

TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The world today is vastly different from decades ago. There are many more uncertainties, disruptions and a greater rate of change. With issues such as climate change, major geopolitical and economic shifts as well as changing demographics such as the rise of an ageing population, challenges and demands are far more complex and interconnected.

Balancing needs and a long-term view

Land use planning in Singapore presents unique challenges and we have to constantly balance demands and trade-offs across a wide variety of needs. We do not have large hinterlands where most cities would site their airports and seaports, military bases, factories, utilities, waste incineration plants and other essentials a country needs. Instead, we must fit all of them and more – from housing, work and industrial spaces, to community facilities, recreational and green spaces – within the confines of our small city-state.



Photo credit: National Parks Board

Writing the Singapore Story together

The values and principles of our founding leaders guided them in stewarding our scarce land resources to meet the diverse aspirations and changing needs of our people. They continue to anchor our approach today as we take a long-term view towards land use planning and development, with stewardship and sustainability as core, long-held principles. This allows us to prepare for the future yet be ready to respond to surprises along the way.

What has also evolved are deep partnerships formed across government, industry and the community to confront challenges of our time and develop urban solutions together. We need the courage to rewrite stories we tell about ourselves, the imagination to reinvent our identities where needed and the humility to change decisions when we go off course. In charting our future, we need to tap into this courage together and embrace changes and opportunities while staying grounded in our shared values and destinies.



Photo credit: National Parks Board

Planning ahead

In the Long-Term Plan Review that was completed in 2022, future plans drawn up to guide Singapore's physical landscape over the next 50 years and beyond reflected the many aspirations, ideas and feedback from residents from extensive public engagements. A range of land demands and different possibilities were considered, providing greater options and flexibility to respond to emerging challenges and changing needs. We will continue to engage the community and stakeholders to refine the strategies and progressively translate them into plans over the next few decades to build a better Singapore together.



Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority

Homes for all

Over the past six decades, we have invested heavily to build affordable, accessible, and high-quality HDB flats for millions of Singaporeans and made strides in creating well-designed, sustainable and community-centric towns. As society continues to evolve and new challenges emerge, we will continue to ensure public housing is accessible and affordable for all Singaporeans, as well as create even better homes for the future, guided by the Designing for Life roadmap. Supported by three pillars – Live Well, Live Green and Live Connected – the Designing for Life roadmap centres on planning and designing around residents' physical, mental and social needs, to create homes that contribute to their overall health and well-being.



Photo credit: Housing & Development Board

City in Nature

Singapore is now moving towards becoming a City in Nature to create a green, liveable and sustainable home for all residents. We will build on what has been achieved and further conserve and extend Singapore's natural capital through four key strategies: expanding the Nature Park Network, intensifying nature in gardens and parks, restoring nature into the urban landscape, and strengthening connectivity between Singapore's green spaces. We are also partnering the community to realise the City in Nature vision by inspiring and bringing Singaporeans together to be stewards for nature, such as through the OneMillionTrees movement and biodiversity conservation initiatives.



Photo credit: National Parks Board

Clean, sustainable water

Singapore has adopted a green water system. From closing the water loop, we are now working on closing the carbon loop to produce clean water from clean energy, and will continue to expand the ABC Waters programme to other sites. We are also implementing whole-of-nation efforts to safeguard our future from the effects of climate change and global warming.

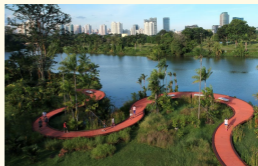


Photo credit: National Parks Board