional Institute, the Kutai Customary Institution, the East Kalimantan Dayak Paser Customary Force, the East Kalimantan Dayak Customary Defense Command, the Paser Customary Defense troops, the Kutai Dayak Customary Council for Banjar Kaltim, and the United Dayak Forum.

Community leaders such as members of the Kutai Kartanegara Sultanate, Paser Sultanate, and traditional villages from Paser Balik and Kutai Lampong were also in attendance.

All the parties above expressed support for the IKN's development and voiced their hopes that it can become a symbol of national identity as well as a driving force for the Indonesian economy.

"This whole surveying trip is an important part of drafting the IKN bill, especially in terms of accommodating community needs. By doing so, we are ensuring that the new State Capital will truly become a world city for all," Sidik said.

**Penajam Paser Utara and Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, 14 January 2022**

Sidik Pramono

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