ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL:

Transportation System in Singapore

By

CHEO KAE JER
HD99-1272W

Submitted to Department of Architecture
On 29 November 2000 in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Architecture

Abstract

The transportation system is an important issue in Singapore. Many policies and legislation has been drawn up to expand and improve the efficiency of the whole transportation network. Lots of money was pumped into the improvement of the transport system (e.g. extension of MRT line, ever widening of roads) and we can see that the impact of the transport system on us is great, whether we are students, workers, housewives or leisure-goers.

Many of us have taken the system for granted. We complain about for the delay of buses, overcrowding during peak hours, the never-ending road works and inability to flag a taxi. However, we cannot deny the fact that our dependence on the system is great.

It is essential to have an efficient transport system. There are many different forms of transportation linking up different parts of the country, like buses, taxis, Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) trains and not long ago, the Light Rail Train (LRT), in addition to the comprehensive networks of roads.

Despite our achievement in the transportation system, we have impeded a group of people in the usage of such an important element of daily live, who are the disabled and elderly people. In order to achieve a more gracious and welfare society, the next step is to create a barrier free transport system for everybody. Many other countries like Japan, England and America have already been looking into such problems and many measures and legislation have been passed for the benefit of this group of people. This will be one of the steps to achieve a more gracious society, through the concern of the welfare for the less fortunate.

Hence, it is the aim of this dissertation to analyze the problems of the transport system and its devices that will pose to the group of elderly and handicapped users and provide possible solutions to them.
We want Singaporeans to age with dignity and to remain involved in Society. We want them to be actively engaged in family and community life. And, in line with the Singapore 21 vision, we must maintain a strong sense of cohesiion between the generations. Singapore should be the best home for all ages.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong

Dissertation Supervisor: Mr. Harrison J.D.
Title: Senior Lecturer