

RSVP: Reinventing Spaces into Vibrant Places



Several state-owned spaces are set to be transformed into leisure options for the public to enjoy, under a new programme launched by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and the Singapore Land Authority (SLA).

Under the programme – named Reinventing Spaces into Vibrant Places (RSVP) – selected state-owned properties and land in key precincts will be put up for tender. The overall concepts and proposed uses for the sites should complement other offerings in their precincts, and should include programming to provide even more opportunities for the community to interact.

Tenderers will be assessed on how well their proposals reinforce and complement the unique charm and character of the area, as well as how they enhance visitor experience through suitable and innovative programming. To ensure a more holistic assessment of the bids, 50 percent of the overall score has been allocated for the bid price, while the other half will go to quality of concept.

In addition to putting vacant spaces to interim use, RSVP gives business owners, architects and designers the opportunity to team up to test creative business concepts.

“We hope that the RSVP programme will help inject more vitality and delight into our precincts, turning vacant spaces into places that encourage people to venture, connect and interact,” said Chou Mei, Group Director of Conservation & Urban Design, URA.

“A city is more than the sum of its buildings and infrastructure; it is a place where people live, work, and hang out with friends and family. We hope the programme will help to create endearing and lovable places that everyone will enjoy.”

The first RSVP site, 45 Sultan Gate, was put up for tender in May 2019 in tandem with the launch of the programme. The development of a new point of interest in the heart of the Kampong Glam Historic District will encourage more people to visit the area and enhance the precinct’s identity as a melting pot of heritage and culture.

More sites will be identified and progressively rolled out for concept tender under RSVP. Such sites could range from shophouse units and standalone buildings to utility infrastructure and public spaces.