

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **NEW WEBINAR SERIES BY THE CENTRE FOR LIVEABLE CITIES: LIVE CONVERSATIONS WITH GLOBAL URBAN LEADERS ON HOW TO NAVIGATE AND RESPOND TO CHALLENGES POSED BY DISRUPTIONS**

The Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) has announced its new webinar series titled 'CLC Webinar Series: Cities Adapting to a Disrupted World'. The live webinar series will feature global urban experts and leaders as speakers and panelists, covering a wide range of topics including Healthy Cities, Car-lite Cities, Smart Cities, Resilient Cities and City in Nature. The inaugural webinar on 21 May 2020 attracted over 1,200 participants from 37 countries. Prof Lam Khee Poh (National University of Singapore) and Dr Loke Wai Chiong (Ministry of Health Office for Healthcare Transformation) spoke on the importance of conducive environments in mitigating health impacts, and how lifestyle changes due to COVID-19 presented opportunities to promote urban sustainability.

2 "COVID-19 has changed the way we live, work and play. The webinar theme, 'Cities Adapting to a Disrupted World', is aptly chosen as cities will need to navigate and respond to the challenges posed by unexpected disruptions, which will be the new trend globally. It is through the sharing of thought leadership and learning from the experience of urban leaders across different sectors that cities can adequately prepare themselves for the volatile future," said Mr Khoo Teng Chye, Executive Director of CLC.

3 Mr Khoo added "The webinar theme mirrors that of the World Cities Summit (WCS), which has unfortunately been postponed from this year to June 2021 due to COVID-19. The webinar series is our way of adapting to COVID-19 as we continue to drive thought leadership and mindshare on liveable and sustainable cities with our global network of CLC and WCS partners through a digital platform."

4 Cities can continue to be liveable and sustainable, despite growing dislocations from pandemics, the climate crisis, social shifts and new technologies. Beyond that, cities will also need to respond to an increasingly volatile world. As part of CLC's commitment to drive thought leadership on building liveable and sustainable cities, the new webinar series will bring together global thought leaders and urban practitioners to continue the momentum of discussions around the issue of disruption, how they will impact cities and the opportunities they present to improve urban sustainability.

### **Upcoming webinars**

5 There are 2 upcoming webinars in June 2020:

**a) 'A City in Blue and Green' on 4 June 2020 (Thursday), 7:00pm – 7:40pm (GMT+8)**

Based on the book "A City in Blue and Green: The Singapore Story", the second webinar in the series will see *Prof. Peter G. Rowe (Raymond Garbe Professor of Architecture and Urban Design, and Distinguished Service Professor of Graduate School of Design, Harvard University)* as the speaker, and co-writer *Dr Limin Hee (Director, Centre for Liveable Cities)* as the panellist. They will share the unique strategies that transformed Singapore into a "clean and green" powerhouse, and how this can help the city respond to more contemporary disruptions.

**b) 'Modelling a New Normal: Social Distancing's Impact on Land Use' on 18 June 2020 (Thursday), 4.00pm – 4.40pm (GMT+8)**

With COVID-19 upending our lives, what would cities look like in the near future? How does new behaviour such as social distancing affect intercity rail and train networks, road systems, and public transport? Will cities expand or shrink, and what would new urban densities look like? *Prof. Michael Batty (Bartlett Professor of Planning, University College London, and Chairman, Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis)* will share how QUANT (Quantitative Urban ANalyTics) models land transport networks for an entire nation, at the scale usually used to analyse individual cities. This model predicts the trends on commuting, employment and residential patterns in cities across the United

Kingdom, and paints a picture of what could possibly be the new normal for UK cities. *Hwang Yu-Ning (Chief Planner and Deputy CEO, Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore)* will be a guest moderator at this webinar.

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### **About the CLC Webinar Series**

COVID-19 has changed the way we live, work and play. With the World Cities Summit (WCS) rescheduled to 20 – 24 June 2021, the CLC Webinar Series: Cities Adapting to a Disrupted World takes WCS 2021's theme to explore how cities can respond in an increasingly volatile world. With topics like Healthy Cities, Car-lite Cities, Smart Cities, Resilient Cities and City in Nature, we convene experts and leaders from the WCS community to discuss how cities can continue to be liveable and sustainable, despite growing dislocations from pandemics, the climate crisis, social shifts and new technologies. For more information, visit [www.clc.gov.sg/events/webinars](http://www.clc.gov.sg/events/webinars).

### **About the World Cities Summit**

The biennial World Cities Summit (WCS) is an exclusive platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge new partnerships. Jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), key highlights of the Summit include the WCS Mayors Forum, the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize and the WCS Young Leaders Symposium. The next edition of the WCS will be held from 20–24 June 2020 in Singapore. For more information, visit [www.worldcitiesummit.com.sg](http://www.worldcitiesummit.com.sg).