HUBLI-DHARWAD BRTS COMPANY LIMITED

Minutes of the Public Consultation Meeting held at Hubli on 02.02.2013

The list of the officers present is enclosed in Annexure-1.

The Public Consultation was jointly organized by Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd and the Directorate of Urban Land Transport at Samarat hall, NWKRTC Convention Hall, Gokul Road, Hubli on 02.02.2013 from 11.00 am onwards. The purpose of the consultation was to share information about the Implementation of BRTS project at Hubli-Dharwad, land acquisition details, Resettlement Action Plan, environment impacts and their mitigation measures with the project affected persons from Hubli city limit. More than 250 people actively participated in the consultation programme.

The programme began with welcome note by Mr. Manjunath Jedennavar, Social Development Officer, HDBRTSCO followed by a brief on the Hubli-Dharwad project by Mr. Noor Mansoor, Managing Director, HDBRTSCO. A presentation to the participants on Hubli-Dharwad BRTS project with specific focus on its salient features, land requirements and acquisition process, the details of Resettlement Action Plan, and entitlements as per entitlement matrix, the environmental impact assessment, the environmental management plan etc was made by Mr. Revanna, Transport Planner and Ms. Veena Nirwani, Assistant Director, Directorate of Urban Land Transport. A list of frequently asked
questions was prepared in Kannada regarding Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Project including Resettlement Action Plan etc and was circulated to the participants.

After the presentation made by officers of DULT, the Land Acquisition Officer informed the participants about the documents that need to be submitted by the project affected persons.

Ms. Manjula V., Commissioner DULT and Chairman HDBRTSCO, clarified the following issues raised by the public during the consultation meeting.

**a. Project related questions:**

i. A participant requested clarification about the RoW details at various locations. It was clarified that the RoW at different stretches on the road between Hubli and Dharwad is as follows:

Hosur Circle, Hubli to Naveen Hotel, Hubli: **35m**  
Naveen Hotel, Hubli to Gandhinagar Cross, Dharwad: **44m**  
Gandhinagar Cross, Dharwad to Jubliee Circle, Dharwad: **35m**

ii. Few of the participants made a request to consider the option of providing flyover instead of a Vehicle Under Pass at Unkal cross, as the VUP would block the view on the either side and hence may affect the business in that area. It was clarified to the participants that there are no flyovers proposed in the project and that three VUPs were already part of the KRDC 2 lane to 4 lane widening project. An additional VUP has been proposed under the Hubli-Dharwad BRTS project. It was also briefed to the participants that the land required for constructing a flyover is more than that for the VUP and hence proposing a flyover would
not be a feasible option. However, the participants were informed that their request would be examined.

iii. One of the participants raised his concern on the safety of the pedestrians crossing the mixed traffic lanes to reach the BRT stations. The participants were briefed on the various safety provisions like raised pedestrian crossings, foot over bridges, pelican signals and incorporation of pedestrian cycle in the signals being made within the project. In addition to these provisions it was also informed to the participants that pedestrian safety plans would be prepared and the Company would carry out regular pedestrian safety audits. All these details would be disclosed on the Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company's website for public information.

iv. One of the participant sought clarification why the BRT lanes were located at the centre of the RoW instead of at the sides. The participants were informed that having a BRT lane along the sides will result in interference to bus movement because of the side roads opening into the BRT lanes at frequent intervals.

v. On the issue of whether stopping of bus at every junction/ bus station would increase travel time for commuters, it was clarified that BRT project also has a component of Intelligent Transport System. Signal synchronizing along the corridor is proposed to facilitate smooth movement of vehicles and reduce waiting times at the junctions. Also it was informed to the participants that there
would be two kinds of bus services viz express service with very limited stops and regular service stopping at all the stops.

vi. Answering to one of the question it was clarified that provision for footpath has been made for both 44m and 35 m RoW.

vii. One of the female participant enquired whether provisions have been made for drainage and UGD within the project. It was clarified that only the road side drainage facilities is being covered under the project. Providing UGD does not fall under the purview of the Project.

viii. Answering to a similar question on utilities, it was informed to the participants that all the utilities would be shifted to the edge of the mixed traffic lanes.

ix. A participant enquired on the likely increase in the bus fare after the commissioning of BRT. It was indicated that the increase in bus fares over the existing rates could be around 10 to 15 percent. However, the fares would be fixed based on prevailing fuel prices etc at the time of commissioning of the BRT and disclosed to the Public.

x. It was informed to the participants that the Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Project is planned to be commissioned in January, 2015.

xi. There were references by participants to failure of BRT in Delhi and Pune. It was clarified that there were highly successful models too and the Hubli-Dharwad BRTS project is designed incorporating the best practices learnt from other such projects.

b. Land acquisition related questions:

xii. A group of people pointed out that the notification issued under the Karnataka Highways Act indicates a uniform RoW of 44m at all
locations and requested to issue a Corrigendum. It was informed to the participants that the notification issued is only a preliminary notification and that after the joint measurement survey is completed, the final notification would be issued. All the discrepancies in the preliminary notification would be rectified in the final notification.

xiii. One of the project affected persons whose land may be acquired to a substantial extent wished to know if the remaining property would also be acquired as it may be unfit for any use. It was informed to the participants in such cases, they may give a written requisition/ objection in this regard and the requests would be dealt on case by case basis.

xiv. In a reply to a question, it was clarified that the project affected persons who are losing their total land due to the project will not be entitled to any other alternate plot in the city or elsewhere. The entitlements will be strictly as per the entitlement matrix approved by the Government of Karnataka for the Project.

xv. Few of the participants indicated that in cases of plots where part of the plot is acquired, the set back norms should not be applied for the remaining portion of the plot. It was informed to the participants that the Revised Master Plan for Hubli-Dharwad is under preparation and this aspect would be examined and if necessary, the relevant regulations would be modified.

xvi. One of the senior resident of Unkal requested that the project should not affect the holy places especially the Siddeshwara Temple which is holy place and has a historic and religious importance. Similarly
residents of Bairdevarakoppa gave a representation and requested the chairman of the Company to avoid the acquisition of Dargha at Bairdevarakoppa. The Chairman informed to the participants that in case of religious structures concerned community members would be consulted and relocation would be after consultation with the community.

In addition to the above queries, it was informed to the participants that around 50% of the individual notices have been served on the project affected persons. A Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) would be constituted to enable the project affected persons to submit grievances, if any. It was also informed to the participants that the process of land acquisition would be expedited to complete the project on time and that as per the Act, hearing of objection needs to be done followed by joint measurement and then the final notification would be issued. Compensation would be determined through consent and a Negotiation Committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Dharwad. The public were also briefed that the Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd. shall proactively take up compensatory tree plantation measures along the corridor and at the various infrastructure sites (terminals, depots and workshops) that are being developed as part of the Project. The Company would also identify suitable locations in the City like parks and schools to take up afforestation. A plantation plan will also be prepared by the Company.

It was also informed to the participants that Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company's website is under construction and would shortly be commissioned. The information on various activities, events, project progress, status of land acquisition etc would all be disclosed in a regular manner on the Company's website. In addition to web disclosure, the progress of the project would also be intimated to the General Public through press releases at regular intervals.
As there were no further queries, the public consultation concluded with vote of thanks.

Sd/-
Managing Director
Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd.
Annexure-1

List of the Officers Present:

1. Ms. Manjula V., IAS, Commissioner Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) and Chairman, Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd.

2. Mr. C. M. Noor Mansoor, Managing Director, Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd.

3. Ms. Veena Nirwani, Assistant Director, DULT and other officers of DULT Bangalore.

4. Mr. Ganigar, Executive Engineer, KRDC, Hubli and other officers of KRDC.

5. Mr. Shrinivas D. Gouda, Deputy General Manager (Finance) Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd.


7. Abdul Hameed, Land Acquisition Officer, KRDC, Hubli.

8. Officers of Hubli-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd.