



From Central Business District to New Downtown: Designing Future Sustainable Urban Forms in Singapore

Introduction

Singapore as a city is known for its downtown skylines, high-quality public housing, green urban landscape and efficient infrastructure system. In the past three decades, the Singapore urban skyline has changed rapidly in the downtown revitalization process. With its astonishing urban changes, clean environment and neat city images, Singapore, as a city-state, has influenced the ways the city has been shaped and managed. This is evident, for example, in the success of controlling traffic growth in the central city area through public transport and advanced management systems like electronic road pricing (ERP). Singapore's approach has become a unique model of urban management in East Asia, where governmental planning plays a fundamental role in the shaping of both economic growth and urban physical environment through long-term urban policies, nimble decision-making, delicate skills of urban design and efficient plan implementation.

However, the achievements of the past may not guarantee its future success. In the late 1990s, a 14 million m² downtown development was proposed on reclaimed land at Marina South,