FACTSHEET: UPDATES ON CITY IN NATURE EFFORTS

The Ministry of National Development announced in 2020 that the National Parks Board (NParks) would work with the community to transform Singapore into a City in Nature. This vision builds on what Singapore has achieved as a biophilic City in a Garden. We will further integrate nature into our city to strengthen Singapore's distinctiveness as a highly liveable city while mitigating the impacts of urbanisation and climate change. Singaporeans will be able to enjoy a high-quality living environment with cleaner air and water, cooler urban temperatures, and benefits to health and well-being.

The City in Nature vision is also one of the five key pillars under the Singapore Green Plan 2030, a whole-of-nation sustainable development agenda that was launched in February 2021. Through our City in Nature efforts, we aim to create a green, liveable and sustainable home for Singaporeans.

Progress Made in 2021

The National Parks Board (NParks) has made good progress in our efforts to transform Singapore into a City in Nature. *Please see Annex A for more information on the overall City in Nature vision that was announced at the Ministry of National Development's 2020 Committee of Supply debate, and Annex B for a summary of key progress updates to the City in Nature targets.*

For example, in 2021, NParks launched the Ecological Profiling Exercise (EPE) to study the ecological profile of the green spaces across Singapore, and to better understand their role in ecological connectivity. The EPE supports NParks' science-based approach towards nature conservation, focusing on the ecological connectivity of various sites, as well as the approach to conserve ecologically sensitive areas amidst development. In July 2021, NParks announced the Clementi Nature Corridor, which was conceptualised based on the ecological profile of the Clementi-Ulu Pandan area, as part of the EPE's findings. This Nature Corridor will strengthen the ecological connectivity between Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and the Southern Ridges, and will add to the Central Nature Park Network and Bukit Batok Nature Corridor.

NParks also supported new research efforts to develop holistic and science-based strategies towards achieving the City in Nature vision. For example, under the Marine Climate Change Science (MCCS) programme, NParks is supporting and coordinating research in the core sciences of marine climate change. The programme will also help to develop new solutions to safeguard our coastal and marine ecosystems against climate change. NParks will also be

embarking on research efforts under the 'City in Nature' research pillar of the Cities of Tomorrow Research & Development (R&D) programme. These research efforts will centre around focus areas such as: (i) optimising greenery in our urban environment, (ii) enhancing biodiversity monitoring and conservation, (iii) deepening our understanding of human-nature relationships, and (iv) developing nature-based solutions for inland climate change adaption.

We are also heartened by the active participation of the community in City in Nature efforts. For example, more than 320,000 trees have been planted with the involvement of more than 30,000 members of the community, as part of the OneMillionTrees movement. NParks' Gardening with Edibles initiative also saw high interest, with some 860,000 seed packets of leafy and fruited vegetables distributed to encourage gardening enthusiasts to grow edible plants from their homes. NParks also launched the Social Enterprise Community Urban Farm (SECUF) Grant, to facilitate the creation and running of community gardening hubs in the heartlands.