

# THE STRAITS TIMES

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» YOUTH OLYMPICS

## 15,000 cabbies support the bid

CITYCARE yesterday stepped up a gear in its drive to rally support for Singapore's bid to host the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in 2010.

The non-profit group has roped in the Republic's largest cab operator, Comfort DelGro, to help raise the bid's profile.

Singapore, Athens, Bangkok, Moscow and Turin are the five cities vying to host the multi-sport event for athletes aged between 14 and 18.

The International Olympic Committee will announce the winner in February.

Yesterday, 15 CityCare youth volunteers were at five Comfort DelGro diesel kiosks at Braddell, Sui Ming, Bukit Merah, Ubi and Bedok North, to paste car decals bearing the "We Support Singapore 2010" tagline onto taxis.

Nearly 15,000 decals will be

given out to Comfort DelGro cabs, which include the Comfort, Citicab and Yellow Top fleets.

Among the cab drivers who received a decal at the Braddell diesel kiosk was Sin Loon Heng, 56.

"I definitely support Singapore hosting the Youth Olympics," he said. "It will help make Singapore more well-known to the world. I'm sure we are more than capable of hosting it."

His colleague Michael Lee, 50, a swimming and table tennis fan, was looking forward to having the Games here.

"Sticking the decals is a good idea as it shows that people are supporting Singapore's bid," he said.

If anything, added cabby Said Kadir, 54, hosting the Games would mean "good business" with the influx of tourists here.

Members of the public can get

the car decals at 77th Street, Spectacle Hut and V.Hive outlets.

The decals are among 50,000 designed and produced jointly by CityCare and a network of collaborators, including 77th Street, Spectacle Hut, Fuji Xerox and V.Hive.

Last weekend, 70 CityCare youth volunteers gave out 4,800 decals to shoppers at VivoCity.

Some 800 shoppers also penned well-wishes for Singapore's bid, which will be transferred onto a banner and showcased at the mall.

CityCare volunteer Jonathan Wong, 22, was delighted to play a part in rallying support.

Said the Singapore Institute of Management student: "The Youth Olympic Games is a national project, not just about youths."

JEANETTE WANG



RAISING BID PROFILE: Cabby Sin Loon Heng (left) and volunteer Jonathan Wong at the Braddell diesel kiosk yesterday.

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