
Nikken Sekkei Led Team is awarded as Master Planners for: The ‘Rail Corridor – An Inspired and Extraordinary Community Space’ RFP by Singapore’s Urban Redevelopment Authority, URA

After shortlisting five design teams in an open first stage and following a rigorous evaluation process by the 12 member evaluation panel of experts lead by Mr Ng Lang, CEO of URA, the Nikken Sekkei-led Design Team has been awarded the Master Plan winner of the RFP for its second stage concept master plan proposal, titled “Lines of Life” , for the 24km long former Railway Corridor that is to become an unprecedented community open space, spanning the entire nation of Singapore.

The awarded team is tasked with carrying out the preliminary design and feasibility study of an initial 4km Signature Stretch of the corridor.

The URA praised the proposal for its “strong vision and robust Concept Master Plan supported by well-thought-out design strategies to create extraordinary community-centric spaces and experiences throughout the length of the Corridor” , noting the team took a “very well-structured and methodical design approach, with its concept designs thoroughly addressing all aspects of the RFP brief and relating strongly to the Planning and Design Goals” .

Evaluation panel member, Prof Wulf Daseking of the University of Freiburg, commended the Nikken Team Concept Master Plan for its far-sightedness. “It presents visionary ideas for the former train line to be planned and integrated seamlessly with its diverse surroundings, over many years. The plan is a wise guide with brilliant ideas that is also flexible in terms of implementation. Green areas, footpaths and bicycle paths as well as surrounding developments along the Rail Corridor are woven together in a very convincing way,” said Prof Daseking.

Mr Wataru TANAKA, Director of Integrated Public Design Studio, NIKKEN SEKKEI LTD said, “We captured this design opportunity, not merely as landscape design assignment but more as ‘Public Space Design’ project, where we took design approach to integrate the communities the Rail Corridor touches into the design itself to make a truly meaningful public asset within a broader urban context. To this end we undertook a specifically coordinated team effort for public design where the broad consulting resources of Nikken Sekkei in Urban planning & Design, Landscape and build environment design have been fully integrated and supplemented with the knowledge and skills of our local Singapore based team members to provide a clear vision and execution plan for an immensely complex design task. I think this was essential to our success.”

A public exhibition and travelling roadshow will be coordinated by URA in Singapore.

Details of the URA exhibitions and further information regarding the RFP exercise is available at <http://ura.sg/railrfp>

PROJECT IN BRIEF

The Rail Corridor RFP asked for a master plan for transforming the 24km long former railway line that stretches from Tanjong Pagar Railway Station in the south to Woodlands Checkpoint in the north from a utilitarian functional corridor into an inspired public space spanning the country, and for specific design solutions for 10 key nodes along its length.

THE NIKKEN TEAM PROPOSAL “LINES OF LIFE”

Lines of Life sets out a vision for a seamless public space, the preservation and reintegration of existing green areas and a relaxed extension of modern life. The proposal devises a strategy of design criteria and objectives to make the Rail Corridor inspiring, accessible, comfortable, memorable, eco-friendly and growing/evolving, as it “stitches the Nation with Lines of Life” , not just from north to south, but from west to east as well, and weaves the communities on both sides into the life of the rail corridor by providing a continuous high quality public space adding to the high quality of life in Singapore, as well as acting as a catalyst to development and community bonding.



The Master Plan for the 24km long Rail Corridor

PROJECT TEAM

The multidisciplinary Japanese design firm, Nikken Sekkei took the Lead Landscape and Urban Design roles, enabling the core disciplines to be closely integrated, with the support of local Singapore Landscape and engineering firms Tierra Design and Arup Singapore. The team also includes a number of other local and international supporting firms.

The Nikken Design Team is delighted to have been selected to progress the design work and looks forward to continuing the journey together with the public and the URA.

NIKKEN SEKKEI

Nikken Sekkei, established in 1900, is a comprehensive consulting firm incorporated in Japan providing worldwide integrated services in city and urban planning, built environment design, landscape design, and professional consulting services, as well as specialist consulting in sustainability and urban research.

An exhibition of the Nikken Team' s Proposal is to be held in the ground floor gallery of the Nikken Sekkei Headquarter building in Iidabashi, Tokyo from 18 January 2016 through 26 February, 2016.

NIKKEN SEKKEI HP <http://www.nikken.jp/en/>
