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Municipal Commissioner,  
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9<sup>th</sup> September, 2011



**Subject: Revision of the Development Plan for Mumbai 2014-2034-  
ENVIRONMENT**

This is in follow up to our earlier letter to you dated 29<sup>th</sup> July 2011. on the subject of facilitating and ensuring wider consultation in the formulation of the Development Plan of Mumbai 2014-2034.

The DP stakeholder group on environment believes that there is an urgent need to address the environment in the revision of the development plan. We would like to outline below the key principles with regards to some aspects of environment in the revision of the Development Plan for Greater Mumbai. The “**key principles**” are the following:

**Open spaces in the Development Plan**

To **protect and enhance** the open spaces of Greater Mumbai by ensuring that they are **free of any construction, permeable and open to sky**. There should be an **immediate and complete freeze** on all the Reservations in the current DP and no change of user should be allowed by the MCGM or the state government till the time the proposed development plan comes into force. A standard of **3 sqm of public open space on the ground per person** should be set as a target to be achieved in the revised development plan.

**Mangroves in the Development Plan**

The mangrove ecosystems which are the lungs and kidneys of the city and which protect the city from flooding and extreme climate events should be **protected along with their habitats and their associated flora and fauna and included as reservations in the new Development Plan**. It is imperative that the mangroves be retained in their natural condition.

**Water systems and Flood Mitigation in the Development Plan**

Rivers, streams, lakes and creeks should be clearly identified and included as reservations in the new Development Plan with their appropriate names.

The Chitale Committee report recommends a design capacity for 80mm/hr of rainfall. (this is a 25 year high). This should be the standard taken when designing for flood control. For delineating flood plains the 50 year high of 100mm / hour should be considered.

Efforts should be made towards ensuring the quality of water in these water bodies. Directions from the Ministry of environment and forests with respect to the protection of all water bodies should be met.

**Rivers, Streams and Nalas:** These should be revived as clean natural rivers and streams

**Lakes and Ponds:** Maintain Water quality in lakes and be reserved in the development plan as 'Water Body'. They are to be left open to public access. The buffer zones /flood plains of these lakes to be maintained as open space

**Creeks, Beaches and Sea fronts:** These will be protected as per the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) prepared by the Government of Maharashtra. The Development Plan to correlate identically with the CZMP. Beaches should also be reserved in the Development plan.

### **Hill Slopes**

All hill slopes should be reserved in the Development Plan. These are then to be maintained in their natural condition in order to mitigate flooding by absorption of rain water on hill slopes and landslides.

### **Solid waste disposal in the Development plan**

A separate management authority for MSW should be considered as a part of the current Development Plan. Efforts should be made towards achieving 100% collection and transportation of waste with the underlying directive principle being segregation and recycling of waste such that self sustainability in management and disposal is achieved. Care should be taken to achieve maximum coverage and highest standards even in the informal settlements.

### **Water supply Distribution and Sewerage in the Development Plan**

Efforts should be made towards ensuring the supply of clean drinking water while ensuring the self sustainability of water supply systems. Processes of recycling and reuse should be incorporated into the development plan regulations. Sewage should be treated and disposed in the sea such that receiving water quality standards of Government of India are maintained.



### Air Quality and pollution Control in the development Plan

Efforts should be made to meet the WHO norms for ambient Air Quality by provisioning for proper rail and road public transport and restricting the vehicular pollution. The air pollution caused by the construction industry and the burning of refuse and garbage should also be regulated.

Please find attached the detailed pointers attached in the form of annexes to each of the principles discussed above. These detailed pointers have been prepared by the members of the stakeholder groups working on these issues on the ground.

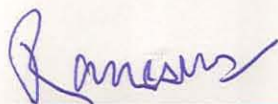
The Environment Group strongly believes that the above mentioned processes are crucial and important order to produce a "People's Brief" for the new Development Plan of Mumbai. We would be happy to meet you to elaborate further on our concerns regarding the importance of taking the environmental concerns into consideration for the revision of the Development Plan.

With kind regards,

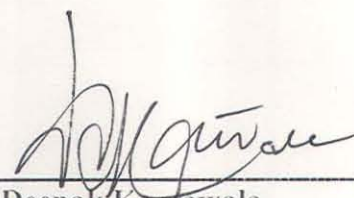
Yours sincerely,



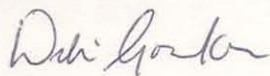
Shyam Asolekar  
CESE, IIT Bombay



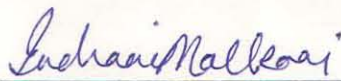
Rakesh Kumar  
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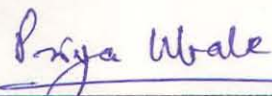
Deepak Kantawala



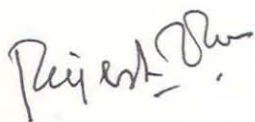
Debi Goenka  
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Indrani Malkani  
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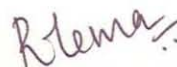
Priya Ubale  
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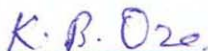
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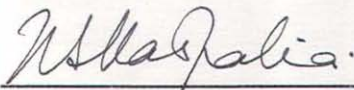
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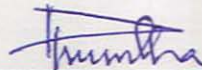
Hema Ramani  
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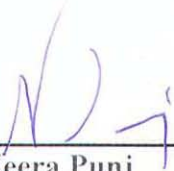
Kunti Oza  
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and Clean Sweep Forum



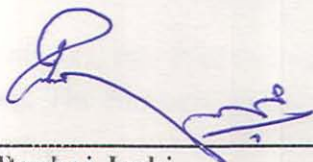
Nayana Kathpalia  
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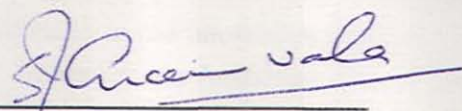
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