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Arup-Nikken Sekkei team wins 24km Singapore urban development project



A Japanese-UK design team has been selected for the redevelopment of Singapore's historic rail corridor.

Led by Japan's Nikken Sekkei, the team includes UK's Arup and Tierra Design, and it beat 63 other entries

from around the world for this project.

The urban regeneration project will see a 24km-long disused rail corridor that stretches from the north to the south of Singapore, turning into a new community space and nature trail.

The team has been appointed to develop the design for the first 4km-long section of the corridor based on their masterplan 'Lines of Life' proposal, and Arup will be supporting all engineering disciplines for this project.



"The team also included ideas on how the community can continue to be involved in the post-development of the corridor."

Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) invited design professionals to develop a concept masterplan and

In March,

concept proposals to transform the rail corridor into a social space that honours heritage.

As part of the project, the rail corridor will feature a cycling path through the full length of the corridor, as well as have 122 access points, ten nodes and eight distinctive sections

The 12-member evaluation panel has selected the winning team for providing an extensively detailed

plan, which addresses the needs and expectations of the design competition.

The evaluation panel said: "The team's distinctive methodical and thorough approach in analysing the constraints and identifying opportunities and unique characters along different stretches of the rail corridor and its adjacencies give rise to a masterplan that is able to address all major requirements of the RFP brief pertaining to connectivity, accessibility, enhancing biodiversity and heritage along the rail

"The team also included ideas on how the community can continue to be involved in the postdevelopment of the corridor to foster a sense of community ownership and civic pride, and suggested how the use of modern mobile technology and apps can enhance the user experience."

The next stage of the project will see Arup and Nikken Sekkei refine the design in consultation with government agencies, and start the pilot design for the first 4km stretch.

In November, Samsung C&T has won a S\$555m (\$391m) contract from the Singapore Land Transport Authority (LTA) for Thomson-East Coast Line (TEL) (East Coast stretch).

The 43km TEL is being formed by combining the East Coast section and Thomson stretch, which serves the north-south corridor.

Under the deal, scope of work includes construction of Marine Parade station and its associated tunnels, which are scheduled to start by the first quarter of next year and expected to be completed in 2023.

Image: The Rail Corridor is envisioned to be a vibrant avenue for lifestyle and corporate events, arts, sports and community activities. Photo: courtesy of Nikken Sekkei.

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