



BIG IDEAS GREAT PLANS

» URA launched the draft Master Plan 2008 – **Where My Future Is: Great Opportunities, Good Life** on 23 May 2008, unveiling exciting plans for the next 10 to 15 years. «



The draft Master Plan 2008 focuses on sustaining Singapore’s economic growth while enhancing the quality of life for our people. It was drawn up after extensive consultation behind the scenes with stakeholders, professionals and the community, with planners walking the ground to understand specific areas and develop future plans. Through its four key thrusts, the draft Master Plan 2008 seeks to position Singapore as a home of choice, a magnet for business, and offer an exciting playground, while continuing to foster a unique identity that makes the country a place to cherish.

❶ A HOME OF CHOICE

Through various enhancements, Singapore will become an even more liveable city, with more quality living environments and a wide variety of housing locations and types to choose from.

New towns like Punggol and Sengkang will be further developed to build up their critical mass, together with supporting facilities. There will also be new housing choices for those who want to live in familiar places like Queenstown, Bedok, Clementi and Yishun. More city living choices will also be offered in the new mixed-use lifestyle precinct at Kallang Riverside.

❷ A MAGNET FOR BUSINESS

To strengthen Singapore’s position as a distinctive global business hub, the draft Master Plan 2008 will offer a choice of attractive business locations, supported by amenities and infrastructure to meet the different needs of businesses.

Marina Bay and the city centre will continue to be the key commercial centre in Singapore while new growth areas in Tanjong

Pagar and the Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor will be developed as strategic gateways to the city. Commercial hubs will also be developed outside the city centre, in Jurong East, Kallang and Paya Lebar to offer attractive alternatives for businesses and bring jobs and facilities like shops and entertainment outlets closer to homes.

❸ AN EXCITING PLAYGROUND

To further enhance Singapore as a vibrant and exciting playground, a new island-wide Leisure Plan has been developed under the draft Master Plan 2008. The Leisure Plan showcases a diverse range of leisure opportunities round-the-clock, island-wide, for people of all ages. Recreational choices are plentiful as one can choose to cycle or jog along the future 150km round-island route, visit new distinctive parks, soak in the buzz of city night life, or simply relax in tranquil retreats in the lush, green Southern Waterfront or rustic Lim Chu Kang.

❹ A PLACE TO CHERISH

Identity and heritage are important elements that make Singapore home. Through URA’s conservation efforts, more than 6,800 buildings have been conserved and 55 monuments protected island-wide to date.

The draft Master Plan 2008 will continue to endear Singapore to the hearts of her people through environmental improvements at established and popular activity nodes such as Siglap Village, Punggol coastal area and Serangoon; rejuvenation of older HDB towns and retention of selected icons, buildings or blocks in the older HDB developments; and retention of heritage, memories and identity within selected older housing estates like Queenstown.

1 HOME OF CHOICE

Beyond planning to house our growing population, we have moved on to offering an array of housing choices, developing new towns, rejuvenating mature ones and enhancing the living experience to make Singapore an endearing home.



Home is where the heart is. That is why URA works hard to create a quality living environment to make Singapore a home of choice for all. URA's belief in providing a quality living environment is emphasised through a number of strategies set out in the draft Master Plan 2008. Under the vision of the Plan, we can look forward to an even better living environment with more housing choices and amenities in established and new towns, plus easy access via expanded road and rail networks all over the island – all of which will make Singapore an even more convenient place to live in.

REJUVENATING MATURE ESTATES

Mature estates like Queenstown and Yishun will be rejuvenated through the implementation of new concepts in housing, community spaces, and bringing verdant greenery into our estates. Other regions such as the Bedok Town Centre in the East will sport a new shopping centre integrated with a bus interchange. Over at the West at Clementi, a 40-storey complex will be erected with

a modern shopping mall, library, town council office and air-conditioned bus interchange all under one roof.

Other housing estates will also be upgraded with new facilities through schemes such as the Home Improvement Programme and Neighbourhood Renewal Programme.

ADDING TO NEW ESTATES

At the same time, the new towns of Punggol and Sengkang will continue to be developed. Punggol will see the addition of a new generation of public housing along a new 4.2km waterway that will traverse the town, offering potential for a variety of waterfront housing and lifestyle living. Sengkang town next door will also be built up to offer more housing choices.

NEW AREAS FOR PRIVATE HOUSING

The number of private homes in the North could double in the next 10 to 15 years. This will happen at areas near Kovan MRT



A brand new look for Clementi Town. Source: Housing Development Board

station, and near parks and educational institutions at Lower Seletar Reservoir, Admiralty Park and Singapore Sports School. The experience of high-rise living in the city will soon be reality at The Sail, Marina Bay Residences and other developments in the city, plus new waterfront living at Kallang Riverside.

A BREEZE GETTING AROUND

To support our growing population and economy while maintaining a good quality of life, URA has worked with our partner agencies to double the rail network in Singapore. Part of this work includes the 34km Circle Line and the new Thomson Line which will serve the residents in the North.

Those staying in the East can look forward to the Downtown Line 3 and Eastern Region Line while the Downtown Line 2 will bring residents in Choa Chu Kang, Bukit Panjang and Bukit Batok to the city centre and Marina Bay.

RESIDENTIAL SITES SOLD IN FY07

In the last financial year (FY), URA sold nine sites, which could yield more than 3,200 private residential units, for various types of residential developments at different locations, to provide a variety of housing choices. These sale sites range from city living at Enggor Street to the outer areas at Sembawang and Lakeside in Jurong, and from high-rise condominiums to landed housing.

The sale site at Enggor Street will appeal to urbanites who love the buzz of city living and enjoy the convenience of being close to the work place and the variety of shopping, dining and entertainment facilities on offer in the city centre. The site will build up the critical mass of residential developments in the city core, which already includes the Icon and the upcoming The Pinnacle@Duxton at Tanjong Pagar.

Over in the North-East, URA sold a site for condominium development at Simon Road, next to Kovan Melody. This site offers the convenience of proximity to the Kovan MRT station and amenities at Heartland Mall.

Another choice location sold during the year was the site at Lakeside Drive, adjacent to the Lakeside MRT station and close to recreational and commercial amenities at Jurong East and Jurong West town centres. Other sites sold included those at Woodsville; and the 12 land parcels at Sembawang Road for landed housing.

On the roads, the new North-South expressway will link up the North down to the city, cutting down travelling time by 30 per cent. The Tampines Expressway will be widened to a dual four-lane highway for smoother traffic, while the Kallang-Paya Lebar Expressway, when completed, will provide faster connections between Punggol, Sengkang, Hougang and the city.

CONVENIENCE AT OUR DOORSTEP

Besides making it easy to get around, URA also brings convenience to the doorsteps of residents by planning for amenities and facilities near residential areas.

In the East, the United World College will be setting up its second college, to cater to the needs of the growing expatriate population. And to meet the needs of the growing population in the North-East areas such as Sengkang and Punggol, additional primary and secondary schools will be built.



Spectacular waterfront view from Punggol flats.

Source: Housing Development Board



Getting around will be even easier with an enhanced public transport network.

Residents in the North Region can look forward to more facilities, including the Khoo Teck Puat hospital near the Yishun MRT station, new community clubs and community library, schools, nursing homes and places of worship. In the West, one can also expect to see more amenities such as the Jurong General Hospital at Jurong Lake District, a new SAFRA clubhouse at Jurong West and a new sports complex at Bukit Panjang.

Residents will not have to go far for leisure and fun. For those looking to get closer to greenery, the new parks, boardwalks and park connectors at Punggol and Labrador will offer respite from the urban buzz.

Adrenaline junkies can check out the new motor racing circuit over at Changi East and the new Sports Hub at Kallang. For some splashing good fun, head to Rowers' Bay at Lower Seletar or Jurong Lake to take part in dragon-boating or kayaking. New arts and culture venues will also be brought closer to home. Such venues include the new Civic Retail & Cultural Complex at one-north.



Enjoy art performances at the new Civic Retail & Cultural Complex at one-north.

Source: Aedas



Future motor racing track at Changi.

②MAGNET FOR BUSINESS – HEART OF THE CITY

Singapore has been an important trading post since Raffles’ time in the early 1800’s. As a regional business hub, Singapore has grown from strength to strength over time, through the establishment of the Central Business District and the development of Marina Bay. More is planned to consolidate this position further through the new business areas proposed in the draft Master Plan 2008.

DEVELOPING THE BAY

Work by the Bay

The Central Business District will continue to be the key commercial centre in Singapore to meet demand for space by financial and business services sectors. To meet the demand for additional prime office space, sites have been released within the adjacent Marina Bay area to allow for the seamless extension of the existing financial district, which stretches from Raffles Place to Shenton Way and Tanjong Pagar. Marina Bay will be the pulse of financial and business-related activities, with state-of-the-art office spaces within a lively waterfront area, comparable to some of the world’s finest cities.

Already, a nucleus of office developments is taking shape within the new growth area at Marina Bay, with the completion of One Raffles Quay, the upcoming Marina Bay Financial Centre (first phase to open in 2010) as well as the two recently sold sites at Marina View.

The building agreement for one of the Marina View sites, Land Parcel B, was inked between the government and the developer, MCP Kimi Pte Ltd in March 2008, marking Macquarie Global Property Advisors’ (MGPA) first successful participation in the Government Land Sales programme in Singapore. Besides offering prime office space, the development on Land Parcel B will also comprise over 220 luxury hotel rooms, becoming the first office complex in Marina Bay to be integrated with a luxury hotel. Land Parcel A will comprise mainly Grade A office space with retail and F&B outlets on the first two floors.

The Bay as Your Playground

The Bay was where Singapore celebrated her 42nd birthday last year. The 2007 National Day Parade was held at The Float at Marina Bay for the first time, away from traditional venues such as the Padang or the Singapore National Stadium. The Bay came alive with activity as 27,000 people celebrated our nation’s birthday on the viewing gallery of the world’s first and largest floating stage.

The inaugural Marina Bay Urban Challenge (MBUC), an annual series of sporting events, was also held at the Bay. The MBUC series comprised three events – the Oakley City Duathlon, Cold Storage Kids Run and the Great Eastern Women 10K Run. The City Duathlon in May 2007 attracted close to 1,500 participants; the Great Eastern Women 10K Run in October 2007 successfully drew 8,200 participants; and the Kids Run in June 2008 was attended by some 3,000 children. In all, the three events attracted close to 13,000 people to the Marina Bay. The location could not be more fitting, as the Bay and its waters provide a dramatic setting for sporting events, bringing an exciting buzz to the downtown area.



The Marina Bay Financial Centre will be part of the seamless extension of the CBD.

Source: Marina Bay Financial Centre

The Bay also played host to many more exciting events in the past financial year. Among them, the signature New Year's Eve countdown on 31 December 2007 drew a 250,000 strong crowd. The Bay was resplendent with colours of the spectacular fireworks in the sky and bobbing with "wishing spheres" in the water bearing good wishes for 2008. In conjunction with the countdown, URA held a photography competition which attracted some 450 entries.

Just up ahead, the spotlight will shine on Marina Bay in September 2008 when the Formula One Grand Prix Night Race – the first night race of its kind – is held here. The 5.067km long street circuit offers a number of challenging overtaking opportunities and corners,

and gruelling sections that will test the true capabilities of the F1 drivers. Drivers will race along Raffles Boulevard, going towards the historic and cultural landmarks along St Andrews' Road and Fullerton Road to zip across the Anderson Bridge, speeding past the Esplanade and the Singapore Flyer before turning back to the Pit building.

Infrastructure work at the Bay

To support the growth of the Bay and improve its accessibility, URA is implementing a number of infrastructure projects.

Construction of the landmark bridge and the Art Park at Marina Bay started on 30 March 2007 and is progressing well. The 280m pedestrian bridge will sport the world's first 'double-helix' structure and link the Bayfront area to Marina Centre. It forms part of a 3.5km walking route which brings visitors to major bayside attractions such as the Esplanade, Singapore Flyer and will connect to future ones like the Marina Bay Integrated Resort and Gardens by the Bay. The vehicular connection will link the future Bayfront Avenue and the planned Marina Bay Sands Integrated Resort to Raffles Avenue.

A Common Services Tunnel (CST) network is in various stages of completion and will provide the necessary utility services to the developments coming up in the area. Phase 1A which has been completed, was commissioned since April 2007. It provides services to One Raffles Quay, The Sail, Marina Bay Financial Centre and two other land parcels. The construction of the CST Phase 1B and 2 is scheduled to be completed in FY2010. The construction of the CST Phase 3A commenced in December 2007 and when completed, will serve the Marina View Land Parcels "A" and "B".

NEW GROWTH IN THE CITY

Besides developing Marina Bay as a seamless extension of Singapore's business and financial centre, new growth areas in Tanjong Pagar and the Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor have been earmarked to be developed as strategic gateways to the city centre.

Tanjong Pagar – The Southern Gateway

Over the year in review, URA sold six sites around Tanjong Pagar area for various uses including offices, hotels and high-rise residential apartments. This has helped inject even more vibrancy and activity to the already bustling Tanjong Pagar area.



Thousands of women took in the spectacular views of the city and waterfront at the Great Eastern Women 10K Run.



Marina Bay: Set to be a Bay of celebrations.

Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor – The Northern Gateway

Strategically located between Marina Centre and Bugis, the Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor is an important area that connects the established commercial node at Marina Centre to Bras Basah. Bugis. While Marina Centre has been developed as a convention cum hotel hub and Bras Basah. Bugis as the arts and entertainment district, the Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor has remained relatively undeveloped. This will soon change.

The first key development will take the form of an integrated hotel, residential and office development at the site of the former Non-Comissioned Officers (NCO) Club and the Beach Road Camp, which was closed in 2000.

The site was sold in September 2007 to a consortium led by City Developments Ltd, together with Dubai World’s Istithmar Beach Road Fze, and the Elad Group Singapore. The Building Agreement for the site was signed between the government and the consortium in December 2007.

Named South Beach, the development will integrate four blocks of conservation buildings with the newly developed blocks to offer prime office space, luxury hotels, exclusive city residences and exquisite retail space. The project boasts an environmentally friendly design approach and green technologies adapted to Singapore’s tropical climate. With its strategic location, the development will add to the stunning city skyline and vibrancy of the area.

The whole Beach Road/Ophir-Rochor Corridor is expected to be developed over the next 10 to 15 years, extending the convention and hotel hub of Marina Centre.



② MAGNET FOR BUSINESS – GROWING MORE BUSINESS AREAS

As part of the draft Master Plan 2008, new growth areas at Jurong Lake District, Paya Lebar Central and Kallang Riverside will be developed. This is part of URA’s decentralisation strategy to offer alternative business locations outside the city centre nearer to homes, reducing travelling time and easing congestion in the Central Area.

JOURNEY TO THE WEST

In another 10 to 15 years’ time, the western part of Singapore is set for an exciting makeover.



Jurong East is identified as one of the three regional centres under the decentralisation strategy of the 1991 Concept Plan. Also called Jurong Lake District, it occupies a land area of 360ha and will be developed into Singapore’s biggest regional centre. It will be transformed into a unique lakeside destination for business and leisure in the next 10 to 15 years. The living environment will be enhanced by leveraging on the scenic greenery and waterfront access to Jurong Lake. It is the only regional centre that offers a lakeside setting and is served by three MRT stations – Jurong East, Chinese Garden and Lakeside. It will comprise two complementary precincts – Jurong Gateway and Lakeside.

Jurong Gateway

Jurong Gateway is undergoing transformation into an easily accessible, vibrant commercial hub. Located around the Jurong East MRT station, and with 50ha of vacant land available for development, Jurong Gateway will serve both as a business district and a key commercial centre for residents in the west region when fully developed.

More than 1,000 homes and 2,800 hotel rooms will be added in anticipation of heightened appeal for the area as a live, work, play destination for locals and tourists alike. An eclectic mix of office, retail, residential, hotel, entertainment, F&B and other complementary uses will be injected. It will be an attractive location for company headquarters, specifically those from the business services and science and technology sectors.

Developments there will be encouraged to incorporate eco-friendly designs and features. Getting around the area will be a breeze as the developments will be well-connected to the Jurong East MRT Station and bus interchange. Already, the transformation has been initiated with the addition of Big Box, an upcoming retail warehouse development, and the redevelopment of Jurong Entertainment Centre.



Lakeside

Just a 10 minute walk away, Lakeside will be a new waterfront playground offering leisure options and greenery in a lush lakefront setting. It covers a land area of 220ha with another 70ha of water.

A lakeside village that houses F&B, retail and entertainment establishments and boutique hotels will provide more recreational options around the lake. There are also plans to accommodate four or five new edutainment attractions for families with young children. A new world-class Science Centre will be developed at a new location next to the Chinese Garden MRT Station, making it more accessible for visitors.

A new public park will be developed on the western edge of Jurong Lake, next to Lakeside MRT Station. The waterfront promenade along Jurong Lake will also be enhanced with boardwalks and wetlands. A whole range of water-based recreation activities such as kayaking and dragon-boating are being planned.

RIVERSIDE RESURRECTION

Mention Kallang and one would think of the area as home to drab industrial factories and site of the former Kallang Gasworks. All that is set to change under the draft Master Plan 2008 as Kallang undergoes a transformation to become the next hip lifestyle destination.

Kallang Riverside is the latest exciting addition to the Greater Marina Bay District. Located at the edge of the city, just a five minute drive away from the Central Business District, 64ha of land has been set aside to turn the area into a hotel belt, choice residential enclave, commercial and sports hub, set in lush greenery and shimmering waters.

This lifestyle precinct will offer 4,000 new homes, 3,000 hotel rooms, and around 400,000 sqm of office, retail and entertainment facilities spread across two distinct precincts on either side of the Kallang River – a residential enclave and a mixed-use cluster.

The area will also be a hive of sporting and recreational activities with new facilities such as the Sports Hub and beachside lagoons and various water activities like dragon-boating and canoeing in the river. An extensive network of roads and walkways will be created to improve accessibility. A new second-storey linkway will also be built to link the Kallang MRT station to the new Sports Hub.

The historic identity of Kallang will be retained, through the conservation of the former Kallang Airport buildings, together with its lawn and grand boulevard. These will be put to adaptive uses that could include entertainment, F&B or boutique hotels.



Fenceless residential developments at Kallang Riverside.



New beachfront lined with hotels and plenty of places to enjoy the sun, the sand and the sea along Kallang River.

BUSTLING PAYA LEBAR

Paya Lebar sits at a strategic location, between the city centre and the Tampines Regional Centre, which is home to back room office operations that do not need to be located in the prime area. Paya Lebar thus has the potential to be an enclave for small and medium-sized enterprises which do not need to be in the Central Area but would like to enjoy the convenience of being close by. The area will be seeing an additional 500,000 sqm of office, hotel and retail space, boosting activities in the region.

Already, Paya Lebar is seeing some development, with a new MRT interchange station being developed to serve the Circle Line that will be integrated with the East-West line; the upgrading of the Joo Chiat Complex scheduled to be completed by end 2008; and the new Geylang Serai Market to be developed by 2009.

Other new developments in the pipeline include the remaking of Geylang River to become a unique riverfront setting for shopping and dining. The distinctive local Malay identity of the area will be further enhanced with new public spaces.

A new civic centre will be developed next to the Geylang Serai Market, which will house a Community Club, Community Development Council offices and possibly even a community library. A new plaza beside the civic centre will be a natural focal point for staging community events such as festive activities and bazaars. The design of the new civic centre can take into consideration the heritage and special character of the area. In addition, there is the opportunity to explore incorporating a gallery in the civic building to showcase the local heritage and history of the area.



The future plaza next to Paya Lebar MRT Station will be a natural meeting place.



A newly constructed stretch of the Geylang River will run through the new commercial development along Tanjong Katong Road.

③ AN EXCITING PLAYGROUND



From Garden City to a City in the Garden, green has always been associated with Singapore’s image. But Singapore is more than just green. We are also a fun and hip place to be in, with shopping, fine dining and clubbing, framed by sun-kissed beaches, sand and waters. Packed in this small island are plenty of leisure choices for everyone. The fun sizzles on.

NATURE UP ON HIGH

Singapore’s newest playground, the Southern Ridges, was officially opened by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on 10 May 2008. About 800 people, including more than 500 residents from the neighbouring Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs), joined PM Lee in the invigorating morning walk that day.

Two prominent connecting bridges built by URA stand proudly along the Ridges today – the Henderson Waves at Henderson Road and the Alexandra Arch at Alexandra Road, which continues to the Forest Walk, an elevated walkway at Telok Blangah Hill Park.

These key connections link three large hill parks of the Southern Ridges – Mount Faber Park, Telok Blangah Hill Park and Kent Ridge Park – and opens up a brand new playground for Singaporeans, bringing them up close to nature. The Ridges are steeped in history, and are home to some of nature’s greatest gifts of flora and fauna. They are also some of the best spots in Singapore to catch panoramic views of the city, harbour and the Southern Islands.

Two pedestrian bridges and the elevated walkway complete a 9km chain of greenery in the Southern Ridges. Henderson Waves, with its highest point at a height of 36m, is Singapore’s highest pedestrian bridge, and offers a bird’s eye view of greenery along its 274m length across Henderson Road. The other bridge, Alexandra Arch, looks like an open leaf and spans 80m across Alexandra Road. Between the bridges, a 1.3km Forest Walk, comprising an elevated walkway for pedestrians and a ground level earth trail for cyclists, bring visitors through the secondary forest of Telok Blangah Hill Park.

Together with a series of other interesting trails, like the Marang Trail, they provide a seamless link through a soothing sanctuary of greenery that was previously not accessible. The three hill-top parks were previously separated by major arterial roads and wooded vegetation. Now, one can walk ridge-to-ridge, starting from the Marang Trail which links the Harbourfront MRT station to Mount Faber Park, finishing at West Coast Park.



The Henderson Waves link Mount Faber Park to Telok Blangah Hill Park.

To commemorate the opening of these attractions, the Monetary Authority of Singapore issued a set of four commemorative coins. The beauty of the Henderson Waves and Alexandra Arch, and key landmarks of the Southern Ridges – Kent Ridge Park, Labrador Nature Reserve, Mount Faber and Telok Blangah Hill Park – have been captured onto these unique coins.



In 2002, URA first announced plans to link up the hill parks and to build these connections as part of the Parks and Waterbodies and Identity Plans. URA sought the best designs for Henderson Waves and Alexandra Arch, together with the Forest Walk, through an international design competition. The project took two years to complete and costs about \$25.5 million.

LEISURE CHOICES GALORE

Besides the launch of the Southern Ridges, URA has unveiled plans for more initiatives that will bring the public closer to our waters and nature. These initiatives include the Labrador Nature & Coastal Walk, Punggol Point and the Woodlands Waterfront.



Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong strolls across Alexandra Arch for the first time accompanied by Minister for National Development, Mah Bow Tan.

Labrador Nature and Coastal Walk

The Labrador Nature & Coastal Walk project comprises three components, namely Alexandra Road Garden Trail, Berlayer Creek Mangrove Trail and Bukit Chermin Harbour View Walk.

In this project, URA aims to capitalise on the distinct characteristics of Berlayer Creek and Bukit Chermin to give the public an authentic and complete experience of the Southern Ridges.



Get up close to nature at the Alexandra Road Garden Trail.

- » The 830m **Alexandra Road Garden Trail** will be well-connected to the Southern Ridges recreational corridor and HortPark. It will stretch along the eastern bank of Alexander Road, making nearby Gillman Village and the recently opened Alexander Arch attractions for users of the park connector. In line with the Garden Trail concept, footpaths, cycle paths and special landscaping will be interesting additions to the walk.
- » The 960m **Berlayer Creek Mangrove Trail** differentiates itself from other mangrove areas in Singapore because of its close proximity to the city area. It serves as a destination for urbanites seeking a quiet nature retreat.
- » The 330m **Bukit Chermin Harbour View Walk** is an elevated boardwalk at the edge of the sea that will skirt around the

foothills of Bukit Chermin. It connects eastwards to the future promenade at the Reflections at Keppel Bay condominium and westwards to Labrador Park. Rest points along the boardwalk will allow visitors to soak in the beautiful southern waterfront views of Keppel Harbour and Sentosa.

Punggol Point

Another exciting project that has been unveiled by URA is the 4.9km waterfront promenade and new park at Punggol Point.

The promenade will connect to the future park connectors along Sungei Punggol and Sungei Serangoon and will open up the waterfront to serve as another recreational destination.

The entire waterfront promenade is conceptualised with three unique experiences.

- » **Punggol Point Walk** forms the gateway to the waterfront where visitors will be greeted with beautiful lotus ponds and landscaping. They can also enjoy panoramic sea views on an elevated viewing deck overlooking the Johor Straits.
- » **Nature Walk** forms the midway experience where rustic charms of the area are preserved for visitors to enjoy while walking through a fluid interweaving of natural and built landscape. This stretch will also be dotted with fishing platforms and rest shelters for fishing enthusiasts and visitors.
- » **The Riverside Walk** stretch that lines Sungei Serangoon is designed to complement future sports and recreational activities. Parts of the waterfront promenade extend out towards the river, offering visitors an intimate experience with the river. To create colours and visual interest, the Riverside Walk will also offer interesting lighting features that sway with the breeze at night.

Woodlands Waterfront

Over at the northern tip of Singapore, a 1.5km promenade and 9ha park will be built along the Woodlands coastline. The promenade, in the form of a boardwalk, will be built over the seawall and offer lush greenery and fitness stations. The park will also be designed to cater to different recreational needs.

New Leisure Plan

As part of the draft Master Plan 2008, URA unveiled a new island-wide Leisure Plan that showcases a diverse range of leisure opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy. The Leisure Plan builds



New viewing deck offering views of the waterfront and Coney Island at Punggol Point.

on the previous Parks & Waterbodies and Identity Plans developed by URA in 2002. From vibrant and exciting activities within the city to quiet countryside retreats, Singapore can now truly offer a comprehensive choice of playgrounds for all.

A web of green spaces totalling 4,200ha, or the equivalent of 15 Bishan Parks, will be safeguarded and the existing park connector network will be tripled to more than 300km to ensure that parks are easily accessible. Over the next 10 to 15 years, more park connectors will be developed to form the first-ever 150km round-island route for people to stroll, jog or cycle around the entire country. In addition to all these, coastal promenades and boardwalks at locations such as Jurong Lake, Woodlands, Bishan Park and Lower Seletar will bring people closer to the water so that they can enjoy strolling or fishing along the tranquil waters' edge.

For those looking for more action, the Greater Marina Bay area will be the ideal hub for motorised boating and non-motorised water activities. Sports complexes such as the future Sports Hub and Sengkang Sports and Recreation Centre have also been integrated with amenities like community clubs, shops and eating outlets to meet the varied needs of individual family members.

In addition, there are plans to enhance favourite day and night haunts like Orchard Road, Singapore River, Bras Basah, Bugis

and Marina Bay through better programming and innovative lighting features. More lifestyle hotspots will also be planned for in areas such as the Lakeside Village at Jurong Lake District and Kallang Riverside.

Some unique options proposed in the Leisure Plan include animal and nature-themed experiences in areas such as Kranji & Lim Chu Kang, and Mandai. Romantic or contemplative walks along the Southern Ridges and Changi Point will also be ideal relaxation options for the urban dweller.

HIP HOTSPOTS

Plans are afoot to turn up the hip factor in our city, not only by day but well into the night, by opening up a plethora of opportunities in the evening economy at four key areas – Orchard Road, Singapore River, Bras Basah, Bugis and Marina Bay.

URA, in partnership with other agencies such as the Singapore Tourism Board and National Heritage Board, will undertake various initiatives to enhance the night buzz at these four areas. The aim is to provide stimulus to generate economic activities, improve the range and quality of evening activities in the key districts, and raise the buzz and hip quotient of our city.

A three-pronged strategy will be adopted: to improve the 'hardware' such as the introduction of night lighting, new street furniture and more attractive activity space; to enhance the 'software' through programming and active marketing of events and activities to create an ambience of buzz and energy; and to partner the private sector to promote and encourage more evening activities.

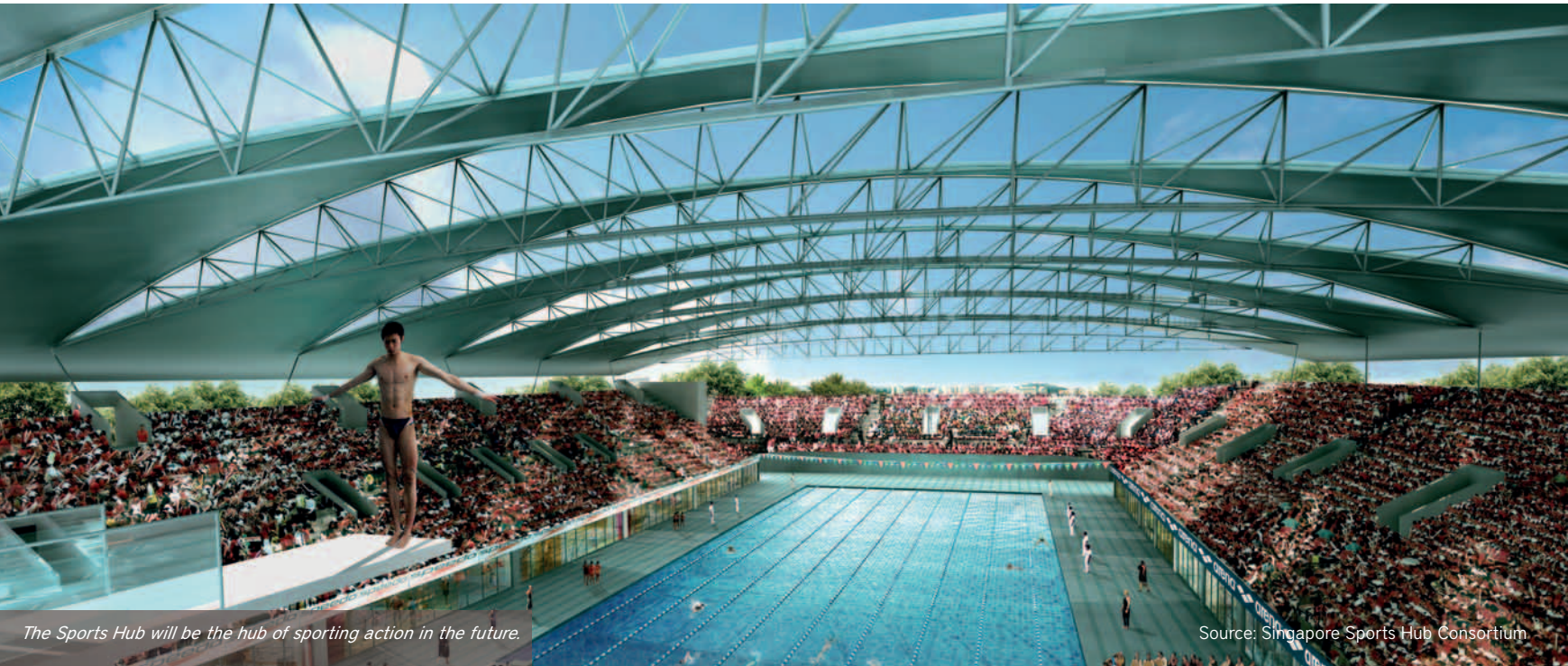
Singapore River

The Singapore River, already a thriving waterfront destination, will be further enhanced to become an even more compelling, round-the-clock waterfront entertainment precinct. In the pipeline are a series of infrastructural enhancements that will accentuate its unique historic features and distinctive charm by night, and the staging of new signature events, including the Singapore River Festival, to brand the different quays along the river.

Together with the Singapore Tourism Board, URA announced in February 2008 that the river will be attractively lit with programmable lights, under-bridge lighting and special lighting at the underpasses. In addition, floating lights on the river, as well as new street lamps and lighting of trees will be installed along the three-kilometre stretch of the Singapore River. Together, these will create a distinct nightscape and provide a warm and inviting ambience for visitors.



Children's adventure playground at Woodlands Waterfront.



The Sports Hub will be the hub of sporting action in the future.

Source: Singapore Sports Hub Consortium



Clarke Quay along the Singapore River is a draw for locals and tourists alike.

The new lighting initiative at Singapore River is part of URA's Lighting Plan drawn up in 2006. The plan aims to enhance and emphasise Singapore's unique features as a tropical metropolis and garden city, covering key districts in the city centre, including the Singapore River.

Besides lighting, URA will be spearheading the implementation of a floating stage for arts and cultural events, performances as well as corporate functions on the River. Visitors to the River can also look forward to better amenities such as more street furniture, new bumboat landing points and ticketing kiosks, better landscaping, as well as street directories, enhanced signage and attractive storyboards that carry information on the history and development of the quays and essential tourist information.

Orchard Road

Life at Orchard Road is about to get even more exciting with a \$40 million mall enhancement project which will turn the area into a more compelling shopping paradise. The mall enhancement project will start from Tanglin Mall and extend all the way to Buyong Road where Le Meridien Singapore is located. The 2.28km stretch comprises three zones, namely the Tanglin, Orchard and Somerset zones, each with its own distinctive themes.

All three zones will have new street and pedestrian mall lighting, including state-of-the-art lighting to accentuate trees and foliage and to create strong night-time landscapes. Infrastructure such as street furniture and multi-functional lamp posts will be added and new spaces will be set aside for staging events.

A more integrated and engaging pedestrian mall will complement the comprehensive and seamless pedestrian network that includes underground links, walkways at street level and second storey links between buildings.



Orchard Road is undergoing a makeover to further cement its position as a shopping haven.

The Orchard Road mall enhancement initiative is driven by an inter-agency taskforce comprising agencies such as URA, Singapore Tourism Board, Land Transport Authority and National Parks Board. URA chairs the Design Advisory Panel to guide the design development of the mall enhancement works.



Illuma: The upcoming Urban Entertainment Centre at Bugis will feature a distinctive illuminated and interactive facade.

Source: WOHA Architects Pte Ltd

Big Partners

Whether you like people watching or like being watched, Orchard Road will soon be the venue for doing just that. Come first quarter of 2009, the vacant state land above Dhoby Ghaut MRT Station will be transformed into a public space for community events and performances. It will also feature a sculptural outdoor amphitheatre as well as a F&B pavilion.

The development of this open space is a follow-up to URA's Public Spaces and Urban Waterfront Master Plan which provides for a variety of public spaces that will make our city centre more dynamic, distinctive and delightful.

As there are no immediate plans to develop the site, the public space will be put to good interim use as a focal point that will add a new dimension to the life of the Orchard Road shopping belt and its surroundings. URA organised several dialogues with the consultancy team, stakeholders and end-users to seek their feedback and better understand their needs. These inputs have been incorporated into the design of the open space.

To create a public platform to showcase good design and to celebrate local design talents, URA commissioned the Designer

of the Year, President's Design Award 2006, Mr Chan Soo Khian of SCDA Architects Pte Ltd, to undertake the design of this public space. Through the project, URA hopes to promote a greater awareness of good design in our environment and help the community better appreciate how well-designed spaces can positively influence day-to-day experiences and reinforce the sense of belonging to our city.

Bras Basah.Bugis

Already a vibrant place by day and night, the appeal of Bras Basah. Bugis will get a further boost when the place is lit up under the Lighting Plan for the City Centre, drawn up in 2006. There are plans to reinforce the gateways and focal points to the area through better and innovative light-integrated sculptures and markers.

URA's efforts to rejuvenate the area were recognised at the Cityscape Asia 2008. The award, under the category 'Architecture – Best Urban Design & Masterplanning', recognised URA's contribution in creating a sense of place, making it a thriving Arts & Culture, Learning and Entertainment hub.



Outdoor amphitheatre above Dhoby Ghaut MRT station.

Source: SCDA Architects Pte Ltd

4 A PLACE TO CHERISH



Despite our small land size, Singapore has been big on conserving our built heritage. One can easily take a walk down memory lane by visiting the places, buildings and landmarks that have been lovingly restored all around the island.

MORTAR AND MEMORIES

More Buildings Conserved

Over the years, we have worked hard to retain the identity and character of our city by identifying more buildings and landmarks for conservation, so that Singapore’s built heritage can be passed on to future generations. And we continue to do that by having identified another 248 buildings and landmarks in the year in review, adding to the 6,800 buildings gazetted for conservation to-date.

MORE BUILDINGS GAZETTED FOR CONSERVATION

- » Former Traffic Police and Former Custom House
- » Former Victoria School at 2 Tyrwhitt Road
- » Former Geylang Fire Station
- » Former Sembawang Fire Station
- » Asia Insurance Building at 2 Finlayson Green
- » Capitol Theatre/Capitol Building/Stamford House
- » 23 Amber Road
- » 233 Cantonment Road
- » Princess House at Alexandra Road
- » Syed Alwi Conservation Area
- » 9 Buckley Road



Capitol Building, Capitol Theatre and Stamford House were gazetted for conservation.

Architectural Heritage Awards 2007

URA recognises the importance of conserving the rich built heritage of Singapore. Since the late 1980s, URA has been working closely with the private and public sectors to conserve buildings built during different phases of Singapore's history and development. To this end, URA's Architectural Heritage Awards has been an important platform to recognise building owners, professionals and contractors who have helped to conserve a slice of Singapore's built history.

Into its 12th year, AHA 2007 recognised six winners who had given their buildings a new lease of life through sensitive restoration and innovatively adapting them for new uses such as museums, education institutions and cosy homes.

Category A
(for national monuments and fully conserved buildings)



469 Bukit Timah Road, National University of Singapore Law School



93 Stamford Road, National Museum of Singapore



1 Pulau Ubin, Chek Jawa Visitor Centre



3 & 7 Carlton Walk, Amara Sanctuary Resort Sentosa

Category B
(for conservation projects that innovatively integrate old and new elements)



62 Niven Road



13 Martaban Road



Adding a slice of history amidst lush landscape walkways at Upper Serangoon Road.

Environmental Improvement Projects

Fond memories are made of sights, sounds and smells. That is why popular activity nodes and food haunts like Siglap Village and Upper Serangoon were identified in URA’s 2002 Identity Plan as places that people hold dear in their hearts, because they bear a sense of Singapore’s history and identity.

URA has drawn up plans to strengthen the character of these familiar places and improve their accessibility through the provision of more carparks and sidewalk improvements while retaining their charm and identity.

Another popular enclave which will be improved is the Little India Historic District, which is well-visited and frequented by locals and tourists alike. With the rise in visitorship and business activities in the area, URA will be implementing measures to spruce up the physical environment and improve public infrastructure to sustain the growth of the area while enhancing the existing character of Little India.

Among the measures proposed are traffic improvements along Serangoon Road, pedestrianisation of streets to encourage street activities and provision of amenities such as gathering places for foreign workers.

DISTINGUISHED DESIGNS

Outstanding architecture and well designed buildings are not only appreciated for their aesthetic contributions to the physical landscape but also help distinguish Singapore from other great cities around the world. The architectural expression of a place also speaks volumes of its identity, culture and history. This is why URA continues to promote awareness and appreciation of good urban design and architectural excellence through talks, exhibitions and awards.

Built since 65s

Our built environment tells the story of our nation’s history, progress and transformation over time. This was the objective of the Singapore 1:1 Island exhibition, held from 16 November 2007 to 18 April 2008. The exhibition featured 65 of our nation’s most significant architectural and urban design projects completed island-wide outside the city centre since Singapore’s independence.

These projects, which range from prominent national landmarks, favourite leisure hangouts to our very own well-loved homes, represent not just groundbreaking architectural techniques or styles but also hold fond memories and rich meanings for us as a nation. Through these exhibits, URA told the story of how Singapore’s built environment has evolved in tandem with the nation’s economic and social progress.

The exhibition was officially opened by Ms Grace Fu, then Minister of State for National Development. It was a follow-up exhibition to the Singapore 1:1 City exhibition held in 2005, which showcased 60 works that were completed in the Central Area in the last 40 years.



Tampines Neighbourhood 4: One of the outstanding architectural and urban design works showcased at the Singapore 1:1 Island exhibition.



Students trying their hand at urban design.

Singapore ArchiFest 2007

Singapore celebrated its first ever Architecture Festival with the theme “Aspiration to Realisation” over a two-week period, featuring a wide range of Architecture & Urban Design Excellence (A•UDE) events including exhibitions, discussion forums, a design competition and architecture tours, from 27 November to 8 December 2007. International speakers at the Festival included Mr Manabu Chiba, Mr Takahara Tezuka and Ms Yui Tezuka from Japan, Mr Ma Qingyun and Mr Ma Yansong from China, and Mr Max Fordham from UK.

Organised by the Singapore Institute of Architects and co-funded by URA under its A•UDE Promotion Programme, the event brought together the professional fraternity, industry and student body in a cohesive effort to invigorate the architectural community and raise public awareness and appreciation of good architecture and urban designs. It was very well received, with a strong turnout of 13,500 visitors at the exhibition, and another 370 delegates at the one-and-a-half day forum.

A Peek at Marina Bay Sands

The public also got a sneak preview of the Marina Bay Sands through the exhibition “Designing Leisure – Inspirations from the Marina Bay” that was held from 14 May to 1 June 2007. The exhibition was put together by URA, Marina Bay Sands and the National Library Board, and drew some 13,500 visitors.

Young ‘Urbanists’

Appreciation of good built environment is not just limited to the domain of professional architects; our young can also be nurtured to understand and appreciate the benefits of good urban designs. In line with this belief, URA organised a series of workshops that were targeted at students of various levels.

The ‘Vertical Strategies’ Workshop, held jointly with the Singapore Polytechnic (SP) and Architecture Association (UK) tutors, was a workshop for polytechnic students. The objective was to engage participants to explore and test vertical strategies for high-rise, high-density environments like Singapore.

‘Design My Place Workshop’ was a workshop for secondary and junior college students organised by youth group “re:Act”. The focus was to raise A•UDE awareness and appreciation of local identity, with five areas in the vicinity of the Bukit Timah region for students to study.

The “Young Urbanist Programme” (YUP) workshop was aimed at introducing the principles of urban design and planning to primary level students, making them more aware of the built environment.

President’s Design Award 2007

Winning designs in the Architecture & Urban Design discipline

Designers of the Year

- » Mr Mok Wei Wei, W Architects Pte Ltd

Designs of the Year

- » Bishan Community Library
Mr Look Boon Gee (and team), LOOK Architects
- » 1 Moulmein Rise
Mr Wong Mun Summ and Mr Richard Hassell (and team), WOHA Architects Pte Ltd

Exhibitions and Talks

URA continued to raise public awareness of the importance of good urban design and architectural excellence through a series of talks and exhibitions organised jointly with the Singapore Institute of Architects and the Board of Architects. Renowned practitioners were invited to share their experiences with the industry.

Amongst those invited over the year in review, architect Robert McFarlane gave an insight into the design philosophy and challenges faced during construction of the Singapore Supreme Court. Internationally acclaimed architect, Moshe Safdie, shared his design philosophy as well as the evolution of the design features of Marina Bay Sands Integrated Resort, from conceptualisation to construction. Ole Scheeren from OMA, architect for the upcoming residential development Scotts Tower, talked about his design philosophy and discussed his recent projects in Asia. And Daniel Libeskind, the notable architect for the upcoming residential development “Reflections at Keppel Bay”, shared his insights into his design philosophy and discussed present and past projects.



Bishan Community Library wins the jury’s vote for “Designs of the Year”.