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Date : 9 Oct 2006

## CIRCULAR TO PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES

### REQUIREMENT OF ACCESS ROUTE PLANS

#### Objective

1 This circular is to inform qualified persons (QPs), developers and building owners of a new requirement to submit barrier-free access route plan at building plan approval stage. This access route plan is meant to serve as a guide for the occupants and visitors of the building.

#### Background

2 As part of the continuous effort of the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) in promoting a barrier-free built environment, BCA is in the process of reviewing the Code on Barrier-free Accessibility in Buildings. One of the key objectives of this review is to include barrier-free connectivity from buildings to buildings and from buildings to the surrounding infrastructure.

3 At the recent seminar, *Towards a Barrier-Free Built Environment*, jointly organized with the Singapore Institute of Architects, BCA announced that a new requirement on submission of barrier-free accessibility route plan will be implemented with effect from October 2006. Besides helping QPs to be conscious of the need to integrate a seamless barrier-free access in their building design, the access route plan will also serve as a guide for the occupants and visitors accessing the building.

#### Effective date

4 This new requirement will come into effect on 23 Oct 2006. It will apply to building plan submissions for new projects as well as TOP/CSC applications for existing projects.

#### Details of the requirement

5 The access route plan shall accompany the application for building plan approval or application for TOP/CSC if it has not been submitted earlier or there is an amendment to the access route.

6 The requirement shall apply to new erections, reconstructions and alterations and additions to any buildings that may affect the access to the existing buildings, except that it shall not apply to the erections of detached, semi-detached and terraced houses, and their alterations and additions.

7 The types of access route plans to be submitted are as follows:

- (i) Access route plan showing the barrier-free access to the building from adjacent buildings and nearest public transport amenities (Appendix 1a). QPs are reminded to integrate the barrier-free access with the main entrance to the building so that wheelchair users may enjoy the same convenience as others; and
- (ii) Access route plan showing the barrier-free access within the building (Appendices 1b and 1c).

#### Pre-submission consultation


8 BCA welcomes QPs to consult us on the access route plans before they submit their building plans to BCA for approval. QPs may make appointment with the following officers for consultation on their proposed access route plan.

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Yap Guan Hwa	63258641
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#### Informing members

9 I would appreciate it if you could convey the contents of this circular to members of your organization.

Yours faithfully

  
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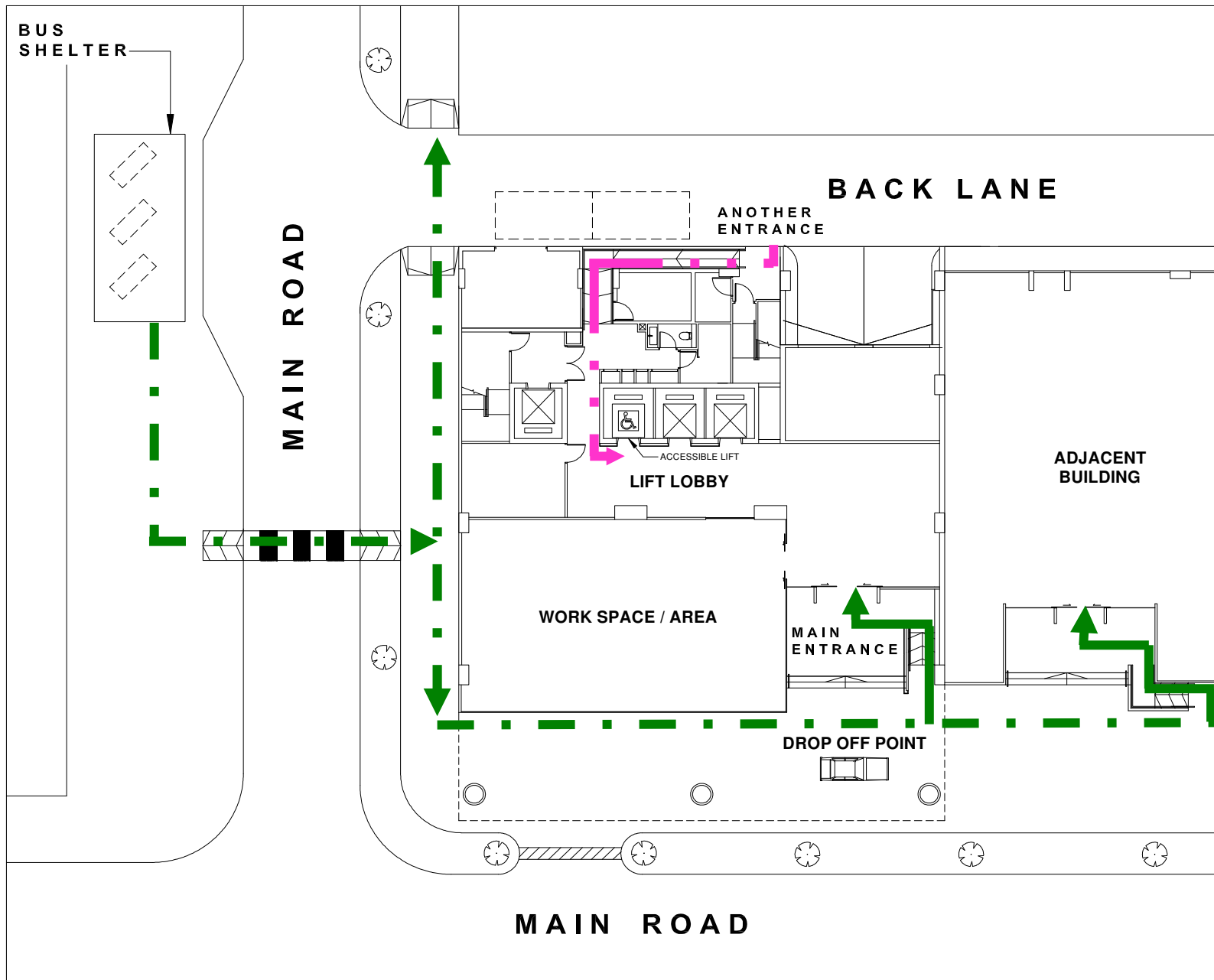
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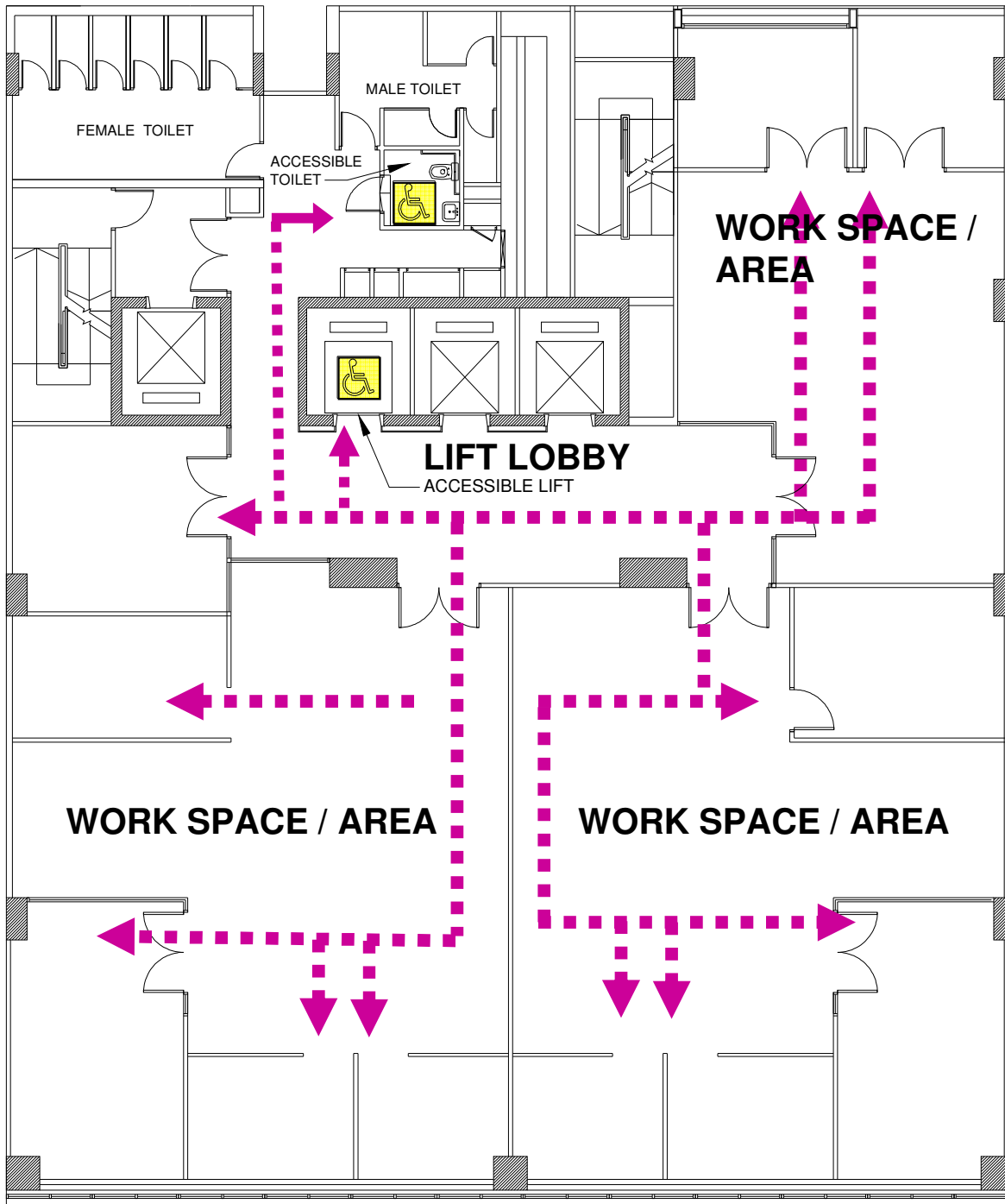
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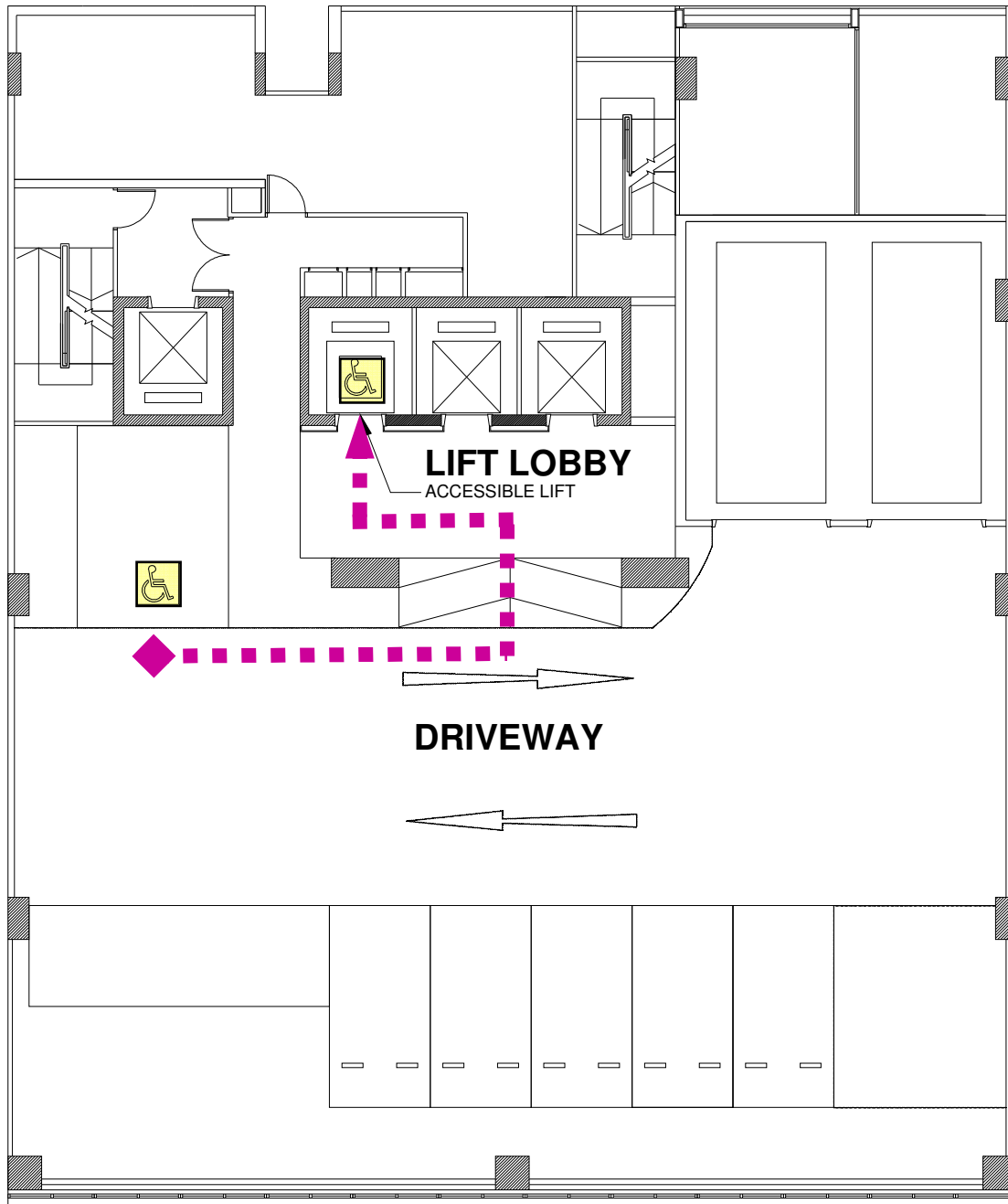
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**Access Route Plan showing barrier-free access from building to adjacent building and surrounding infra-structures**



**Access Route Plan  
showing barrier-free  
access within the  
building**



**Access Route Plan  
showing barrier-  
free access from  
accessible carpark  
lot to the  
accessible lift**