Circular No : URA/PB/2023/05-CUDG

Our Ref : DC/ADMIN/CIRCULAR/PB\_23

Date : 03 April 2023

#### CIRCULAR TO PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES

#### Who Should Know

Developers, building owners, architects and business owners.

#### **Effective Date**

With immediate effect

UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS (ORAs) AT SINGAPORE RIVER PROMENADE FOR ROBERTSON QUAY AND CLARKE QUAY

Annex A of this circular supersedes Annex A (Guidelines for Outdoor Refreshment Area (ORA) along Singapore River) under the Singapore River Urban Design Guidelines & Plans outlined in Circular No: URA/PB/2019/18-CUDG dated 27 November 2019 on "Updated Urban Design Guidelines and Plans for Urban Design Areas".

- This circular is to inform the industry and business owners at Singapore River (Robertson Quay and Clarke Quay) of the updated guidelines for Outdoor Refreshment Areas (see Annex A).
- URA makes periodic review of our guidelines to ensure their relevance. The latest review
  was carried out following the completion of the Singapore River segment of the RoundIsland-Route (RIR) and other improvements along the river promenade as part of
  adjacent redevelopments.
- The guidelines for the ORAs at Robertson Quay and Clarke Quay were reviewed with a view to ensure public safety and enhance the community's experience along Singapore River.

#### **Details of Guidelines**

- 4. The key updates to the guidelines are summarised as follows:
  - a. Changes to the allowable extents for ORAs on State Land to account for RIR boundaries and improvements to the promenade as part of adjacent redevelopments (see **Appendix A-1 A-4**); and
  - b. Mandating vertical boundary markers for ORAs along the RIR; (see Annex A and Appendix A-5 A-7)

#### **Implementation**

- 5. The guidelines will apply to relevant applications for ORA submitted to URA on or after 03 April 2023.
- 6. I would appreciate it if you could convey the contents of this circular to the relevant members of your respective organisations. You are advised to refer to the <u>Development</u> <u>Control Handbooks</u> and URA's website for updated guidelines instead of referring to past circulars.
- 7. For other information on the master plan, urban design guidelines, private property use and approval, car park locations and availability, private residential property transactions, and conservation areas and buildings, use <u>URA SPACE</u> (Service Portal and Community e-Services). This is an online portal packed with useful data and visualisation to help building professionals, business operators and the general public in their decision-making. It consolidates detailed information on land use and private property into a one-stop platform presented on geospatial maps. For feedback or enquiries, please <u>email</u> us.

Thank you.

FUN SIEW LENG (MS)
CHIEF URBAN DESIGNER
(COVERING FOR GROUP DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION & URBAN DESIGN)
for CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

# ANNEX A UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS (ORAs) AT SINGAPORE RIVER PROMENADE FOR ROBERTSON QUAY AND CLARKE QUAY

PARAMETER	GUIDELINES			
1. DEFINITION	An outdoor unenclosed seating area that is an extension of an adjacent Food & Beverage (F&B) unit, where the kitchen is located inside the building.			
	The outdoor seating areas (i.e. the ORAs), should not be the primary seating area of the adjoining F&B unit. Sufficient indoor seating area should be provided within the adjoining F&B unit such that the business will not be severely affected in inclement weather conditions.			
	Outdoor kiosks will not be approved to minimise the extent of physical structures along the riverfront.			
2. USE	For seating only. No food preparations are allowed within the ORA. Any cooking or food preparation, including any service stations, is to be located and carried out within the kitchen of the adjoining F&B unit.			
	ORAs are not supported for Nightclub	use.		
3. LOCATION	The riverfront promenade, pedestrian malls and public spaces within the development's boundaries (e.g. covered walkways, courtyards, building setbacks) are shared spaces. To balance the needs of different groups of users, ORAs shall not encroach into escape routes, fire engine accessways / access roads (in compliance with Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF)) and landscaped areas (in compliance to NParks' requirements), so as not to obstruct pedestrian movement along the walkways, compromise fire safety and obliterate planting. As ORAs are meant to supplement the indoor seating, they are to be located in front of and/or next to the adjoining F&B unit.  ORAs are allowed within public spaces within the development that are adjacent to the public pedestrian network & promenade.  The following plans show where the ORAs can be allowed along the promenade and pedestrian malls:			
	ROBERTSON QUAY	CLARKE QUAY		
	a Within the indicative location as shown in Appendices A-1, A-2, A-5 and A-6;	b Within the indicative location as shown in Appendices A-3, A-4 and A-7;		

PARAMETER	GUIDELINES
4. SIZE	In general, ORAs along the promenades can be considered up to a maximum depth of 3m to 4m as shown in Appendices A-1 and A-2. The maximum allowable extent will vary from site to site, depending on the existing site conditions and compliance with technical requirements such as fire safety.
	Boundary Markers
	The extent of ORAs shall be clearly marked to prevent spillage beyond the approved area.
	If planter boxes or railings are proposed, they shall not be easily removable and shall be placed within the ORA boundary (see Appendix A-8-1 for example).
	For ORAs along the Round-Island-Route (RIR), the extents are to be clearly demarcated by black tape (see Appendix A-8-2, Figure 2-1 for example). The black tape shall remain visible at all times. Vertical boundary markers are required for ORAs adjacent to RIR to prevent risk of accidents between patrons and RIR Users (see Appendix A-5, A-6 and A-7).
	Queuing Space for ORAs along the RIR
	If the F&B unit requires queueing space to facilitate their business operations, please provide a dedicated queuing space of at least 0.6m within the ORA. Queueing space should not impede movement nor spill into the RIR (see Appendix A-8-2, Figure 2-1 for example).
	All structures and furniture, including menu stands, displays and signage, must not encroach beyond the extent of the approved ORA.
5. FRONTAGE	The full frontage of the development along the promenade and pedestrian mall can be considered for ORA use, subject to detailed evaluation on the maximum allowable extent based on the existing site conditions and compliance with technical requirements. Please refer to the Appendices A-1 to A-4.
	To facilitate pedestrian movement between the covered walkway of the developments and the promenade, a minimum 1.5m wide clear walkway is to be set aside at appropriate intervals along the development's frontage (see Appendix A-8-2, Figure 2-2 for example). This could be in addition to the requisite clear distance from the fire escape stairs/routes regulated by the SCDF.

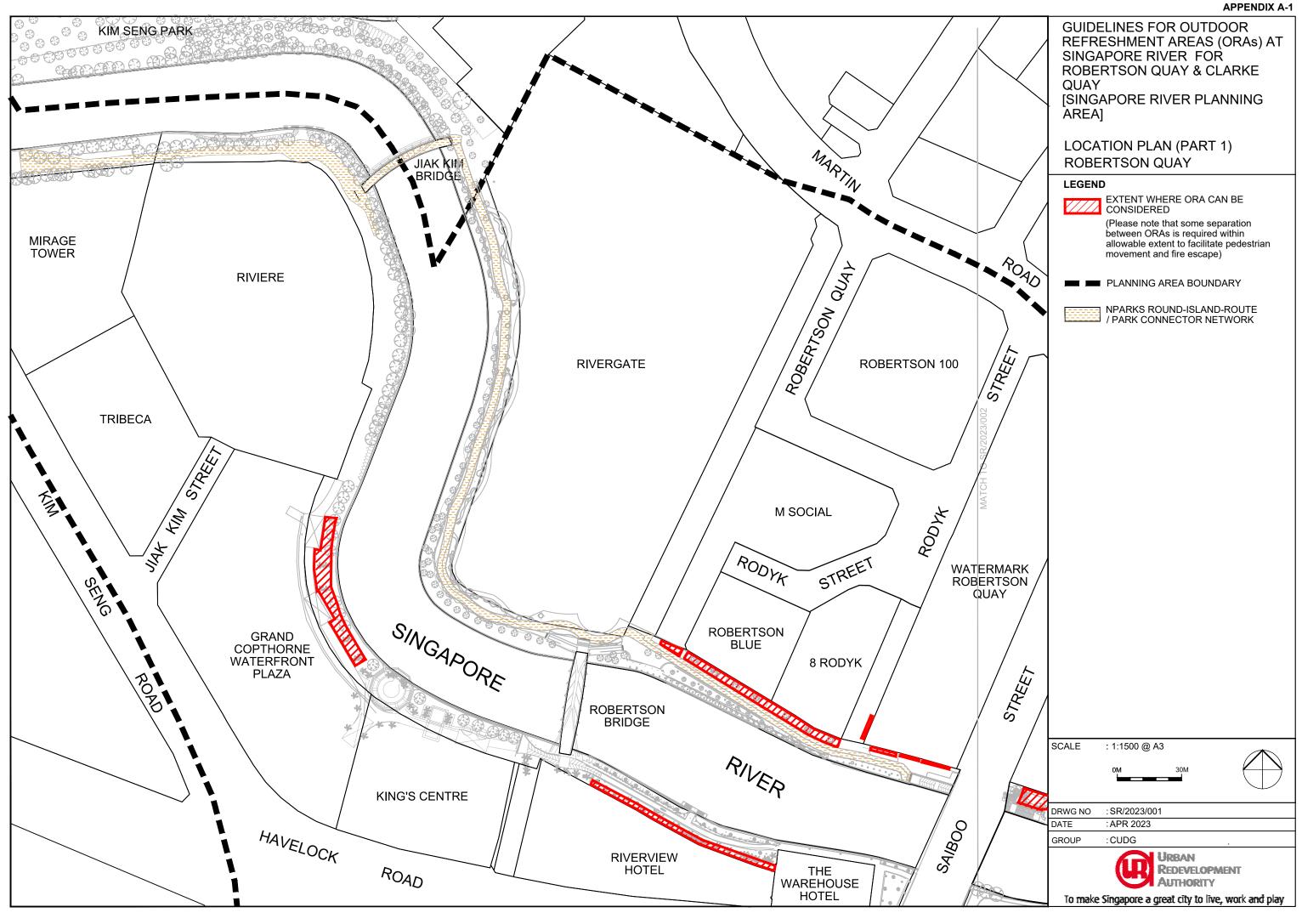
PARAMETER	GUIDELINES	
6. STRUCTURE & HEIGHT	areas, allowing patrons to dine and e Hence, ORA structures should not b	eant to be outdoor, unenclosed dining enjoy the outdoors at the same time. be designed to be weather-proof and his, including roll-down blinds, are not
		CLARKE QUAY ORAs within Development-related zones  Light-weight structures designed as an independent structure abutting the development can be considered. Its design is to be as porous as possible. In addition, ORAs can also be considered on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> storey, as shown in Appendix A-7. Linking the 1 <sup>st</sup> storey and 2 <sup>nd</sup> storey ORAs with a staircase is not supported as it increases physical bulk and reduce visual porosity.  ORAs within River-related zones (applicable only to Clarke Quay Conservation Area) Standalone ORA structures can be considered. They should be:  a Light-weight; and  b Not exceeding 4m in height.

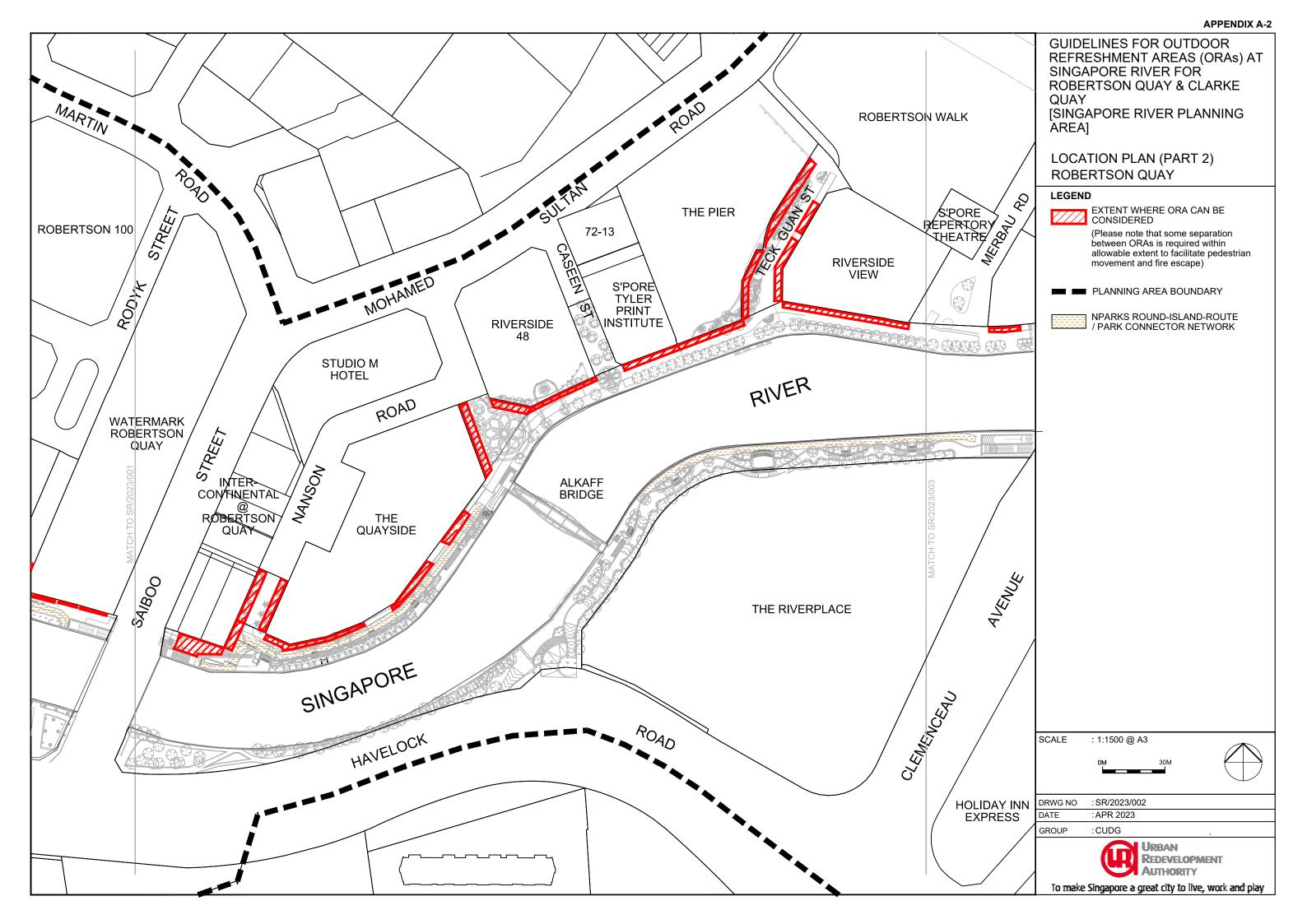
PARAMETER	GUIDELINES		
7. GFA & PAYMENT OF TOL/TDL/DP	For ORAs located on State land For ORAs located on State land, Applicants have to obtain Singapore Land Authority (SLA)'s consent as the landowner prior to submitting an application. Upon obtaining the Planning Permission (Temporary) from URA, Applicants have to obtain a Temporary Occupational License (TOL) from SLA, prior to the commencement of the ORA use.		
	For ORAs located within Development Boundary (not applicable to Clarke Quay Conservation Area)  For developments which have maximised their development potential, the proposed ORAs, inclusive of boundary markers, within the development boundaries can be considered over and above the maximum intensity stipulated in the Master Plan for the site, subject to the overall 10% GFA bonus cap¹ for each development and the payment of Land Betterment Charge (LBC).		
	As per current practice, all additional GFA granted under the bonus GFA incentive schemes will not form the future development potential of the site upon redevelopment.		
8. FURNITURE	To maintain a pleasant experience along the promenade, the ORAs are to be kept free of clutter both physically and visually. Please ensure the following:		
	Furniture and Service Stations  a Only loose tables, chairs and approved structures by relevant authorities are allowed only within the ORAs;		
	b Service stations, bar counters are not allowed within the ORAs;		
	c Any furniture or opaque structures above 1.2m height will be subject to further assessment by the Authority; and		
	d Menu stands should be stable and secure, and placed within the ORAs (see Appendix A-8-4).		
9. SIGNAGE	Business names are allowed to be displayed on the awnings/structures. Any third-party advertisement signs or sponsor logos are not allowed as free-standing structures or to be displayed on the awnings/structures (see Appendix A-8-5).		
	Any signs will require the written approval of Building and Construction Authority (BCA) prior to installation.		

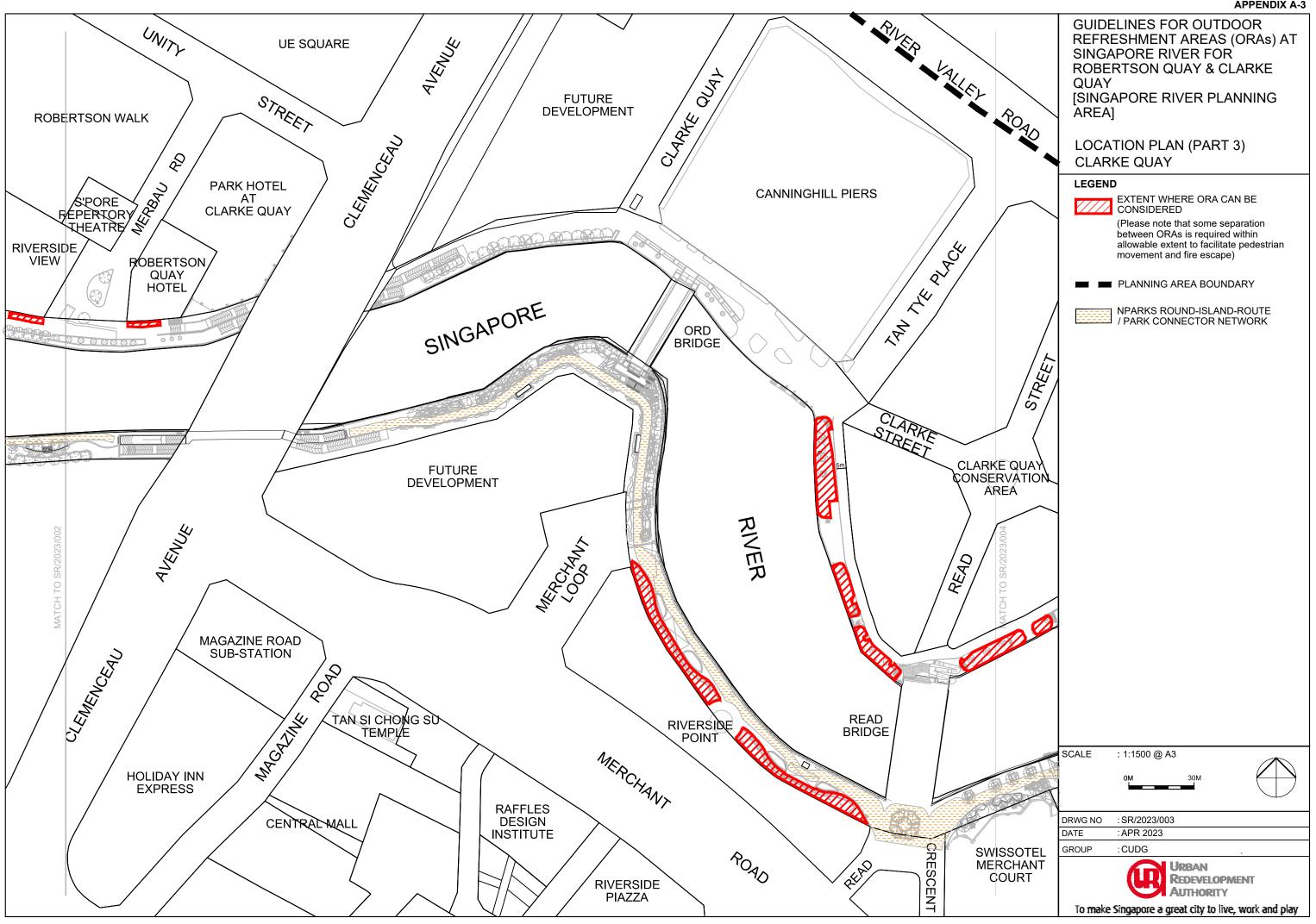
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please refer to the circular on "Framework for Managing Bonus Gross Floor Area Incentives" (Circular No: <u>URA/PB/2009/03-DCG</u>)

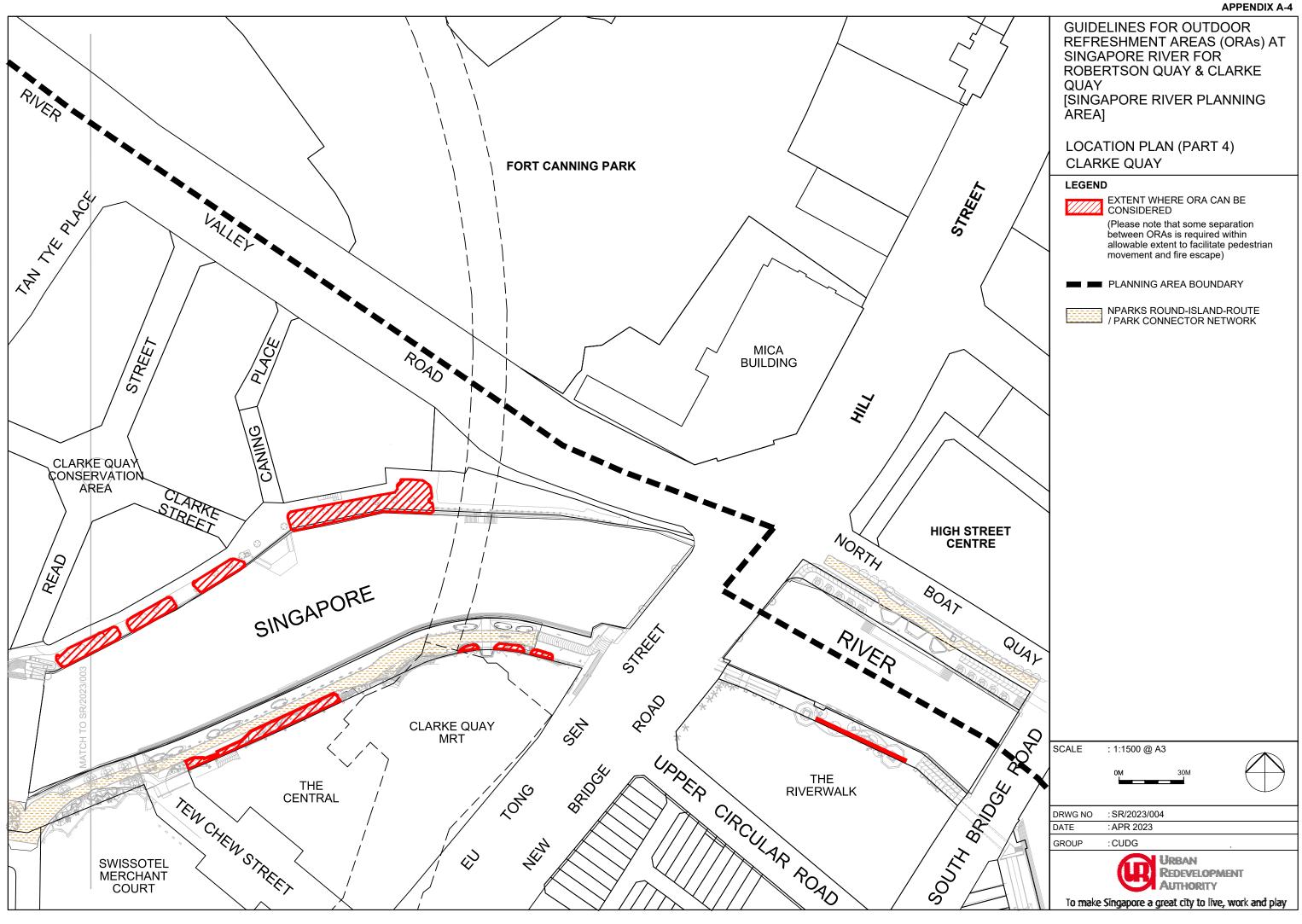
PARAMETER	GUIDELINES		
10.TREES & LANDSCAPING	Please comply with NParks' requirements as follows:  a Existing trees and shrubs are not to be pruned or removed;  b Tree aeration and planting areas are to be kept open to the sky;  c Tree aeration areas are not to be paved over or roofed over; and  d Ad-hoc elements, e.g. lights, are not to be introduced to the existing landscaping areas or trees (see Appendix A-8-6).		
11.TELEVISION SCREEN(S) & SPEAKERS	ROBERTSON QUAY  To minimize any potential disturbance to neighbouring uses and residents, outdoor music / radio or screening of TV programmes / sports / movies etc. are strictly not allowed within the ORAs.  TV screen(s) and speakers are only allowed within enclosed F&B units.  Any such screening within the indoor area of the adjoining F&B unit should not be installed near or at the entrance and should not face outwards towards the ORAs (see Appendix A-8-7).  For open-concept F&B units, TV screen(s) and speakers are strictly not allowed within the premise.	Relevant licenses are to be obtained and are subject to licensing conditions.	
12.PLANNING PERMISSION & TECHNICAL AGENCIES CLEARANCES	All ORA uses, whether with or without structures; and whether on State land or within private development boundaries, would require a Planning Permission. In areas where there may be concerns with potential disamenity arising from ORA operations, all proposals will be approved on a temporary basis with the issuance of a Temporary Permission, subject to renewal upon expiry.  In addition to the guidelines stipulated in this circular, all proposals are still subject to compliance and clearance from the other relevant authorities like Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF), Singapore Land Authority (SLA), NParks, Land Transport Authority (LTA), National Environment Agency (NEA), Public Utilities Board (PUB), etc. The requirements from the relevant authorities may affect the location, final allowable extent and layout of the ORAs for individual proposals.		

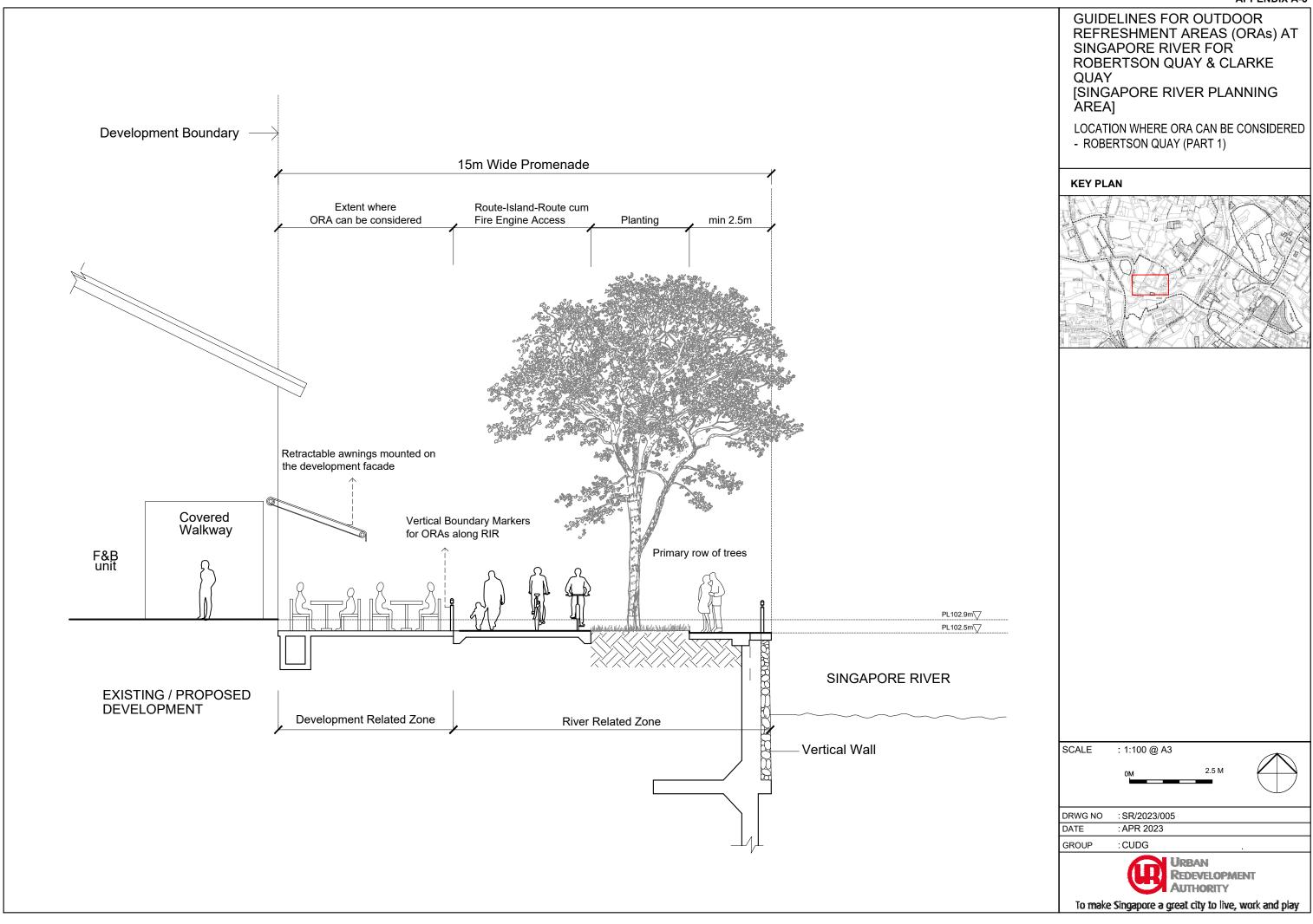
PARAMETER	GUIDELINES	
13.SUBMISSION REQUIREMENT	Standard Plans and Elevations showing:  a The location of the proposed ORA layout, in an appropriate scale, in relation to the surrounding features on the promenade, pedestrian mall and public space, such as walkways, landscaping, fire engine access, lighting etc, and the adjacent development;	
	b The layout of the indoor F&B unit, including the location and size of kitchen, and layout of the main indoor seating area, are to be included as part of the overall plan submission; and	
	c The boundary and boundary markers of the proposed ORA (see Appendix A-8-8).	
	Detailed Plan & Elevation in 1: 50 scale showing:  d The proposed structures such as awnings and furniture, as well as proposed signs, with annotation on the type and size of structure and materials.	
	Letter of Undertaking e To ensure better ownership of the ORA operations, ORA operators are required to submit a letter of undertaking (LOU) to declare that the ORAs are clearly demarcated, confined within approved boundaries, and will not cause disamenities. The letter of undertaking must be submitted upon application (see Appendix A-8-9).	

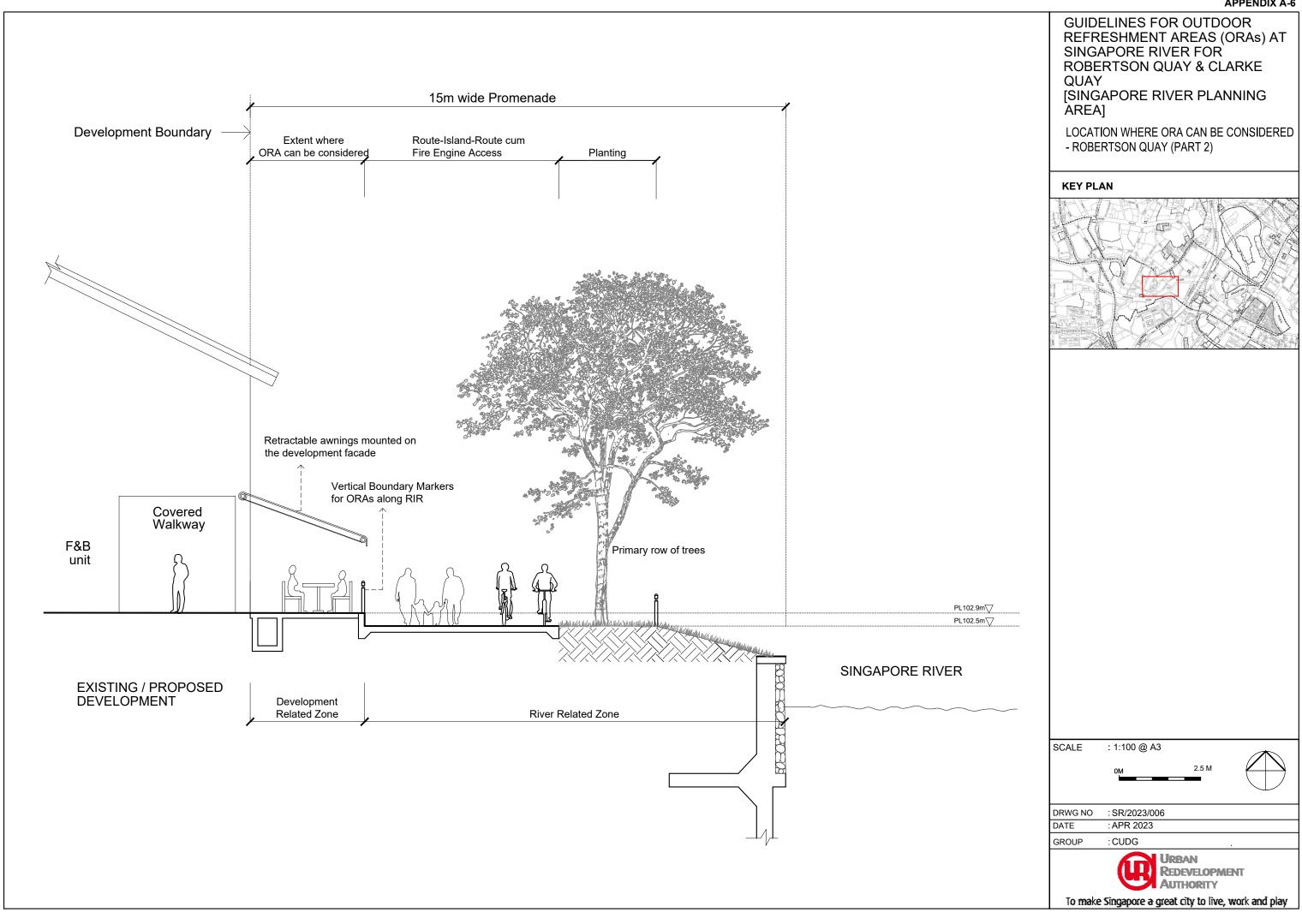


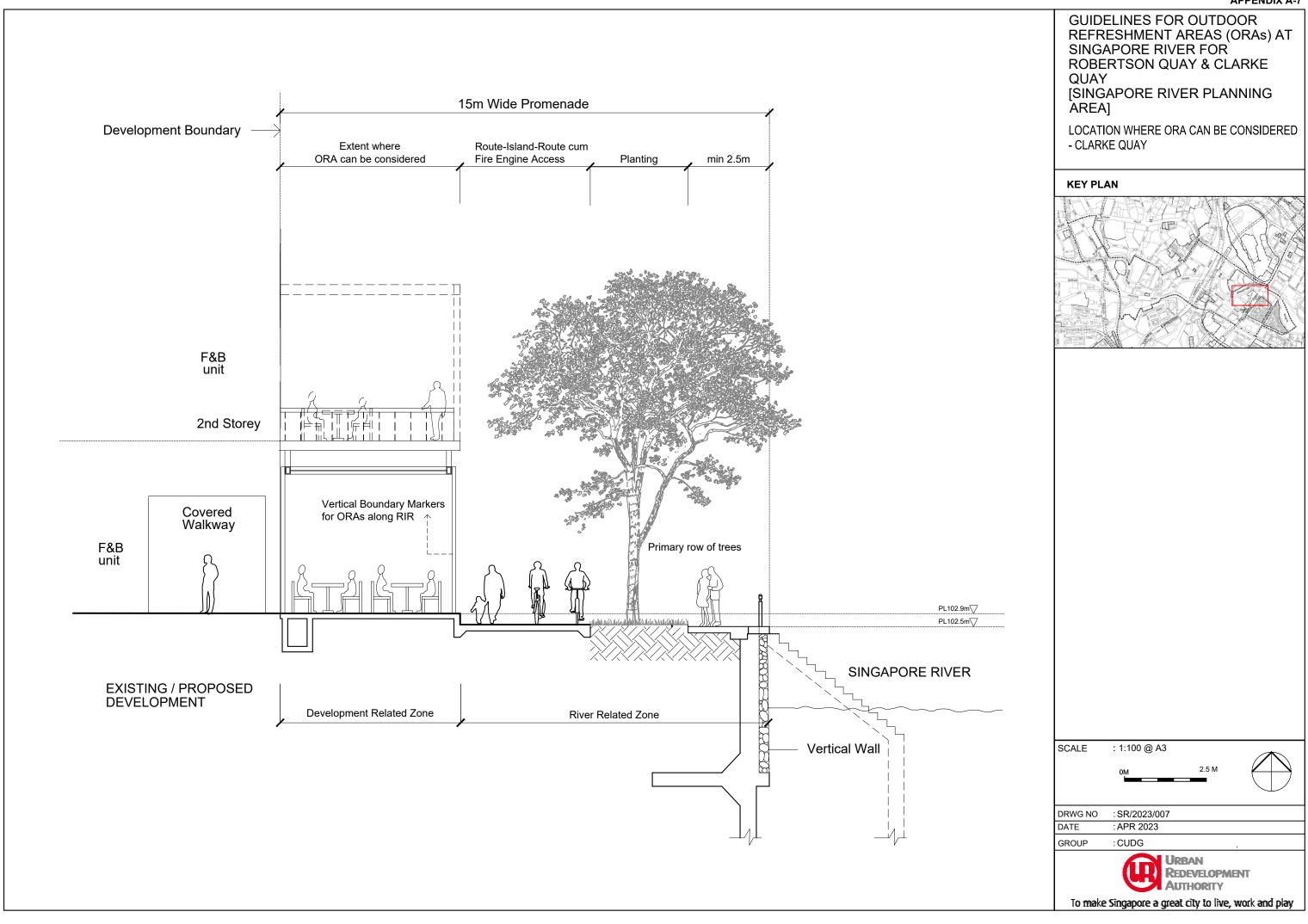












#### **EXAMPLE OF BOUNDARY MARKERS FOR ORAS**





Figure 1-1: Planter boxes or railings used to define the ORA boundary should be sizeable so that they are not easily removable.

#### **EXAMPLE OF GOOD ORA FRONTAGE**



Figure 2–1: Black tape marker to remain visible at all times for ORAs along the RIR. Dedicated queuing space of at least 0.6m for F&B customers within ORA black tape boundary. Use of a combination of planters and railings for demarcating between dining areas and queuing areas.

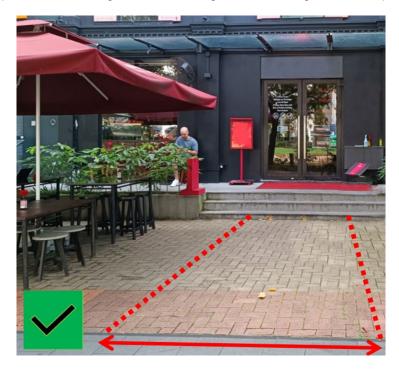


Figure 2-2: Minimum 1.5m clear walkway maintained to facilitate pedestrian movement.

#### **EXAMPLE OF AWNINGS AND UMBRELLAS AS SHELTERS FOR ORAS**





Figure 3-1: Awnings are to complement the scale and rhythm of the development façade, e.g. correspond to the column locations. Applicants should also seek clearances from SCDF on the location and extent of protrusion from the building facades.



Figure 3-2: Market-style umbrellas are supported if they do not abut the development façade, as they help to enhance the laid-back ambience of Robertson Quay.

#### **EXAMPLE OF PLACEMENT OF MENU STANDS WITHIN ORAS**

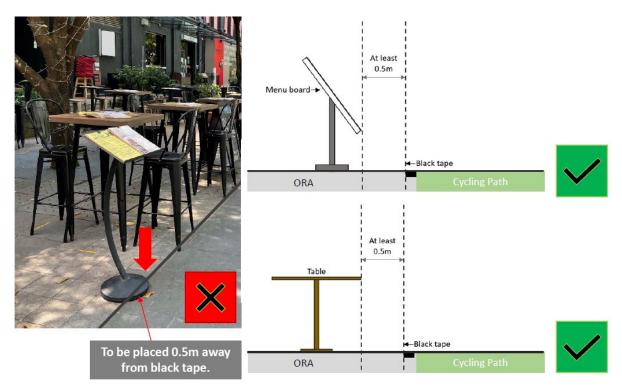


Figure 4-1: Stable and secure menu display stands or menu display tables are to be placed at least 0.5m away from black tape marker of ORA boundary. This is to allow space for F&B customers to safely browse menus out of the shared walking and cycling path.



Figure 4–2: Flimsy menu boards are not allowed to ensure safety of pedestrians and cyclist on the shared walking and cycling path.

## **EXAMPLE OF FREE-STANDING STRUCTURES**



Figure 5–1: Free-standing structures including any third-party advertisement signs or sponsor logos are not allowed.

## **EXAMPLE OF UNAUTHORISED ORA LIGHTINGS, SIGNAGES**



Figure 6–1: Unauthorized elements such as lights are not to be introduced to the existing landscaping or trees.

# EXAMPLE OF TV SCREEN(S) AND SPEAKERS PLACEMENT & DIRECTION FOR ORAS AND RESTAURANT/RESTAURANT AND BAR PREMISES FOR ROBERTSON QUAY

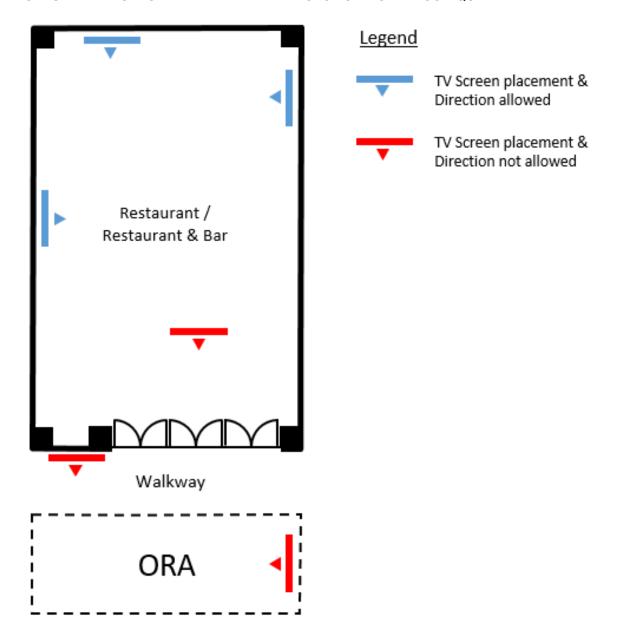
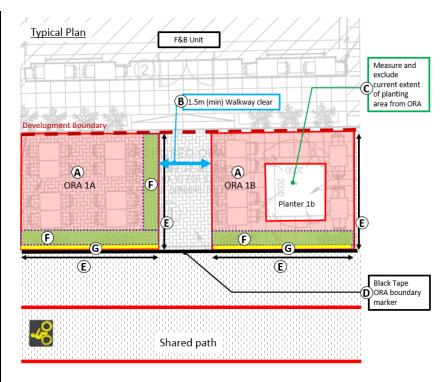


Figure 7-1: TV screen(s) and speakers are only allowed within enclosed F&B units. They are not to be installed near or at the entrance of the adjoining F&B unit. They are also to be placed at the back of the premise and should not face outwards towards the ORAs.

#### REQUIRED ANNOTATIONS TO ORA SUBMISSION PLANS

S/N	Required Annotations
Α	To demarcate ORA on State land (shown in red)
В	To keep a minimum of 1.5 meters clear for pedestrian passageway from entrance of F&B unit to outside path, as well as along the covered walkway
С	To demarcate, measure, and exclude the current extent of planting area on-site from the ORA.
D	To have annotation for "Black Tape ORA boundary marker" on plan for ORAs along the RIR.
E	Dimensions of ORA extents on State land and within private development boundary clearly indicated.
F	Dedicated Queuing area if provided – refer to Appendix A-8-2 for images.
G	Planter boxes / railings as boundary markers for ORAs along the RIR are to be within the ORA boundary.



Use	Area	Location
ORA 1A	XX sqm	State land (TOL)
	·	TS XX Lot XX
ORA 1B	XX sqm	State land (TOL)
	(x sqm – 1b planting area)	TS XX Lot XX
Total on State Land	XX sqm	

To: Chief Executive Officer
Urban Redevelopment Authority
As Competent Authority
Under the Planning Act (Cap. 232)

#### **LETTER OF UNDERTAKING**

PROPOSED .... (To insert project caption)

Whereas	(applicant's name)	(NRIC No. :	)	of
(address)	(hereinafte	r referred to as "the	Applicant") has ap	plied to the
Competer	nt Authority for planning	permission under s	ection 13 of the F	Planning Act
(Cap 232)	) to use the land on <u>(</u>	description of land for	<u>r ORA)</u> (hereina	fter referred
to as "the	e said land") for an Ou	tdoor Refreshment	Area for <u>(period</u>	of planning
permissio	n) from the Grant of Wr	ritten Permission.		

In consideration of the Competent Authority issuing the planning permission, the Applicant hereby undertakes as follows:

- a) to confine all uses for or relating to Outdoor Refreshment Area within the said land and any area demarcated for that purpose as shown in the approved plans of the planning permission; and
- b) to ensure that the uses for or relating to Outdoor Refreshment Area referred to in paragraph (b) above ("the ORA") does not encroach onto any public walkway.
- c) to have clear and effective demarcations of the ORA with markers that are not easily moveable and do not result in the enclosure of the ORA; and
- d) not have any playing of music/radio or screening of TV programmes within the ORA, to minimize disamenities to the residents.

The Applicant acknowledges and understands that the planning permission shall be issued by the Competent Authority subject to such conditions as the Competent Authority may impose and in the event of any breach or non-compliance with any of such conditions, the Competent Authority may, in the exercise of his powers under the aforesaid Act, cancel the said planning permission. Any such breach or non-compliance is also an offence under the aforesaid Act which will render the Applicant and other parties responsible liable to be prosecuted and on conviction to a maximum fine of Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$200,000) and a further fine not exceeding Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000) for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

Dated thisday of	20	23.
Signature and Name o	of Applicant	•
The Common Seal of		) )
xxxxxxxxxxx		) )
was hereunto affixed i	n the	) )
presence of:		)
Director		
Secretary/Director		