

MAY 2024

Talk of the Town

BUALAN KOTA
市鎮之聲
நகர பேச்சு

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HOLLAND-BUKIT PANJANG
TOWN COUNCIL

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Greening Our Town



pg 2
Planting Greens and Dreams
at Senja Grand



pg 3-5
Enhancing Community Infrastructure
Across Town



pg 6
Modern Makeover, Classic Flavours

Planting Greens and Dreams at Senja Grand



Residents of Senja Grand gathered at their estate park on 27 April 2024 to sow memories, hopes and dreams. As Singapore shifts from a garden city to a city in nature, MP for Holland-Bukit Timah GRC (Zhenghua) Mr Edward Chia emphasised the role of Singaporeans: "We know that many Singaporeans care for the environment and care for each other. We know that Singaporeans want to take action."

The sentiment resonated well with residents. Shambavi, 12, expressed her enthusiasm: "I'm very happy to be here because I really want to create a greener future."

Accompanying Shambavi, P R Lakshmanan, 70, expressed his joy at passing down the tradition of tree planting to his granddaughter: "Tree planting is a cherished childhood memory, and I am thrilled that my granddaughter can experience it too. It's a wonderful way for our family to bond."

Beyond familial bonds, Rhaudha, 45, anticipates greater connections with neighbours. She remarked, "I'm sure these new plants we planted together will spark more conversations and strengthen our community bonds."

The symbolic act of burying a time capsule evoked anticipation for the future, with residents envisioning a greener tomorrow. As our memories, hopes and dreams intertwine with the roots of newly planted trees and shrubs, they nourish the environment and community.



Enhancing Community Infrastructure Across Town

Repairs and Redecoration

Creating a safe and picturesque town is an important part of building a thriving community. Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council (HBPTC) diligently pursues regular infrastructure upgrades, striving to elevate residents' quality of life and instil a sense of belonging. Recent enhancements reflect HBPTC's unwavering commitment to inclusivity and accessibility.



Repairs and redecoration works are cyclically undertaken with input from residents to ensure their needs and preferences are considered. These efforts encompass a comprehensive range of tasks aimed at enhancing both functionality and aesthetics, including:

Repairing and upgrading bin chutes

Addressing spalling concrete issues

Installing energy-efficient lighting in corridors and staircase landings

Upgrading drainage systems

Washing and repainting external walls

These vital works were most recently carried out across 22 blocks in Bukit Panjang and Cashew, and are expected to be completed by July 2024.

- Blks 442B-D, 443A-D Fajar Rd
- Blks 177-180, 181-185, 607-612 Lompang/Jelebu/Senja/Bukit Panjang Ring Rd



Home Improvement Programme

The Home Improvement Programme (HIP), introduced in 2007, addresses maintenance problems in ageing flats. Implemented by the Housing Development Board in collaboration with the Town Council, this programme was recently completed at Blks 1 to 19 Toh Yi Drive from December 2021 to August 2023.

Compulsory improvements that target public health, safety and technical concerns included:

Repairing spalling concrete and structural cracks

Replacing waste/soil discharge stacks

Replacing pipe sockets with new clothes drying rack

Upgrading of electrical load

In addition to these essential works, residents opted for enhancements to toilets, doors, gates and refuse chute hoppers.



◀ Toilet upgrades with larger wall and floor tiles, and better quality sanitary fittings



▶ Decorative or laminated timber door with enhanced resistance against scratches



◀ Wrought iron grill gate or mild steel entrance gate with interior thumb-turn knob



▼ Refuse chute hopper replacement



Daniel Goh from Blk 3 Toh Yi Drive is one beneficiary of the programme. He shared, “The toilet improvements are my favourite. Our new toilet looks great and is comfortable. Importantly, it is much safer for my 86-year-old mother.”

Daniel also highlighted his experience with the process: “It was inevitable for issues to surface, but they were systematically resolved. The HIP officers were there to help.”

Beyond physical upgrades and support from the HIP team, Daniel appreciates the deepened connections with neighbours through the shared HIP experience. “We all had different experiences with HIP, but discussing our anticipation and concerns had brought us closer,” he remarked.

As HBPTC continues identifying more flats for inclusion under HIP, more residents can anticipate similar transformations.

Town Improvement Projects

Complementing HDB's upgrading programmes, HBPTC consistently advances various town improvement projects. Recent enhancements include expanding covered linkways and fitness corners across town.

Covered Linkways

These all-weather linkways facilitate seamless connectivity between residential blocks and amenities. The increased accessibility fosters community cohesion while ensuring safe travel for residents of diverse needs.



▲ *Blk 6 Ghin Moh Rd to Ulu Pandan Community Centre*



▲ *Blk 213 Petir Rd*

Adult Fitness Corners

In a commitment to holistic development, new fitness corners have also been strategically added to promote healthy living. Moreover, these fitness corners serve as social hubs where neighbours can come together, bond and motivate each other.



▲ *Adult Fitness Corner at Blk 8 Empress Rd*

Through strategic upgrades, HBPTC improves the physical environment while building a stronger and more interconnected community.

Modern Makeover, Classic Flavours

Ghim Moh Market and Food Centre's Glow-Up



After a closure of two and a half months for repairs and redecoration works, Ghim Moh Market and Food Centre welcomed patrons once again on 11 May 2024. Throughout the renovation, Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council collaborated closely with the National Environment Agency and the Ghim Moh Market and Merchants' Association to address concerns of merchants and residents.

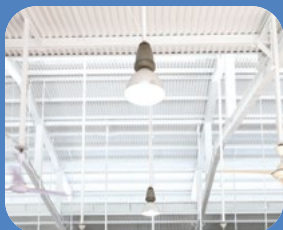
"I trust that this renovation will put merchants at ease, and that stall owners and customers will feel more comfortable here," reassured Mr Lim Thiam Hee, Chairman of the Ghim Moh Market and Merchants' Association.



◀ **Toilets redone with a smart toilet system featuring feedback panels as well as taps, flushing and soap dispensers with sensory functions**



◀ **Four additional high-volume low-speed fans for improved ventilation**



◀ **New LED lights for improved illumination and reduced energy consumption during rainy days**



◀ **Replacement of roof gutters to reduce the likelihood of overflowing, especially during heavy downpours**



◀ **Bird spikes to deter birds from the dining area**

"I'm most happy with the toilet upgrades. Together with improved overall cleanliness, they are sure to attract more customers."

Lee Sah Bah, 74

"The new toilets are so much cleaner! I think implementing the feedback system in a hawker is a really cool idea that help maintain the cleanliness of the toilets."

Janice, 28

"I'm very happy to see that the ventilation issue has been addressed."

Soon, 70

"It is a lot brighter and cleaner now. I've always enjoyed the food here, but I feel more excited coming back to eat in a nicer environment."

Marcus, 42

With these improvements in place, Ghim Moh Market and Food Centre is poised to continue serving as a cherished centre where delicious food, warm camaraderie, and shared memories flourish for generations to come.

Meeting Sustainable Development Goals



**SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES**

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



**RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION**

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



**CLIMATE
ACTION**

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Reuse with ECOFILL Refill Stations

Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council will be among the first to adopt a new solution to single-use plastics with pilot ECOFILL refill stations. Offering more than just convenience, refilling existing detergent bottles significantly reduces plastic waste and cost.

Our first ECOFILL refill station will be launched at Blk 643 Senja Close in June 2024. To use these stations, simply:

- 1 Place your rinsed and dry detergent bottle in the loading bay.**
- 2 Select either 1 or 2 litres.**
- 3 Pay by PayNow, Alipay, WeChat, Visa, Mastercard or exact cash.**
- 4 Press the red button to start.**



Recycle with Cloop Bins



Blk 21 Ghim Moh Rd



Blk 129 Pending Rd



Blk 643 Senja Close, next to Sheng Shiong Supermarket

In efforts to promote eco-conscious habits and reduce textile waste, Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council is bringing more Cloop bins closer to residents. It is now easier than ever to contribute to a sustainable environment.

- **Donate new or used textiles. Clothes, bags, shoes, accessories, toys, plushies, pillows, linens, and curtains without wires are accepted.**
- **Make sure items are clean and dry.**
- **Place properly packed items inside the bin.**



DENGUE RISK ALERT LEVELS

HIGH DENGUE RISK.
PLEASE BE VIGILANT.

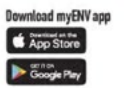
DENGUE CLUSTER ALERT!
2 TO 9 CASES.

DENGUE CLUSTER ALERT!!
MORE THAN 9 CASES.

DENGUE CLUSTER CLOSED.
PLEASE REMAIN VIGILANT.



Follow us and find out more



BOUQUETS

Dear Town Council,

I noticed there might be a new cleaning team as the cleaners are wearing different uniforms and also new faces.

I want to express my compliments to them. They are friendly and greet residents while keeping the estate in a much cleaner state than before. I noticed rubbish around the estate is no longer uncleared, and our bins no longer overflowing. The workers also cleaned the lift. Proper cleaning is done all around the estate.

I think they really deserve a pat on the back and should know their work is being appreciated.

– Resident of Holland-Bukit Panjang

Dear Mr Calvin,

I am writing to express my deepest appreciation for your efficiency in helping me in my hour of need. Our estate is fortunate to have you as our senior property officer. Thank you.

– Resident of Holland-Bukit Panjang

Dear Mr Ong,

Your enthusiasm and dedication to your job have resulted in increased support and assistance to Toh Yi residents. Without hesitation, you always assist us in any related matter in the shortest time beyond our expectations!

Your kind attention, patience and commitment make us feel very supported. We are glad we have you as a model for services and help to Toh Yi residents. We are especially appreciative of your most recent help with the choking pipe issues.

Once again, thank you. We appreciate your effort.

– Mdm Han