



National Parks Board

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A  Statutory Board

Our Ref: NP/GDP/Circular/2023/01

03 January 2023

CIRCULAR TO PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES

UPDATE TO GUIDELINES ON GREENERY PROVISION AND TREE CONSERVATION FOR DEVELOPMENTS

- 1 NParks has carried out a review of our guidelines on greenery provision and tree conservation for developments to better address prevailing development needs, and to provide industry practitioners greater clarity on the submission procedures.
- 2 The key changes are as follows:
 - a) We have carefully considered industry's feedback on operations, maintenance and safety concerns relating to the installation of grass pavers and decided to remove the need to install grass pavers for all open air parking area at street level. For avoidance of doubt, provision of planting areas is still required for all open air parking areas at street level.
 - b) Further to BCA's circular on "*Building Works Not Requiring Agencies' Clearances for TOP/CSC*" on 29 January 2021, we have identified a list of building works that do not require NParks' approvals at Development Control and Certificate of Statutory Completion stages.
- 3 We have updated NParks' Handbook on "Guidelines on Greenery Provision and Tree Conservation for Developments (Version 4)" accordingly. The Handbook is available at NParks' website. For a summary of the changes, please refer to **Annex A**.
- 4 The updated guidelines are slated to take effect on 30 January 2023.

5 Kindly convey the contents of this circular to your members. If you require further clarifications, please contact Ms Perlin Koh at 6471 7876 (email: perlin_koh@nparks.gov.sg) or Ms Lim Ming Hui at 6471 7822 (email: lim_ming_hui@nparks.gov.sg). Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Ang Wei Ping (Ms)
Group Director, Policy & Planning
for Commissioner of Parks and Recreation
National Parks Board

Encl.

Annex A to NP/GDP/Circular/2023/01

Chapter No	Chapter Title	Updates
3	<i>Greenery Provision Within Premises</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of multi-storey carpark from green buffer requirements for development boundaries fronting roads • Clarification on the length of encroachment for allowable structure(s) within planting areas • Removal of grass paver requirement for open air parking areas at street level • Update to planting scheme submission under NParks' streamlined application process
4	<i>Greenery Provision for Roadside</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement of the term "<i>fire engine hardstanding areas</i>" with "<i>fire engine accessways</i>" • Update to the specifications for Approved Soil Mixture (ASM) • Update to the Pedestrian Overhead Bridge trough soil specifications
5	<i>Planting Specifications of Trees/ Palms/ Shrubs/ Hedges/ Turf</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of establishment period for newly planted trees/palms • Update to staking requirement • Indication of turf species required for reinstatement
6	<i>Open Space for Landed Housing Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of NParks hotline from examples of NParks signs
8	<i>Submission Procedure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rearrangement of submission procedure stages • New section on <i>Building Works Not Requiring NParks' Approval at the Development Control and Certificate of Statutory Completion stages</i> • Removal of grass pavers requirements for open air parking areas at street level • New section on NParks' streamlined application process • Inclusion of developments affecting shrubs and ornamental plants under development projects requiring DC Approval
9	<i>Self-Declaration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of grass paver requirement for open air parking areas at street level