

## **BUILDING A HOME FOR THE FUTURE**

The Resilience Package provides a further boost to investments in making Singapore an extremely liveable global city and the best home for Singaporeans.

We are pushing ahead in four areas:

- Expanding and accelerating public sector infrastructural spending;
- Developing suburban nodes and rejuvenating our neighbourhoods;
- Pushing ahead on sustainable development;
- Spending more on our education and health infrastructure.

### **(A) Expanding and Accelerating Public Sector Infrastructure Spending**

The Government will increase public sector construction spending to between \$18 billion and \$20 billion in 2009. This is significantly higher than the \$15 billion contracted in 2008 and \$6 billion in 2007.

The increased spending arises from the planned ramp-up in infrastructure development, and bringing forward of \$1.3 billion of projects to 2009. The Government had previously deferred some of these projects to avoid exacerbating the over-heating construction sector and adding pressure to construction costs for the economy. Others are projects which had been due over the next two to three years that the Government has decided to bring forward and comprise smaller infrastructure contracts worth up to \$50 million each, which can be taken up by our small and medium-sized contractors.

### **(B) Developing Suburban Nodes and Rejuvenating Neighbourhoods**

To develop both a distinctive business hub in the centre of the city and new suburban hubs that will decentralise economic activity and create jobs nearer to home, the Government will be:

- Investing in new regional commercial nodes such as Jurong Lake District, the new Kallang Riverside and Paya Lebar Central;
- Rejuvenating our public housing neighbourhoods, including enlivening the public spaces within our estates and pushing ahead with ABC Waters Programme;

- Linking together all parts of the island through a comprehensive road network and developing viable mass transit alternatives by expanding our rail networks;
- Spending more on basic amenities such as our drainage and sewerage network.

### **(C) Pushing Ahead on Sustainable Development**

The Government has over the last year been developing our sustainable development blueprint for Singapore. MEWR and MND will be discussing our thinking and plans in further detail during the Committee of Supply (COS).

In total, the Government plans to spend \$1 billion over the next five years on sustainable development initiatives. The funds will support programmes such as energy efficiency for industry and households, green transport, clean energy and the greening of our living spaces.

### **(D) Spending More on Education and Healthcare**

#### (D1) Enhancing School Education

To enhance education for our students, the Government will be upgrading the hardware and software of the education system, including:

- Providing better facilities for an all-round education in every school, and accelerating some projects like the roll-out of indoor sports halls;
- Enhancing both the size and quality of the teaching force; and
- Bringing in allied educators into our schools to collaborate with teachers in providing better attention for every child.

#### (D2) Expanding healthcare capacity

The Government is committing to a substantial expansion of the healthcare sector, including:

- Investing \$4 billion over the next five years in healthcare infrastructure which will include the redevelopment of older hospitals, medical centres and a new hospital in the west, as well as seeing through existing projects like the Khoo Teck Puat Hospital in the north;
- Building new community hospitals and boosting capabilities in treating chronic diseases (e.g. stroke, heart and kidney failure) and other age-related conditions (e.g. dementia);

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- Enhancing capabilities for long-term care (including rehabilitation, home care and palliative services after patients have been discharged from hospitals); and
- Developing an electronic health records system that will be accessible by authorised medical practitioners at hospitals and polyclinics, and eventually extending to the community care sector.