



### **MAHA Metro Releases Traffic Diversion Plan for PCMC**

*The diversion plan created by COEP to be implemented on the experiment basis on Tuesday*

**Pune, 21 July 2017:** To avoid traffic congestion and to complete the construction work of Metro in time, Pune Metro Rail Project has released a phase wise traffic diversion plan for the line one to be constructed in Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC). The diversion plan will be implemented on the experimental basis on Tuesday, July 25. The metro authority released the information in a press conference.

The diversion plan has been created by the expert team from the College of Engineering, Pune (COEP) and it has been shared with the traffic police department of PCMC. The press conference to provide this information was jointly attended by Shrinivas Kulkarni, chief project manager, MAHA Metro, Prof. Pratap Raval, town planning department, COEP, Rajendra Bhambre, Assistant police commissioner, PCMC Zone 3 and Neeraj Jain, general consultant, MAHA Metro.

While elaborating on the traffic diversion plan, representatives of MAHA Metro informed that the work on Metro line one between PCMC to Range Hill has been in progress since June 2017. MAHA Metro will be constructing the line between PCMC to Range Hill in several phases. It will take the authority at-least 30 months to construct this line. In this period, they will divert the traffic

accordingly. According to them these diversions will ensure smooth functioning of the traffic and will provide metro ample space to function and complete the work on time.

According to the Metro authority, construction work for the pillar is being carried out by barricading half part of the concrete road at Nashik Phata.

Currently, traffic is moving in a single lane of a main concrete road near the Metro work site. It is causing congestion and inconvenience to both commuters and the Metro construction. This congestion may cause a delay in Metro's construction work.

To avoid such situation, COEP was appointed as consultants by MAHA Metro to create a detailed traffic plan. COEP had conducted traffic surveys for making suitable diversion plans considering safety and convenience of the citizens. Based on their surveys and data collection, they have created a suitable diversion plan.

Construction of concrete pillars in the straight portions from Harris Bridge to Mega Mart signal chowk and Nashik Phata to Kharalwadi, Pimpri will begin in phases.

Prof. Raval from CEOP explained the diversion plan. He said, “For Mumbai bound traffic, we have suggested to close the central median concrete road for Metro construction work. All the vehicles will be diverted to the service road from Harris bridge to Mega Mart signal chowk.”

He further informed that the Mumbai bound traffic from the Mega Mart signal chowk can use both central concrete road as well as service road up to Nashik Phata intersection as per their convenience. From Nashik Phata intersection, the traffic will be diverted to service road from Indian oil petrol pump to Kharalwadi merge in.

For Pune bound traffic from Kharalwadi to Nashik Phata and from Mega Mart signal chowk to Harris bridge, one lane is reserved for Metro Construction work and only one will be available for regular traffic. In case of emergency 2 to 3 merge outs will be made available to exit traffic on service road.

ACP Bhambre informed that the traffic police department has examined the plan by collective visits with the teams from COEP and Metro. “As we will close one lane for the traffic on the main, the BRT lanes which are currently not under use will be opened up for two wheelers. This will further segregate the traffic and help us all in smooth functioning,” he said. ACP Bhambre has also informed that the Metro will appoint required traffic wardens at diversion points in 3 shifts to ensure smooth flow of traffic.

Pune Metro authority also informed that all the mandatory sign boards with important information and cautionary signs will be erected at 500-meter point before the actual work site. Also, blinkers and retro reflective boards will be erected for safe movement of traffic during the night hours.