

## **MEDIA FACTSHEET**

### **ROUND ISLAND ROUTE OF THE PARK CONNECTOR NETWORK**

#### Park Connector Network (PCN)

The PCN was first conceptualised in 1990 as an island-wide greenery network that connected parks, nature areas and open spaces. In 1991, the Garden City Action Committee approved the creation of the PCN with the aim of providing Singaporeans with greater leisure options. Today, it has evolved into a network of green corridors that brings communities together and provides opportunities for more recreational options for different interest groups. Park connectors also play an important role in enhancing the biodiversity of our cities, by serving as green corridors.

In 2015, the National Parks Board celebrated 25 years of PCN by reaching the significant milestone of 300 km of park connectors. NParks aims to have 360 km of park connectors by 2020.

#### Round Island Route

The Round Island Route (RIR) is a continuous 150 km park connector that goes around Singapore. It was first conceptualised in 2011 following public consultations for our City in a Garden vision, where many suggestions were given by the public on a green corridor that goes around the island, linking parks and park connectors. After a period of study, plans were announced in 2012 to develop a Round Island Route.

The Round Island Route will complement the existing PCN, connecting existing natural, cultural, historical and recreational sites and linking communities together. It will provide opportunities for recreational activities such as cycling, skating, jogging and hiking. These connections and activities will enhance our 'City in a Garden' experience for all residents.

Round Island Route users can:

- Experience enhanced connectivity between various recreational destinations;
- Discover and explore exciting new locations and activities;
- Admire different landscapes set amid lush greenery, at their own pace.

There will be three corridors for the Round Island Route. The first corridor, called the Coastal Adventure Corridor, will be the first section to be developed. Development is slated to begin in end 2016.

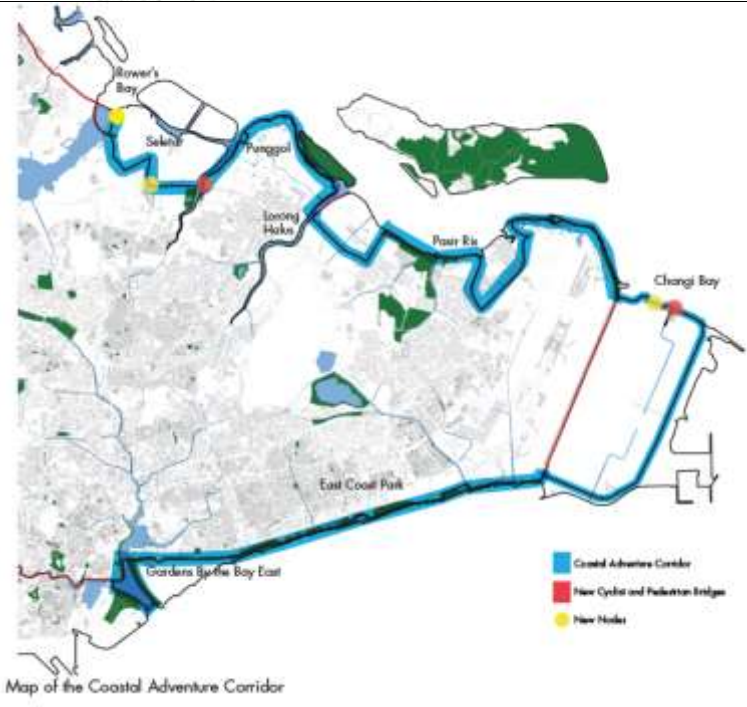
When fully completed, users will be able to cycle from Rower's Bay at Lower Seletar Reservoir Park along the coast of Punggol, Pasir Ris, Changi and East Coast Park to Gardens by the Bay. Efforts will be made to make the route user friendly and enjoyable. For example, a cycling bridge is planned at Sengkang Riverside Park, a key activity node of the RIR, to connect the eastern and western end, so that cyclists need not dismount as they cross the bridge. As part of the design for the bridge at Sengkang Riverside Park, a man-made island with wetland plantings will be created for otters to build their holts. The route will also be wider than normal park connectors in most areas (6m instead of 4m), and have amenities such as shelters,

toilets, lookout points, seating areas, information kiosks, bicycle parking lots and self-help bike repair facilities at various nodes.

Overview map of Park Connectors and Round Island Route



Map of Coastal Adventure Corridor



Amenities along the Round Island Route, which include wider width, scenic views and shelter/look-out points.



[Artist impression: Courtesy of National Parks Board]



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Sengkang Riverside Park, which will feature a cycling bridge that connects the eastern end to the western end of the Park.



[Artist impression: Courtesy of National Parks Board]



Tree planted by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong

**Lowland Fox-Glove  
(*Radermachera pinnata*)**

A tree which can grow up to 40m tall, with ornamental cream-white flowers that are fragrant. A native, critically endangered tree that is found in our swamp forest. This tree has been propagated from the seeds collected at Nee Soon Swamp Forest and will be first time it is planted in our parks.



[Photo Credit: National Parks Board]

Friends of the Park Connector Network Community

The Friends of PCN Community was started in 2016 to encourage greater community ownership of the PCN. It will be managed by a community of up to 10 members from various interest groups including runners, bikers and other PCN users.

The Friends of PCN will be involved in developing programmes that appeal to different interest groups. These PCN enthusiasts will also work with NParks towards achieving shared objectives and to promote active and responsible use of the PCN. The current Chairperson of the Friends of PCN Community is Mr Han Jok Kwang, a long time PCN enthusiast.

Mr Han Jok Kwang (in yellow-green jersey), Chairperson of Friends of PCN Community, exploring places around Singapore via the PCN together with other cyclists, and raising funds for charities such as The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and Garden City Fund in the process.



[Photo Credit: National Parks Board]

Members from Love Cycling SG helping to scrub slippery algae off Mandai Park Connector, during PCN Appreciation Day in 2014.



[Photo Credit: National Parks Board]

Volunteers from the community coming together to enhance the Bedok Park Connector.



[Photo Credit: National Parks Board]

The Joyriders - one of many active PCN community groups participating in a OCBC safe cycling clinic in 2014.



[Photo Credit: National Parks Board]