UPDATE TO
BUKIT FREEHOLD LAND REDEVELOPMENT AND ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Since 7 April 2020, construction work at the Bukit Freehold Land (BFL) Redevelopment and Island Enhancement Plan i.e. the Island Driving Range and the connecting Link Bridge had been put on hold as part of the Government's "circuit breaker" measures. With the extension of the "circuit breaker" to 1 June 2020, this means that no works will be carried out at the construction sites for two months.

The pandemic has disrupted the flow of labour and materials since the beginning of the year. It started with the movement control order in Malaysia which began on 18 March 2020, and with the recent lockdown of foreign worker dormitories and placement of workers in the construction sector on mandatory Stay-Home Notice (SHN), it will significantly reduce the available resources in the industry.

While the Club strives to catch up on "lost time" for our projects once the "circuit breaker" measures are eased, contractors have cautioned that the recovery momentum may take time as manufacturers of construction materials will need time to restart their processes, and the industry may face a manpower crunch as many companies will rush to speed up the construction works. In addition, there is the consideration of manpower distribution that may be prioritised for infrastructural projects such as Changi Airport T5, HDB projects, MRT lines and more. The resumption of work is also dependent on the health conditions of the foreign workers as thousands of them in Singapore had tested positive for the virus, or are under quarantine order due to having close contact with confirmed cases.

To date, the Building & Construction Authority has cautioned that the projects may be delayed by three to six months. However, this duration could be longer depending on how the virus situation evolves, and the measures taken to contain the spread. The Club will continue working with consultants and contractors to monitor the situation closely and will give Members an update in due course.