URA launches public consultation for the review of Concept Plan 2011

The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) today announced the launch of the Concept Plan 2011 (CP2011) Review Public Consultation exercise. Two focus groups have been formed to seek feedback from the public on how we can continue to provide a good quality of life for all including the elderly, grow in a sustainable way and retain our identity as we plan for the long-term development of Singapore.

Mr Mah Bow Tan, Minister for National Development inaugurated the two focus groups, each comprising about 35 members, at a launch event this morning held at the URA Centre. Minister Mah also launched an online survey to seek feedback and ideas from the general public on shaping Singapore's physical landscape.

Concept Plan Public Consultation

The Concept Plan maps out the long term directions for Singapore's land use and transportation plans over the next 40 to 50 years. The review is carried out once every ten years and the present review is scheduled to be completed in 2011. The CP2011 will chart Singapore's long term growth to achieve the following key objectives:

- Economic growth opportunities,
- Good quality living environment,
- An inclusive society where the needs of various sectors of the population are taken care of,
- A sustainable Singapore that balances growth with responsible environmental management, and
- An endearing home where people have a strong sense of belonging to Singapore.

To reach out to a wide spectrum of society and engage people from all walks of life in the review of the Concept Plan, the URA is adopting a two-prong strategy in its consultation efforts:

a. Conduct in-depth focus group discussions with representatives from a broad segment of the population including professional bodies, non-governmental organisations, community groups, businesses, academia, youths, etc; and
b. Offer a variety of platforms for the general public to give feedback and ideas, e.g. Lifestyle Survey, online survey, public forums and exhibition.

The public consultation exercise is part of URA's continuing efforts to actively engage and involve Singaporeans and residents in our plans to shape Singapore into a great city to live, work and play in.

Focus Groups

Two focus groups have been formed to discuss four key issues identified for the current review of the Concept Plan. These are the issues that will shape our live, work and play environment in the coming years. The four issues are:
a. Quality of Life;
b. Ageing issues;
c. Sustainability; and
d. Identity.

Please see Annex 1 for details of the four topics.

Mr Edmund Cheng, Chairman, National Arts Council and Prof Tan Chorh Chuan, President, National University of Singapore will co-chair a focus group which will look into Quality of Life and Ageing issues. The second group, co-chaired by Mr Lee Tzu Yang, Chairman, Shell Companies in Singapore and Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Director, Institute of Policy Studies, will discuss issues on Sustainability and Identity.

The two focus groups collectively comprise a good balance of members, from professional organisations, NGOs, academics, community leaders, youths etc to represent a broad spectrum of our population. Please see Annex 2 for the list of focus group members.

The focus group discussions will take place over about four months, scheduled to end in April. The two focus groups will then present their preliminary findings at two public forums in May to seek further feedback from the public. More details on the public forums will be announced later this year.

Online survey

The URA would also like to invite members of the public to give their feedback and ideas in shaping the future physical development of Singapore. The details of the four topics can be found on URA’s website at http://www.ura.gov.sg/conceptplan2011/. The public can also give their views via an online survey on the same website from 23 January to 21 February 2010. Findings from the online survey will be given to the two focus groups to facilitate their deliberations.