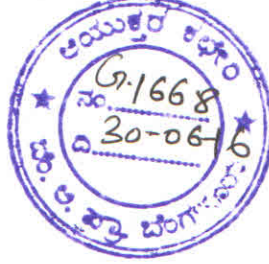




To,

June 30, 2016

Dr. Rajkumar Khatri,  
Commissioner,  
Bangalore Development Authority (BDA),  
T.Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West,  
Bangalore – 560020



**Subject: Objection to the proposed six-lane steel flyover from Hebbal to Basaveshwara Circle**

Respected Sir,

On behalf of Namma Bengaluru Foundation and the Citizens of Bengaluru, we wish to register our strong opposition to the proposed Rs 1,350 crore 6.7-km steel flyover from Hebbal to Basaveshwara Circle. In our opinion, the proposed development would only add more fuel to the raging fire of traffic congestion in Bengaluru and hence needs immediate reconsideration.

Taking a leaf out of Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari's recent remark that, "multiple flyovers will not fix the core problem of mobility", we believe that Bengaluru needs a comprehensive mobility plan with focus and largescale investment in public transportation. Keeping this in mind, we would like to bring to your notice that the proposed steel flyover comes across as a strong signal from the government that they prefer to cater the private sector instead of giving public transport a much-needed push.

This project is yet another instance of adhoc planning and there is no details of how this integrates with broader Master Plan. There is complete absence of details about the project in public domain and inviting citizens to provide their feedback is farcical as they can't evaluate the utility of the proposed project holistically. There appears to be an undue haste in getting this project tendered and the public have not been informed about the comparative analysis on alternate models done by your authority. This project also has not detailed the environmental impact of undertaking the project and according to various media reports over 500 trees will be cut for this project. For Bengaluru which is a city of global attraction and admiration, this steel behemoth will threaten the aesthetics of our garden city.

For a project of this magnitude, the time provided for submitting responses by citizens has been very less. We demand that a period of at least fifteen days is provided and a proper public consultation is done. This consultation should be preceded by making available all the suggestions received by the public at least ten-five days in advance through your authority's website. More importantly, specifications and all available technical and other details of the Flyover should be placed in media and website before seeking comments or objections.

A holistic multi modal transportation plan for city is the need of the hour. For starters, Bengaluru should emulate the Mumbai suburban Commuter Rail System that is a high capacity mass transit option at a much cheaper cost. The Suburban commuter rail system has been delayed and no real progress has been made on the ground. Secondly, the government must consider increasing public transport options to and from the Kempegowda International Airport. For instance, tripling the number of buses plying in our city would help ease congestion. Lastly, it is imperative that due consideration must be given to non-motorized transport facilities besides focusing on major road networks for the entire city.

We firmly believe that there is an urgent need to decongest Bengaluru and hence it is critical not only to upgrade the road infrastructure within the city, but to create an integrated transport infrastructure in the Bangalore Metropolitan Region (BMR) as a whole.

In light of the above, we hereby urge you to reject the proposed steel-flyover and instead consider more practical solutions to resolve Bengaluru's mobility woes.

With Regards,



Sridhar Pabbisetty,  
CEO, Namma Bengaluru Foundation

CC

1. Shri KJ George, Hon'ble Minister for Bengaluru Development and Town Planning,  
Government of Karnataka  
Room No. 316-314A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore – 560001

2. Shri. Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble Member of Rajya Sabha  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Vishveshwaraiah Towers, Dr Ambedkar vidi, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore -  
560001

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30/6/2016.

