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COVER
Quirky outdoor benches at Marina Bay

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More reasons to sit at Marina Bay

By Serene Tng

Sleek, cool and quirky — sitting around Marina Bay has become more fun with 10 new outdoor benches added along the waterfront promenade. Inspired by water, nature, ships, tongkangs, waves and even endangered animals like the Malayan Tapir, LASALLE College of the Arts (LASALLE) students gave the Bay area a new twist with creatively designed public benches.
Look out for the cute Malayan Tapir (named “tAPY”), raising awareness about the endangered species. There is also the stylish “Voisel”, inspired by the elegant, curved design of the tongkangs (light wooden boats) used in the early days of Singapore. And the beautiful “Dandelion” with its wavy, gold dandelion stalks, celebrates Singapore’s reputation as a city in a garden.

This initiative is a collaboration between LASALLE and URA as part of URA’s ongoing “My Marina Bay, My Inspiration” programme, to encourage students and community groups to draw inspiration from the Bay and translate it into innovative ideas to liven up the public space. Ten designs were selected from some 40 submissions based on their originality, functionality, durability and buildability.

The benches will be on display for up to one year at the promenade. Popular designs could be replicated for permanent installation along the waterfront. Fun Siew Leng, URA’s Group Director of Urban Planning & Design said, “We are glad to have this opportunity to work with the students from LASALLE on this design project. Marina Bay is a great platform for students to showcase their talents. Through this project, we hope to create small delights for visitors to Marina Bay.”

The street furniture project is part of a series of three projects in the URA-LASALLE collaboration. The other two projects — undertaken by Level Three students from LASALLE’s Design Communication BA (Hons) programme — are themed façade decoration designs for the Marina Bay City Gallery and outdoor posters to reflect the vibrancy of Marina Bay. The façade decorations and outdoor posters have been installed since July 2012. They will be rotated throughout the year. ☸
01
TAPI
BY DELICIA BEE

02 & 03
VOISEL
BY ROBERT CHOW SONG LING,
CAROLINA CANCERNADEWI,
REIKA LEE YUN YING, LANI DIANA
AND LUKE LIM KOK YONG

04
DRIFT WOOD
BY REGINA KARTIKA,
JONATHAN SPALDAN PALJOR,
LI SI YANG AND TING SEN EM

05
DANDELION
BY RAFAELA MARSHA CIPUTRA
01 Freeform
By Khoo Jiun Yang, Nadine Jdl, De Conceicao Sarah Nicole, Jana Patricia Crus Pimentel and Shanika Jay

02 XYZ
By Cassandra Rosalyn Kesuma

03 Echo
By Adeline Yeo Xiuyun

04 Collision Point
By Eric Chang Ee Fatt

05 All Aboard
By Muhammad Khairul Hafiz, Siti Nurhasanah Shariff, Manuel Mario Soliano, Huang Ying Ping and Zhuang Pei Shan

06 Tide
By Chng Choon Wee Alden, Aldy Setyawon Tjandra, Chung Jesi Jessica, Clement Dian Perdana and Handy Tjoa
Five-year plan to rejuvenate the Singapore River

By Arti Mulchand & Chong Wan Ping
The Singapore River has had a long and winding history, with varying fortunes along the way. Now, Singapore River One (SRO), a new not-for-profit, private sector-led organisation, hopes to bring new life to the river by bringing the three quays on its 3 km stretch together with a single vision.

SRO’s five-year business plan is the culmination of 18 months of brainstorming involving URA and stakeholders comprising property owners and business operators. This includes the previous Singapore River One Task Group (SROTG), a voluntary working group comprising stakeholders, which was formed to provide inputs to the business plan. SROTG also kick-started a series of projects such as the “A Better Singapore River Campaign” at Boat Quay to discourage touting and overcharging.

In the initial years, the funding for the SRO will come from voluntary contributions by property owners, businesses and residents in the Singapore River precinct together with co-funding from the Government. The URA will provide seed funding for the first three years to allow SRO to roll out initiatives and projects. Mr Ng Lang, Chief Executive Officer of the URA says, “URA’s aim is to help the Singapore River fully realise its potential as a premier mixed-use recreational destination in Singapore. However, this cannot be done top-down, but in close partnership with business operators on the ground. We are happy to be able to support the setting up of the SRO, and we look forward to working closely with it to realise our vision for the Singapore River.”
The SRO is led by a Board comprising 10 directors made up of stakeholders along Singapore River, with Mr Wilson Tan, Director of CapitaLand Retail Management Pte Ltd, at the helm as Protem Chairman. Day-to-day operations is being led by Mr Tyrone Tabing, who most recently ran the Chicago Loop Alliance, where he received international acclaim for his leadership in creating dynamic events, cultural celebrations and public art installations.

Destination for everyone
Mr Tabing has a formidable task ahead of him. Based on the latest available data from the Singapore Tourism Board, in 2009, just 18 per cent of tourists to the country visited the Singapore River. In comparison, close to half went to Orchard Road.

What he hopes is to be able to re-establish the Singapore River as a destination in its own right. “The area needs an identity to compete with other destinations in the city such as Marina Bay and Orchard Road. Currently, the three quays are viewed as discrete destinations. We hope our efforts will result in the area being viewed as a holistic mixed-use destination that offers something for everyone,” he says.

One of the key challenges, though, is the precinct’s diverse range of stakeholders and stakeholder interests — there are 500 property owners, 700 businesses and 10,000 residents within the precinct. To date, there has been no platform that brings them all together, nor a comprehensive approach to manage challenges and change, or future evolution.

“One of our biggest challenges is to implement projects that benefit the entire district...what’s appropriate for one quay might not always be appropriate for another,” says Mr Tabing, adding: “We recognise that funding from the Government and stakeholders allows us to operate — which means all our cards are on the table for everybody to see.”

Mr Tabing’s background lends him an edge, he says. Like at SRO, he had to bring together the diverse stakeholders on Chicago’s landmark State Street and unite them around projects that brought people and media attention to the area. He hopes to be able to do the same for the Singapore River.

Quay considerations
Each of the three quays has their unique selling points, which Mr Tabing hopes to capitalise on. “In Boat Quay, we want to promote the history of the area and attract business crowds from the adjacent Central Business District,” he says. “In Clarke Quay, we want the many visitors, especially youths, to linger longer and explore the retail, F&B and other offerings in the area. And we want to promote Robertson Quay as a family-friendly destination.”

How? Feedback from over 150 face-to-face interviews, three surveys and six stakeholder forums indicated the need for “supplemental services” over and above what the Government has already done, which includes stepped-up security. “While stakeholders feel that existing services are good, they aspire towards higher levels of excellence. Singapore River One aims to go that extra mile,” explains Mr Tabing.

SRO also hopes to press the “refresh” button with new signs and heritage markers to help visitors find their way around, as well as a downloadable mobile app that tells the history of the river while providing direct links to Singapore River businesses. It is a prospect that excites Ms Samia Ahad, 53, owner and chef of Coriander Leaf, who feels the app, particularly, will help more people discover her cooking school-cum-restaurant. Coriander Leaf has been at Clarke Quay for nine years, though its second-floor location means it tends to draw those in the know. “We get more locals because the tourists generally eat what’s downstairs. Only tourists who do their research prior to arrival dine here. The mobile app is good because then maybe more people who come to the area will know about us, not just through reviews online.”

There are also plans in the pipeline for year-round events along the river to keep the buzz going. While the initiative will take inspiration from American examples such as the San Antonio River in Central Texas and Providence in Rhode Island and Melbourne in Australia, the idea is not to mimic them but to retain Singapore’s distinct identity.
Celebrating river’s authenticity

Admittedly, some issues will be harder to tackle than others, including tenant mix, says Mr Tabing. Some business owners in Clarke Quay feel that it now has too many bars and clubs, and too few restaurants and other businesses that would give the area a daytime buzz. Similarly, Boat Quay business owners lament the existing mix, saying there are simply too many seafood restaurants. It will mean having to work closely with the landlords who own the warehouses and the shophouses.

Still, Mr Tabing remains hopeful that the various stakeholders will come together to ensure the success of this important part of Singapore history and draw back not just tourists but Singaporeans as well.

Citing his Chicago experience, he understands the competitive advantage that history, architecture and culture can provide. “I’m fascinated by the history of story-telling on the River and how travellers from distant lands would tell stories of their journeys and discuss issues of the day while a joss stick burned. It would be fantastic if we could bring that tradition back in a modern way,” he says. “I feel Singaporeans are in search of authenticity and the River offers it. We need to find ways to put a fresh spin on the River’s authenticity and celebrate this rich history.”

TYRONE TABING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SRO

(from left to right)

Rainer Tenius, General Manager of Swissotel Merchant Court; Tyrone Tabing, Executive Director of SRO; Jason Pope, Director (Owner) of Dallas; Devin Otto Kimble, Managing Director of Menu Pte Ltd; Ng Lang, Chief Executive Officer of URA; Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State for National Development; Wilson Tan, Director of Capitaland Retail Management Pte Ltd; Poyan Rajamand, Director Barghest Partners; Mdm Fun Siew Leng, Group Director (Urban Planning & Design) of URA; Andreas Koch, General Manager of Riverview Hotel (Keck Seng Group); Tan Siong Leng, Deputy CEO of URA and Philip Gu, Executive Director of Far East Organisation
As Singapore continues to grow, it is important to explore new and innovative ways to increase the land capacity, to ensure that Singapore becomes even more liveable, sustainable and resilient.

It is with this in mind that the Ministry of National Development recently announced a call for research proposals in Sustainable Urban Living.

Details of the grant call can be found at www.ura.gov.sg/sulgrantcall/ Interested parties can submit their proposals by 31 October 2012.

Jurong Lake District — a sustainable district that uses resources more efficiently, optimises land, and enhances the quality of life for its workers, residents and visitors. A grant from IBM’s Smarter Cities Challenge could help uncover innovative ways to further strengthen the goals of making the district even more environmentally-friendly, liveable and inclusive.

Earlier in March, Jurong Lake District was selected as one of the recipients for the IBM Smarter Cities Challenge grant for 2012. Launched in 2011, the Smarter Cities Challenge is a three-year, 100-city, US$50 million philanthropic initiative that funds in-person engagements by teams of IBM experts, who study and make detailed recommendations addressing local urban issues.

Jurong Lake District was selected based on the country’s ability to clearly articulate strategic issues with tangible impact on the lives of citizens, and which can potentially and reasonably be acted upon. Also considered is the nation’s track record of innovative problem solving, and commitment to the use of technology and open data.

Soon after the agreement between the URA, the Economic Development Board, and IBM was signed at the sidelines of the World Cities Summit 2012, a team of IBM experts from different smarter city disciplines came to Singapore in July for three weeks. After gaining an in-depth understanding of the planning objectives and aspirations for Jurong Lake District, the experts will recommend possible solutions that the URA, the Economic Development Board and partner agencies could consider to enhance efforts to make the district a smarter business and leisure destination.

On the hunt for innovative land use solutions

As Singapore continues to grow, it is important to explore new and innovative ways to increase the land capacity, to ensure that Singapore becomes even more liveable, sustainable and resilient.

By investing in urban solutions today, Singapore will be able to better tackle future challenges and share these knowledge and solutions with other cities facing similar challenges of growth.

Smarter solutions at Jurong Lake District

By Chye Hui Sze
Sustainable Marina Bay

From more carbon free travel, keeping cool and compact living to green buildings, Marina Bay shows the many creative ways of designing sustainable developments.

Compact living

Homes, offices and amenities are located together for more compact, convenient living, reducing possible long distance travelling for residents and office workers.

Eco-friendly buildings

The bay will have eco-friendly buildings with new developments required to achieve a minimum Green Mark Platinum or GoldPlus standard. This means buildings will have features that promote energy and water savings, healthier indoor environments and the introduction of more greenery.

Keeping cool

Ambient air temperature is cooled with shady trees, water features and outdoor fans to make walking along the promenade a breeze.

All in one tunnel

All utilities supporting the Marina Bay developments are housed in one common services tunnel that distributes water, electricity and telecommunication services. This frees up land, with lesser maintenance disruptions on the roads.
Higher levels of green

All new developments have to offer some form of skyrise greenery under URA’s landscape replacement policy, taking green to a whole new level. This helps to lower the urban heat island effect and possibly reduce the demand for air-conditioning.

Water supply

Marina Barrage, the dam built across the Marina Channel makes Marina Bay Singapore’s first freshwater reservoir in the city, adding to Singapore’s water supply by 10%.

Gardens green

The latest Gardens by the Bay adds another 100 hectares of lush garden greenery to the bay. Super trees within the garden harness solar energy for lighting at night while the lake system acts as natural filtration for water from the gardens’ catchment, creating aquatic habitats.

Carbon free

Carbon emission-free travel is encouraged with a comprehensive network of train stations, underground links and walking paths. In future, cycling paths and water taxis will offer more options to get around.
How can we get the younger generation to think about Singapore’s challenges and constraints? How does Singapore balance varying needs within the constraints of our limited land? Land use issues have become increasingly important and even students can play a part. URA’s latest educational resources will enable students to learn and discuss planning and land use topics in a fun and engaging manner.

**SINGCITY**
*For all levels*

This dynamic three-stage game challenges students to race against time and plan their ideal city within a limited budget and land space. Game participants will need to balance conflicting needs, such as social, economic or health needs to create a memorable city. Based on Singapore’s context, the game is now available online and can be played anytime, anywhere. The Singapore City Gallery also features the game which can be played by up to eight players at one time.
MY HOME, MY NEIGHBOURHOOD, MY COUNTRY
FOR UPPER PRIMARY LEVELS
www.singaporecitygallery.sg/primary_lessons_1
How does our environment shape the way we live? How can we play a part in improving our environment? This series of suggested learning activities and worksheets offer Upper Primary students an immersive experience into understanding basic planning and urban design considerations used to guide the development of streets, neighbourhoods and the country. It will broaden their appreciation and understanding of their physical surroundings and enable them to better relate to Singapore’s larger challenges and constraints. It encourages creative thinking and for students to challenge what they see in their physical environment.

It is applicable for English and Social Studies lessons. It covers three classroom lesson activities and includes an optional visit to the Singapore City Gallery, with accompanying worksheets. A comprehensive teachers’ lesson plan is available, with specially prepared student worksheets for every activity. This set of resources was developed together with Admiralty Primary School. The school piloted it in nine Primary Four classes during English lessons. Both teachers and students found the learning experience enriching and engaging. More schools have indicated their interest to offer this learning experience in their classrooms.

SINGAPORE CITY GALLERY WORKSHEETS
FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY LEVELS
www.singaporecitygallery.sg/worksheets
While the Singapore City Gallery was designed for self-discovery, the many exhibits and information may be overwhelming for schools visiting for the first time. Specially designed worksheets for Primary and Secondary Schools are now available to enable students to gain a more structured learning experience from their visit. From knowing what a city needs and maximising land use, to conserving our heritage and designing the city, the worksheets help students understand the fundamentals of planning and urban design strategies and concepts that help shape Singapore’s physical landscape.

DISCUSSION ARTICLES
FOR UPPER SECONDARY AND TERTIARY LEVELS
www.singaporecitygallery.sg/worksheets
Why is the development of Marina Bay important for Singapore’s growth? What makes Marina Bay unique? What does sustainability mean? How does Singapore plan for sustainability? These advanced worksheets encourage students to think more about Singapore’s challenges and constraints and discuss key land use related projects and issues.

All the resources mentioned are available on the Singapore City Gallery’s website at www.singaporecitygallery.sg. More educational resources will be developed over time. To get updates on new resources, workshops and programmes for schools, do sign up to be on our mailing list. If you would like to collaborate with us or have ideas to share, you can email us at ura_gallery@ura.gov.sg.
Spotlight on sustainable cities

By Serene Tng

The focus on creating better cities for the future gained traction with the latest World Cities Summit, a key global Summit on liveable and sustainable cities, held recently in Singapore from 1 to 4 July 2012.

A record number of more than 19,000 global leaders and delegates attended from 478 cities. The World Cities Summit was held together with the Singapore International Water Week and CleanEnviro Summit Singapore for the first time, offering a more integrated, wider platform for networking and exchange of ideas across sectors. Leading industry leaders and government officials agreed that urban challenges can be turned into opportunities, with cities becoming new engines of growth and innovation. There is also a need for better integration across urban planning, development, governance and technology solutions, to address more complex challenges in a holistic and efficient way.
Partnerships inked
The Summit saw a stronger business focus with an extensive display of industry solutions and a sharing of market opportunities across Asia. Several partnerships were also inked. Surbana International Consultants Pte Ltd announced their appointment by the Republic of Rwanda for the master planning of Kigali, the capital city of Rwanda, a first for a Singapore urban planning company in the Rwandan market. IBM, URA and the Economic Development Board signed the grant agreement for the IBM Smarter Cities Challenge 2012 for Jurong Lake District. In addition, a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was also signed between Singapore’s Housing & Development Board, Electricité de France and VEOLIA Environnement Recherche et Innovation to develop a Systems Model, to help generate sustainable, urban planning solutions for towns.

“The increase in number of public-private partnerships signed at this year’s World Cities Summit reflects the growing importance of the Summit as a platform for networking and business opportunities, bringing government and industry leaders from around the world together, to discuss challenges and share best practices for building liveable and sustainable cities of the future,” said Mr Ng Lang, Chief Executive Officer of URA.

Biggest global event
This third edition of the World Cities Summit is by far the biggest global event for liveable and sustainable cities. The World Cities Summit Mayors Forum, a key highlight of the Summit, had the largest participation of over 100 mayors, more than half of whom were new attendees from China, Russia, India and countries from ASEAN, Africa and South America. The Mayors discussed challenges and innovative solutions to building liveable cities. The World Cities Summit Expo featured cutting-edge technologies and best practices from over 28 cities and 130 companies.

Mr Khoo Teng Chye, Executive Director of the Centre for Liveable Cities added: “As cities today consider water and waste management solutions in the context of liveability and sustainability, the Summit will strengthen its role as an integrated platform addressing dynamic governance, master planning and leading urban solutions in the future. The World Cities Summit Mayors Forum 2013 will be hosted by Bilbao, Spain, the inaugural Laureate of the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize. This is the first time that the Forum is going to another city, demonstrating that it is gaining traction internationally and is garnering external interest.”

The World Cities Summit is organised by the Urban Redevelopment Authority and the Centre for Liveable Cities. The next Summit will be held in 2014. More information is at www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg.
Brightening up Geylang Serai

By Nur Farhana

With the completion of street enhancement works along Geylang Road, visitors to the Hari Raya bazaar enjoyed a more pedestrian-friendly experience as they pounded the pavements in pursuit of the latest bargains.

Built at a cost of $1.5 million, street improvement works in the form of widened walkways and better street infrastructure have been implemented. This is part of URA’s plans to transform Geylang Serai into a lively cultural hub. To that end, a 400 metre-long footpath that stretches from the Tanjong Katong Road junction to just before the Geylang Serai Market has been widened from 1.5 to 3 metres. This walkway forms part of a pedestrian mall that will be built along Geylang Road to provide more gathering space for festive bazaars and community events.

Fifty-four smart lamp posts have also been installed along the widened footpath to enhance street infrastructure for festive decorations and celebrations. Equipped with “arms” for hanging banners and hooks for festive lights, these multi-purpose lamp posts eliminate the need for installing support columns for festive lighting. Each smart pole has two permanent power points — one at the top to power festive lighting and one at the bottom to supply electricity to temporary bazaar stalls nearby.

As an added touch, the lamp posts — located on both sides of the road — are decorated with “serai” or lemongrass inspired motifs, a nod to its namesake and the historical significance of Geylang Serai as one of the oldest Malay settlements in Singapore.

Geylang Serai is part of Paya Lebar Central, a precinct which has been earmarked in the Master Plan 2008 to be developed into a commercial centre with a distinct cultural identity.
“Shelter” or housing is a basic need that is commonly associated with one’s personal well-being and quality of life. Most people aspire to own a piece of property by a particular stage of their lives. As such, property features prominently in any governmental policy and has an important role to play in the overall economic and social stability of the country.

Singapore ranks highly when it comes to our overall home ownership rate. In a city-state of just over 700 sq km, about 88 per cent of our population has a permanent roof over their heads, whether it is public or private housing. Hence, news related to housing or the real estate industry is usually one of the hottest topics discussed online and offline, by all segments of society.

In the last few years, the government has stepped up collective efforts to create a stable and sustainable property market. More notably, more effort has been made to educate and protect consumers on all fronts. Skyline revisits some of the key moves put in place to empower home buyers in the last 18 months.

Enhancing transparency for home buyers
URA implemented important changes to the Housing Developers Rules in April 2012 that will require developers to be more transparent with the information given to potential buyers.

To help potential home buyers make better informed decisions on their purchases, developers will need to provide a scaled unit floor plan and detailed breakdown of the strata floor area, including the sizes of individual bedrooms, kitchen, dining area, balconies, and private enclosed spaces.

Developers will also have to disclose their track record in real estate development. All these information will be given to home buyers before the issue of the Option-to-Purchase. For any changes to the approved plans and specifications of the units, and substantive changes to the
common property in the housing project, developers will have to seek the home buyers’ consent before proceeding with the changes. Controls and deadlines have also been put in place to ensure that developers issue the Option-to-Purchase and hand over the keys to home buyers in a timely manner.

To avoid any misleading information being published across various media, existing controls on advertisements in newspapers and sales brochures will be extended to advertisements on websites. Some of the mandatory information includes the expected date of vacant possession and legal completion, and the date of building plan approval.

Other proposed changes include new guidelines on the setting up of show-flats to ensure that they accurately depict the housing units to be built, and the publication of transacted prices on a weekly basis. URA is finalising the proposed regulatory changes and the new regulations will be implemented in due course.

URA’s website provides very comprehensive real estate information to facilitate developers, property owners and the general public in making informed decisions on land development, property purchases and leasing. This includes property market updates, information on transactions and rentals of private residential properties, prices of units sold by developers and the supply of private residential projects in the pipeline. Much of the information is also available through URA’s mobile applications on-the-go.

**Transforming the estate agency industry**

Singapore’s property transactions amount to tens of billions of dollars a year. For many Singaporeans, purchasing a home is probably the largest single investment they will ever make and hence, it is important that they are given the right advice and service when making such investments.

Since its inception in October 2010 to raise the professionalism of the real estate agency, the Council for Estate Agencies (CEA) has stepped up efforts to protect consumers looking to enter the property market. They have put in place enhanced licensing conditions for estate agents, having salespersons registered, regulating the way estate agency work is conducted, and carrying out disciplinary actions.

Since 1 January 2011, all real estate agents and salespersons are required to pass regulatory examinations and obtain a licence or registration before they are allowed to conduct any real estate agency work. The CEA will take enforcement action against agents or salespersons who do not meet this requirement. Industry professionals are also required to complete six hours of training annually through CEA’s Continuing Professional Development scheme to keep abreast of the latest trends in real estate.

Besides these, the CEA has come up with services and materials to help consumers. Chief among them is a public register of licensed estate agents and registered salespersons so that home buyers can check if the individuals they are dealing with are, for example, registered with the CEA. Forms or agreements used for the sale or lease of residential properties were also standardised to protect the interests of both consumers and salespersons.

The CEA has also released a guide offering tips to home buyers on how to deal with real estate salespersons. The guide clearly charts out the responsibilities of each party, as well as actions to take when a dispute arises.

**Collective efforts**

The CEA and URA work very closely as both agencies have some complementary objectives such as enhancing the efficiency of the real estate sector. When the CEA introduced the Practice Guidelines on Ethical Advertising in June 2011, both agencies coordinated their regulatory policies and enforcement action for greater synergy. As part of the new guidelines, salespersons could no longer include terms like “specialist” or “experts” in their publicity materials, or make cold calls and send messages to consumers from 10.00 pm to 9.00 am.

URA participates in CEA’s industry platforms to update on policies related to the private, commercial and industry property sectors. At the CEA’s inaugural Key Executive Officer Seminar in October 2011, the URA shared on the topic of enhancing transparency in the private residential market. Earlier this year, it conducted a seminar advising salespersons on the dos and don’ts while applying to change the use of a certain property.

The latest collaboration was the CEA-URA joint circular issued in June 2012 to remind both estate agents and developers or building owners of their responsibilities in providing accurate information on the use of the properties to prospective buyers. It underlines the allowable uses of industrial space, duties of estate agents or salespersons in respect of advertisements, role of developers, and actions against estate agents or salespersons and unauthorised uses.
Vibrancy in the real estate sector
A vibrant real estate sector relies on the integrity and professionalism of multiple parties, including estate agents and salespersons. By working closely together, all stakeholders contribute to the development of the industry and instilling stronger public confidence in it. Home buyers can only stand to gain from more transparency in the market and active involvement by the URA and CEA to empower them with information to make judicious investments.
Engaging youths through ProjecTRIP

Since the return of the former railway lands to Singapore last year, the Rail Corridor has sparked widespread public interest. Spanning the length of the country from north to south, it has the potential to become a signature public space and an extraordinary feature of Singapore’s landscape in future. Many people have come forward with interesting ideas and proposals on the future use of the lands and a significant number of ideas were submitted by students in URA’s recent “Journey of Possibilities” Ideas Competition.

URA set up ProjecTRIP, a student engagement programme to raise awareness among our youths. The programme aims to help secondary school students articulate their aspirations on how the Corridor can be meaningfully developed to meet their needs and that of society’s. ProjecTRIP features interactive workshops, creative activities and a variety of programmes to empower the students in building their visions for the Rail Corridor.

We hope to grow a community of educators and students who would like to use the Rail Corridor as a spring board to learn about Singapore’s past and present, and also the possibilities it may present for all Singaporeans in the future. For more updates on ProjecTRIP, check out http://www.ura.gov.sg/railcorridor/projectrip/