

## Urban Design Planning

Simply stated, urban design is the art and science of place making. It concerns the connections between people and places, movement and urban form, and nature and the built fabric, ultimately ensuring the success of villages, towns and cities.

Architecture and architects have for centuries helped in this place making. However, unlike architecture, urban design planning encompasses much more than the visual impact of buildings and space, and includes social, environmental and functional considerations alongside visual concerns.

The beneficiaries of good urban design projects include Investors (who benefit through favourable returns on investment and satisfied occupants); Developers (who benefit by attracting investors and buyers more easily); Occupiers (who benefit from the increased prestige that well-designed developments command with guests and clients); Everyday users and society as a whole (who benefit from the economic advantages of a successful regeneration and also through access to an urban environment that is safe, attractive, socially vibrant, low stress, and incorporates an enhanced range of amenities); and Public Authorities (who benefit by meeting their obligations to deliver a well designed, economically and socially viable environment, that is efficient to service and maintain and promotes civic pride). The bottom line of good urban design is that it does not necessarily cost more to deliver by either the public or private sector.

This issue of AM showcases the skills of Malaysian Architects at creating urban designs using contemporary language. The Putrajaya Boulevard & Waterfront is a grand attempt at creating a formal streetscape worthy of a capital city, while the Diplomatic Enclave Masterplan refreshingly breaks away from the ubiquitous town centres prevalent in Malaysian society.

The Curve development at Mutiara Damansara is a beehive of lifestyle retail and entertainment facilities, extremely popular with city dwellers. At the other end, two rehabilitation and urban renewal projects are included as well to prove the creativity and skills of local architects in conserving our natural and built environments. The award winning Tanarimba development at Janda Baik further proves this point.

As always, we wrap up the issue with some interesting residential projects including Puri Ibu – a tribute by an architect to his mother. We also intend to make the travelogue a regular feature, so should you have interesting travel tales, do share with us.

**Ar Jasmeet Sidhu**

jaz@jazzsidhu.com

### ERRATA

#### Issue 17-5, Architects as Developers – an Interview with Datuk P. Kasi

The typographical errors on page 44 to 47 are much regretted, inter alia: In the first paragraph, line 9 on page 44, Datuk Ar P. Kasi was wrongly credited as 'PAM President'; it should read as 'PAM Past President'.

#### Issue 17-6, Kolombong Showroom & Warehouse

1. On the contents page and the project title on page 45, the word 'Kelombong' should read as 'Kolombong'.
2. The accompanying article was incorrectly labeled as an 'architect's statement', when in fact it was a review by a third party with no direct relationship to the submitting architect.

# am

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#### PUBLISHER

Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) / Malaysian Institute of Architects  
4 & 6 Jalan Tangsi 50480 Kuala Lumpur PO Box 10855 50726 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia  
Tel 03-2698 4136 / 2692 8733 / 2691 8605 Fax 03-2692 8782  
Email info@pam.org.my Website pam.org.my Publications Committee Email publications@pam.org.my

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Ar Jasmeet Sidhu  
jaz@jazzsidhu.com

#### CO-EDITOR

Ar Ken Lim  
mode@time.net.my

#### PUBLISHING MANAGER

bluelinemedia  
Block B Suite 3A16 Kelana Square  
Jalan SS7/26 Kelana Jaya  
47301 Petaling Jaya Malaysia  
Tel 03-7880 0730  
Fax 03-7880 2736  
www.lineofblue.com

#### EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES

Alex  
alex@lineofblue.com  
Ivy  
ivy@lineofblue.com

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yasmin  
yasmin@lineofblue.com

#### PRINTER

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