

### **Challenge for the Urban and Built Environment 2019**

The Challenge for the Urban and Built Environment (CUBE) is a workshop and competition for students from local Pre-University institutions, and provides participants the opportunity to garner experience in city planning and urban design. Organised by the URA since 2009, the annual workshop strives to inspire young minds towards a profession in urban planning and design.

The CUBE workshop and competition was held at The URA Centre from 18 to 22 November 2019. 121 students from 13 junior colleges, polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education formulated plans on transforming the former Paya Lebar airport into a community of the future. The objectives included planning for commercial, industrial and retail developments, residential areas as well as community spaces (parks, community centres and sports facilities), to form a vibrant mixed-use district for residents to live, work and play. Participants also had to consider ways to leverage the rich aviation heritage of the site in order to create a distinctive identity, and ventured into people-centric community design addressing Singapore's changing demographics.

Guest lecturers from the National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore University of Technology and Design, the Housing Development Board and the Future Cities Laboratory engaged the students in introductory discussions and application on sustainable urban planning. Under the mentorship of leading industry professionals and architecture student facilitators from NUS, participants were guided throughout their projects, which were presented to a critique panel comprising representatives from the URA and the professional industry.

**Outstanding Award Winners** (in alphabetical order of institution)

**'Transit in green, town in motion' by Anderson Serangoon Junior College**



'Transit in green, town in motion' – this is what the team at Anderson Serangoon Junior College (ASRJC) envisioned for Paya Lebar Air Base after having identified potential ideas to improve accessibility, provision of amenities and increase the area's vibrancy and dynamism in developing the site.

As such, ASRJC proposed communal living, versatile modes of transport and amenities in close proximity to residents and workers. To promote future residents' interaction with nature, these will be complemented by greenery that is spread out throughout the town, including on rooftops, that double up as recreational spaces for

nature lovers and active residents. Aviation enthusiasts will also be drawn to the community, particularly via the retention of the historic Control Tower as part of the town's unique heritage.

**‘Palette @ Paya Lebar – Colourful palette for the young to paint their future’ by Dunman High School**



Inspired by an artist’s multi-coloured palette, the Dunman High School (DHS) team painted a ‘Palette @ Paya Lebar’, where residents and visitors of all ages congregate in a vibrant, innovative town.

In the town, one would find a community hub comprising lush lawns, a sheltered amphitheatre, a central hawker centre and a network of soaring skybridges linking all buildings, and even leading from themed rooftop gardens to a multi-sensory playground. True to the site’s aviation roots, hangars are revamped to serve as community sports facilities, like a full-sized skate park. By further integrating modular

residences, airy co-working spaces and open-concept smart offices into the site, DHS' proposal offered possible solutions to issues such as shelter from the heat, programmes to engage the residents, and accessibility.

## 'ConCore – Convenience through connection to the core' by Temasek Junior College



Temasek Junior College envisions a town that is well-connected to its vibrant core, in order to address issues of accessibility, heritage and identity, as well as vibrancy.

Named 'ConCore' as homage to the Concorde aircraft once featured at the airport, the car-lite town serves residents' transportation needs via the Concorde sky rail, town-wide drone delivery, travellers and skywalks. Streamlined residential and office developments are constructed for greater air flow; recreation-wise, the 'Cockpit' serves as a community hub and includes a community centre and sports facility. The retained Control Tower projects light shows on an adventure-themed runway, whilst virtual

reality info-tainment engages residents and visitors in a showcase of the area's rich history.

### **Other Award Winners**

#### **Merit Award**

Anglo-Chinese Junior College  
St. Andrew's Junior College

#### **Commendable Award**

ITE College Central  
Nanyang Polytechnic  
National Junior College  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic  
Republic Polytechnic  
River Valley High School  
Singapore Polytechnic  
Yishun Innova Junior College