URBAN DESIGN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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Shri Subodh Kumar
Municipal Commissioner,
MCGM Headquarters,
Mahapalika Marg,
Mumbai 400 001

5th September, 2011

Dear Shri Subodh Kumar,

Subject: Revision of the Development Plan for Mumbai 2013-2034-

GOVERNANCE

This is in follow up to our earlier letter to you dated 29th July 2011.

We would like to outline below the key points on two aspects of the preparation of the revised Development Plan for Mumbai. The first is the **methodology of the preparation of the Existing Land Use Plan** and the second is in regard to **setting up a public participatory process** for the revision of the Development Plan

Methodology of the preparation of the Existing Land Use Plan

1. Informal slum settlements should clearly be identified and also the **condition of the tenements within them**. It is important to indicate whether the location of these tenements is on **tenable or non tenable land**.
2. **Informal shopping, hawking and vending zones** should be clearly delineated in the land use maps.
3. **Industrial/ manufacturing areas existing within the informal areas should be clearly identified by type and density.** Inventorization of this information needs to be carried out.
4. Delineation of areas and **land parcels that are not currently being used to their optimal capacity** should be carried out.
5. The levels of the different basic services that are being provided within these slums such as roads and pathways, water and sanitation, health facilities and education facilities should also be mapped in order to assess the requirements of these in slum settlements.
6. **Networks of all basic services** should be clearly represented on the existing land use map of the city.
7. There should be a clear and distinct category in the land use plan of **Beaches**, so as to prevent their further misuse.

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8. Different **water channels and the density of populations** that reside around them should be clearly depicted on the existing land use maps. **Contour mapping** that shows surface water drainage patterns and volumes should be undertaken. Different kinds of areas that have **dense vegetation** should be identified and classified in the existing land use. (i.e. mangroves, forest, grass lands).

<u>Setting up a public participatory process</u>

1. The intent of setting up a public participatory process is to make the revised Development Plan responsive to people's needs and to make the plan "**open efficient and equitable**".
2. **A Two tiered public consultation cum participation system** could be set up at the level of an electoral ward and an Administrative Ward to be presided over by a planning officer for each level to be appointed/ designated by the MCGM.
3. The public participation process should be widely publicized via the print and television media, with substantial public awareness about the impending process.
4. Nature of suggestions and objections filed will differ at each level of participation and consultation. Electoral Ward level suggestions will be filed at the assigned/ designated locations for being considered by the electoral ward level designated officer while the Administrative Ward level or infrastructure suggestions could be filed with the Ward Officer.
5. In order to facilitate the citizen in providing relevant suggestions, it will useful to have an informative and guided feedback form which should be appropriately designed to help differentiate the planning issues from other general ones. The UDRI will be happy to draft such a form and submit it for your consideration.
6. A comprehensive report should be filed by the presiding Planning Officer at each level containing the filed suggestions and reasons for either accepting or rejecting them.
7. In order to facilitate citizen participation and awareness, a booklet should be published tracing the history of the DP and providing critical information about DP and its changes/processes etc as well as the present assignment handed over to external consultant. Such a booklet must be available both in print and online to everyone. UDRI has initiated the process of preparation of such a booklet.
8. This report should be passed on to the Consultant who can evaluate the suggestions and objections for inclusion/in the draft of the revised Developed Plan.

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9. Such a process will ensure that resistance faced by the Development Plan with regard to its implementation is reduced to the minimum. People will monitor and support the implementation of the land use zoning and reservations in the revised Development Plan.
10. Above all, this process will garner a sense of ownership among the citizens for the Development Plan which, in turn, will ensure the upkeep and maintenance of the various amenities provided in the revised Development Plan.

The Governance Group strongly believes that the above mentioned processes are crucial and important in order to produce a **"People's Brief"** for the revised Development Plan of Mumbai.

We are separately writing on similar lines to the planning consultant group SCE who have been commissioned by the MCGM for the purpose of preparing the draft revised Development Plan of Mumbai.

We would be happy to meet you to elaborate further on our concerns regarding the importance of the public consultation process and the preparation of the existing land use maps via a substantial and widespread public interface.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

D M Sukthanker Former Municipal Commissioner	**Sharad Kale** Former Municipal Commissioner	**Jamshed Kanga** Former Municipal Commissioner
Amita Bhide Associate professor – TISS	**Nishit Kumar** CHILDLINE India Foundation	**Priya Ubale** Clean sweep Forum

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