Two people, Lin Guang Ming (hanyu pinyin) and Dr Vincent Chua, received the Public Service Medal for going beyond the call of duty to serve and improve the lives of others in their communities.

Lin is General Secretary of the Singapore Industrial & Services Employees’ Union. He hopes to continue to raise the skills of elderly and low-waged workers so that they can remain relevant in the workforce.

53 year old Dr Vincent Chua (Assistant Professor of Economics at SMU) does not have a driver’s license because he does not see the need for one. He commutes by bus daily and also encourages his family to do so. He uses the journey time to meditate on things or catch up with his reading. He has shared his commuter experience with the Public Transport Council, where he is a council member. He notes that Singapore has a world-class public transport network, however, there is room for improvement of service standards. Through a rewards and encouragement system, he helped to encourage public transport staff to improve their service levels, in turn reduce the waiting and travelling times for commuters.

With the increasing population, he hopes more Singaporeans will come to make use of land, bus and MRT transport systems in more economical ways.