

News Release

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New Advisory Panel Set Up to Recommend How Land Transport System Can Be More Family-Friendly

As announced earlier by Senior Minister of State for Transport, Dr Lam Pin Min, an advisory panel chaired by Mr Richard Magnus, Chairman of the Public Transport Council, and Mr Sitoh Yih Pin, the Government Parliamentary Chairperson for Transport, has been set up on 30 June 2017 to consult stakeholders and look into how our land transport system can be made more family-friendly.

2 The Family-Friendly Land Transport Advisory Panel (the “Panel”), including the two co-chairmen, comprises eight representatives from key stakeholder groups such as academia, grassroots, parents with young children, senior citizens and people with special needs, to provide a diversity of views and recommendations on how our land transport system can be made more family-friendly. The panel will be supported by the Land Transport Authority and the Public Transport Council. (Please refer to the [Annex](#) for list of Panel members)

3 The Panel will consult stakeholders and commuter groups such as parents with young children, senior citizens, academia and the public transport operators to better understand the needs of different types of family units and gather recommendations on how to improve the transport system. As part of the consultation exercise, the Panel will carry out a series of focus group discussions between July and September, and an online survey with REACH in August this year.

4 The Panel’s report is expected to be ready by the second quarter of 2018, and the findings from the Panel will be submitted to Senior Minister of State for Transport Dr Lam Pin Min for consideration. Accepted recommendations will then be incorporated into the next Land Transport Master Plan¹ in 2018.

5 “The Family-Friendly Transport Advisory Panel is well-represented by individuals from diverse backgrounds and professional experiences. This allows us to objectively weigh the considerations of various commuters and provide practical recommendations on how transport can be made more family-friendly. I look forward to working together with them towards a family-friendly land transport system, one that we can be proud of, and one that meets the needs of all Singaporeans,” said Mr Richard Magnus.

6 “The Family-Friendly Transport Advisory Panel members bring with them experience and knowledge from the various segments they represent. I am confident they will bring out innovative ideas to improve our transport sector, and create better journeys for families,” said Mr Sitoh Yih Pin.

¹ The Land Transport Master Plan (LTMP) outlines LTA’s overall strategic direction and plans for Singapore’s land transport system. The LTMP is reviewed every five years and the last master plan was published in 2013.

**ISSUED BY THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY TRANSPORT
ADVISORY PANEL**

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ANNEX: Members of the Family-Friendly Transport Advisory Panel

Panel Members	
1.	<p><u>Mr Richard Magnus</u></p>  <p>Mr Magnus was appointed as Chairman of Public Transport Council (PTC) on 1 May 2014. He had served on the Council since February 2012 and led the Fare Review Mechanism Committee (FRMC) which undertook a review of the public transport fare review mechanism and fare concessionary framework. The recommendations of the FRMC were accepted by the Government in November 2013 and have been implemented progressively in 2014/2015. Since 8 Jan 2016, he has led the Council in its independent advisory role to the Minister for Transport on public transport matters. Mr Magnus also chaired the Downtown Line's Financing Committee whose proposals were accepted. He has been appointed as Chairman of UITP Asia Pacific Organising Authority Platform effective from 17 October 2016.</p> <p>Mr Magnus is Chairman and Board Director of several private companies and bodies. He is Singapore's First Representative to the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights; Vice-Chairman of UNESCO's International Bioethics Committee; a Member of the Public Service Commission as well as the Ministry of Home Affairs' Independent Review Panel. For his contributions to Public Service, he was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Gold Bar) in 2003, the Meritorious Service Medal in 2009 and the Public Service Star Medal in 2015.</p>
2.	<p><u>Mr Sitoh Yih Pin</u></p>  <p>Mr Sitoh currently serves as a Member of Parliament for Potong Pasir Constituency. He is also the Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Transport. Mr Sitoh is a Chartered Accountant by profession and is currently the Chairman of Nexia TS Public Accounting Corporation, a firm he founded more than 20 years ago.</p>

3.	<p><u>Ms Anita Fam</u></p>  <p>Ms Fam is Vice-President of the National Council of Social Service and Chairman of the Third Enabling Masterplan Steering Committee. Ms Fam also served on the Families for Life Council (formerly National Family Council) from 2006 to 2017 and also chaired the Marriage Central Advisory Board from its inception in July 2008 till July 2013. She has been a full-time volunteer since 2000 in the areas of disability, palliative care, family, marriage, mental health and international volunteerism. For her work in the community, she was conferred the Public Service Medal (PBM) in 2008 and the Public Service Star (BBM) in 2014. Ms Fam is currently the Chairman of Assisi Hospice and Chairman of the Tan Tock Seng Hospital Institutional Committee in her capacity as a National Healthcare Group Board member. She also serves on the boards/committees of Caregivers Alliance Limited and St Andrew's Autism Centre, among others.</p>
4.	<p><u>Ms Rahayu Mahzam</u></p>  <p>Ms Rahayu is a Member of Parliament for Jurong Group Representation Constituency. She is a lawyer specialising in family law. Rahayu sits on several committees and boards including the REACH Supervisory Panel, OnePeople.sg Management Committee, National Youth Fund Advisory Committee, Singapore Environment Council, Yayasan Mendaki and the Malay Language Council. Rahayu recently had her first child in April this year.</p>
5.	<p><u>Dr Mathew Mathews</u></p>  <p>As a Senior Research Fellow in the Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, Dr Mathews has worked on a dozen research projects focused on family issues including studies on three generation households, marriage and parenthood aspirations and challenges, as well as the needs of low income families. He has also examined the perceptions of older persons towards successful ageing.</p> <p>He is well involved in the community and sits on a number of advisory boards and panels in both the government and non-governmental sector.</p>

6.

Mr Samuel Ng



Mr Ng started Marine Parade Family Service Centre in 2000 to provide professional assistance to individuals and families in need. In 2002, he anticipated the challenges that will be brought on by an ageing population and became the first to set up a holistic service centre for the seniors in the community.

In 2005, he pioneered YAH! – Singapore’s first community college for seniors. YAH! has grown from strength to strength with over 2,000 senior alumni members now.

Serving the social service sector for more than 20 years, Mr Ng was recognised for his contribution when he was awarded the Outstanding Social Worker in 2001 and the Public Service Award (PBM) in 2010. Today, Mr Ng’s views on the social service and related issues are much sought-after and has advocated for the seniors as well as other disadvantaged groups on mass media. In addition, he also pens a weekly newspaper column in a local Chinese newspaper.

Under Mr Ng’s leadership as the CEO of Montfort Care, its programmes have grown over the years. Apart from YAH!, Montfort Care offers a wide spectrum of social services, including family services, child protection services, cyber wellness for youth, caregivers’ support service, senior wellness and activity centre, as well as a community kitchen.

7.

Ms Lu Jia Hui



As a full-time working mother with three children aged between 12 and 9 years old, Ms Lu is a figure on social media with 2,600 followers on her Facebook page. She advocates work-life balance and blogs on <http://www.mumseword.com> about parenting, cognitive development and fitness. She believes in spending quality time with her kids. Ms Lu has been featured in Channel News Asia on the Red Dot programme “Sharenting” to share her views on parenting journey.

8.

Mr Steven Teo



As a father of four children aged between 3 to 9 years old, Mr Teo is a figure on social media with 2,600 followers on the Facebook and 1,900 followers on Instagram. He blogs on <http://thepperfectfathersg.blogspot.com> about parenting, lifestyle and travel. Despite having four children, the family does not own a car and only uses public transport or private hired cars as the main mode of transportation. Mr Teo is also actively involved in parenting sharing sessions to share his views on parenting and life of families with young children in Singapore. He recently attended a sharing session in April 2017, with Minister Josephine Teo and a group of parenting bloggers to discuss the challenges of parenting.