

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Sentosa & Resorts World lay the ground for smoother rides

# \*New vehicular bridge to complement existing Sentosa Gateway \*Steady improvements to road network in and around Sentosa

**Singapore, 8 July 2009** – Construction of Sentosa's new vehicular bridge is complete and it welcomed its first stream of traffic this morning at 7.18am.

From today till 22 July, all inbound and outbound traffic on Sentosa will be diverted onto this new bridge which runs parallel to the existing bridge. Concurrently, the existing bridge will be closed to facilitate the final phase of works.

The bridge, which costs more than S\$80 million to build, was commissioned by Resorts World at Sentosa (RWS) in view of the anticipated 13 million visitors to the integrated family destination when it opens in early 2010. McConnell Dowell, an Australian-based engineering and construction company, started constructing the bridge in March 2008.

When fully ready, the enhanced Sentosa Gateway will feature the new vehicular bridge, which will connect inbound traffic from the mainland to Sentosa, and the existing link, which will operate as the outbound carriageway bringing guests from Sentosa to the mainland. Sentosa Gateway will then be widened from a dual-lane bridge to a three-lane carriageway for each direction of traffic.

"Sentosa Gateway is poised to take on the increase in traffic volume when Resorts World at Sentosa opens its doors, and as more residents move in to their homes at Sentosa Cove", said Mike Barclay, CEO of Sentosa Leisure Group, which built the original causeway-bridge in 1991 and has maintained it ever since. "We have also been working closely with the authorities on a host of traffic management measures that will complement this new and enhanced link to help ease the flow on the roads, re-channel traffic and prevent bottlenecks", he added.

RWS's Executive Vice President of Projects, Mr Michael Chin, said: "We built the new causeway bridge as we are committed to providing our visitors a world-class destination, and

their memorable holiday experience must include hassle-free access to and from our Resort and Sentosa."

In 2008, the Land Transport Authority announced a package of road improvement measures aimed at enhancing the travel experience for visitors to the Sentosa-Harbour Front area, including the construction of a new Gateway Tunnel to meet the long term increase in traffic demand and the tunnel is slated for completion in 2015.

A series of road works is currently underway along Telok Blangah Road and Kampong Bahru Road, which includes the road widening works along Telok Blangah Road and Kampong Bahru Road slated for completion when Resorts World at Sentosa opens.

To complement the widening of Sentosa Gateway and the road improvement plans, Sentosa Leisure Group will be boosting the capacity of its island transportation by increasing the Sentosa Express fleet. A new 620-metre long timber boardwalk connecting from VivoCity to Sentosa will be constructed to provide another link into the island. The tender for the project has been awarded and details will be announced next month. Mount Faber Leisure Group will also be upgrading and expanding its cable car system to cater to the expected increase in guest traffic in the Southern Precinct and will rebrand the cable cars as a premium gateway to Sentosa.

## FAST FACTS ON ORIGINAL CAUSEWAY-BRIDGE

Operational date	:	16 December <b>1992</b>
Length	:	710 metres
Construction	:	September 1991 – October 1992
Vehicular access	:	When the road link first opened, vehicular access was restricted to buses, taxis, tour coaches, chartered buses, suppliers' vehicles and cars with valid permits to the hotels. Since May 1998, private cars were allowed into the island under a drive-in scheme.

## **ABOUT SENTOSA ISLAND**

Sentosa is Asia's leading leisure destination and Singapore's premier island resort getaway, located within 15 minutes from the central business and shopping districts. The 500-hectare resort island is home to an exciting array of themed attractions, award-winning spa retreats, lush rainforests, golden sandy beaches, resort accommodations, world-renowned golf courses, a deep-water yachting marina and luxurious residences - making it a vibrant island resort for business and leisure.

By 2014, some 2,000 homes at Sentosa Cove will dot the coast. Situated on the eastern end of Sentosa Island, the exclusive residential enclave will feature romantic quayside restaurants, retail and specialty shops. Offering Singapore's only truly oceanfront residences, Sentosa Cove is fast becoming the world's most desirable address.

The Island is proud to be home to Sentosa Golf Club and its two acclaimed golf courses, The Serapong and The Tanjong. Since 2006, Asia's richest national open, the annual Barclays Singapore Open, has teed off on The Serapong with star-studded line-ups featuring international players and golf professionals from Asia, Europe and the USA playing to nail-biting finishes.

Welcoming a growing number of local and international guests every year, Sentosa is an integral part of Singapore's goal to be a global destination to work, live and play.

## ABOUT RESORTS WORLD AT SENTOSA

Slated to be one of the world's most exciting family destinations, Resorts World at Sentosa is a collection of resorts and attractions with a plethora of fun-filled offerings for the entire family.

Taking pride of place on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa and spanning 49 hectares, this S\$6.59 billion mega-resort will be home to Southeast Asia's first and only Universal Studios theme park, the world's largest oceanarium and the region's first integrated destination spa.

The resort also boasts some 1,800 rooms, spread across its six hotels of varying themes, with full conference and meeting amenities. Topping the list are Maxims Tower, Hotel Michael and Singapore's very own Hard Rock Hotel.

Resorts World at Sentosa's myriad of MICE facilities will also be able to accommodate 35,000 delegates. Options include one of Asia's largest ballrooms with a capacity of 7,300 guests, 26 function rooms – most of which with garden views – as well as some of Singapore's most creative event venues within Universal Studios Singapore.

Beyond resorts and attractions, world-class entertainment such as the Crane Dance – a spectacular multi-media moving art with cleverly choreographed animatronic cranes, set out at the waterfront – will also be presented to the public.

An unparalleled array of retail and dining options at FestiveWalk, as well as roving acts and street performances await guests at the Bull Ring.

Resorts World at Sentosa opens its doors to the world in early 2010.

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# Diversion of traffic to Sentosa's new vehicular bridge 8th July 2009 – 22nd July 2009



# Widened Sentosa Gateway

From 23rd July, the existing bridge will be converted into an outbound carriageway and the new bridge will function as an incoming carriageway, while minor alignment works are being carried out.

