The Best Way to Predict the Future Smart City Is to Design It!

Smart City PUNE

Pune’s Sustainable Transportation Initiatives
Walking

Walking is the most fundamental mode of travel. Recognizing that pedestrians must be provided convenience, dignity and safety, PMC wants to make Pune a pedestrian friendly city.

Pedestrian Policy

The policy is a milestone in our efforts to provide consistent, high quality pedestrian infrastructure with equitable allocation of road space.

Pune streets program

Around 100 km of streets across the city will be redesigned with wide, safe and continuous footpaths in coming years. Eminent urban designers in the country will design pedestrian infrastructure in localities like the Old City, Deccan Gymkhana and Jangali Maharaj & Fergusson College Roads, Satara and Solapur Roads, and Sinhagad Road.

Lakshmi road, a shopping destination in Pune, will be designed as pedestrian friendly street to provide an international quality experience to shoppers.

Under the Smart Cities Mission, around 45 km of streets will be redesigned. Residents around 1.5 km of streets in Aundh-Baner-Balewadi will soon enjoy well designed and pedestrian friendly streets.
Cycling

Today: 9% share
Target: 25% share

Existing Modal Split
- Walking 23%
- Cycling 9%
- Two-wheelers 31%
- Cars 7%
- Buses 19%
- Auto Rickshaws 5%
- Train 2%

A plan for revival

Pune was once a cycling city, but the number of personal vehicles has skyrocketed in recent years, at the cost of bicycles, leading to increasing pollution levels and congestion. Bicycling share in Pune’s transportation scenario has now dwindled down to 9% – for which Pune’s Comprehensive Mobility Plan has set a target of 25%. This increase won’t take place without a plan.

Bicycle Plan
PMC has hired professional consultants to create the Pune Bicycle Plan which will include dedicated bicycle tracks, bicycle parking, signal priority for bicycles, … whatever it takes to make cycling safe and attractive in Pune.

Public Bicycle Sharing System
PMC is planning a Public Bicycle Sharing system for Aundh-Baner-Balewadi (ABB) under the local area development plan of the Smart Cities Mission, with about 1,250 cycles available at more than 100 cycle stations. The scheme will be extended to the entire city and won’t be limited to ABB alone.

Task Forces
PMC has formed specific task forces for overseeing planning and implementation of various transportation projects - Parking Management Cell, Sustainable Transportation Cell and Non-Motorized Transportation Cell. In addition, the Planning Cell will monitor all sustainable transportation projects and ensure their quality. These cells will have experts from respective domains.
Urban Street Design Guidelines

Streets are for all users – not only vehicles, but also pedestrians, public transportation and cyclists. They are great meeting and vending places too! Our streets must be designed for all uses they support, capturing the essence of the surrounding locality. Therefore, Pune has developed “Urban Street Design Guidelines” to ensure that appropriate street types and design elements are implemented to create better streets for people.

Parking policy

For allocating road space to all uses and modes, the policy says that parking is not a right but a commodity. It streamlines parking supply and rates. It will get Pune closer to its goals of supporting 40% trips by public transportation and reducing use of personal vehicles, and transform at least 10% on street parking to public spaces by year 2031 by creating a modern and effective parking management system.

Trenching policy

PMC has decided to adopt “Trenchless Technology” so that digging the roads for laying utilities can be minimized.

Road maintenance

PMC is setting up a “Road Ambulance” for expediting road maintenance and repairs.
The bus service is Pune’s lifeline, and PMC is committed to make it a true “public” transportation system – a system that every person can use conveniently and safely. This means we have to nearly double public transportation ridership, and quickly. To support a daily ridership of 19 lakhs by 2017, PMC will be strengthening the public transportation fleet by adding 1,500 more buses.

**Smart Mobility**
To make public transportation more convenient and attractive for first time users as well as regular commuters, Pune is also automating ticketing with a card called Mobility Integration (MI) card. MI means myself in Marathi – and portrays the sense of ownership. In future, the MI card can be used for all your mobility needs – for paying parking fees, for metro tickets, even paying rickshaw fare too! All buses will be fitted with GPS tracking, so that a mobile “app” can accurately tell you when the next bus to your destination will arrive.

**Business Plan**
Of course, PMC understands that the public transportation company’s-PMPML’s expansion needs to be planned carefully. PMC has hired professional business consultants to develop a 10 year business plan for PMPML, to improve its operational, institutional and financial structure.
Adding more buses, though necessary, is futile if buses get stuck in traffic, thus making public transportation unreliable. Pune needs an extensive network of high quality Mass Rapid Transit system that provides reliable and comfortable commute. Rainbow Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) has started addressing this need by providing dedicated lanes for buses, closed stations, step-less boarding and passenger information system. Rainbow BRT has been successful in attracting people from other modes: 12% of its riders used other modes before Rainbow was launched.

Network Expansion
After experiencing the 16 km Rainbow network in Pune today, people are demanding more. Quick expansion is on the cards with 15 km Rainbow corridors under planning and designing. The city is also redesigning 15 km of Pilot BRT corridors on the lines of Rainbow infrastructure. Additional corridors are coming up in Pimpri-Chinchwad too. When these corridors in the planning phase would be completed, the Rainbow network in the Pune Metropolitan Region will be more than 90 km, providing rapid, “Rainbow” mobility to more than 7 lakh commuters by next year.
Metro Rail

The 31km Vanaz-Ramwadi and Swargate-Pimpri corridors are expected to cost about Rs 11,500 Cr. These corridors will have 31 stations in all. A dedicated Metro Cell has been established to work on the project. PMC has had preliminary discussions with JICA, ADB and World Bank for external financial assistance for the project.

The Metro will optimally carry about 10 lakh riders daily in 2021, which would go up to about 12 lakh by 2031. The Metro will provide an attractive and safe mobility option to people living and working near the Vanaz-Ramwadi and Swargate-Pimpri corridors.

HCMTR

The High Capacity Mass Transit Route (HCMTR) encircles a large part of the cities of Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. The 37 km stretch of this route lying in Pune forms a large part of HCMTR. This route will be predominantly for Mass Rapid Transit, which could be a Metro, a BRT or an LRT. A consultant has been appointed to prepare a feasibility report, which will study and compare various MRT options for this route.
Smart is **sustainable**. Let us conserve urban space. Let us embrace non-polluting solutions. Let us use our money wisely.

Smart is **inclusive**. This city is for the poor and the rich. Old and young. Weak and strong. Let us think of the disadvantaged groups first - if they can use this city, all of us can.

Smart is **environment friendly**. Let us walk more, bus more and cycle more. Let us make all these more attractive and convenient than using a car.

Smart is **efficient**. Smart is **reliable**. Let us use modern technology and develop solutions that will help us do all this efficiently and reliably.

And above all, smart is **happy**. Let us bring people together, out in the open. To shop, to eat, to take an evening stroll.

The LED symbolizes "**smart**". Let us get rid of the old incandescent light bulb ideas from our head and embrace ideas whose time has come!