

25 building projects recognised for inclusive, user-friendly design



Skyville@Dawson at Dawson Road in Queenstown.
ST PHOTO: KUA CHEE SIONG

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SINGAPORE - From ramps incorporated into main routes around the estate to large light switches that are easy to reach within flats, the Housing Board project SkyVille@Dawson has many user-friendly features.

They have helped SkyVille@Dawson clinch the Building and Construction Authority's (BCA) highest award for inclusive design.

The housing estate in Dawson Road is one of three Platinum winners of the BCA Universal Design Mark 2016, and among 25 total winners that range from residential projects to malls and parks.

"Universal design is about addressing the needs of as many people as possible, including persons with disabilities and the elderly," said BCA's acting group director for building plan and management, Mr Teo Orh Hai.

This includes physical features such as ramps and corridors wide enough for wheelchairs, as well as facilities catering to all ages, such as playgrounds that incorporate fitness facilities for older adults.

Universal design also extends to subtler touches such as large, clear signs to help people find their way around, sheltered walkways and adequate seating.

For instance, at Bedok Mall and Bedok Residences - a Gold Plus winner - a large canopy links various forms of transport, from the MRT station and bus interchange to bicycle parking. Plenty of seating is also available throughout the integrated mall and private apartments, giving shoppers and residents places to rest.

Winners will receive their awards at the annual BCA Awards ceremony on May 26, at Resorts World Sentosa.