

Activists demand road infra on BRTS corridor

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Pune: After the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) declared rolling out of the much-awaited Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) on Ahmednagar road from April 15, civic activists have demanded that all necessary road infrastructure should be in place before making the project operational.

In a letter to Municipal Commissioner Kunal Kumar, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Sarang Awad and Chairman and Managing Director of PMPML Abhishek Krishna on Wednesday, the secretary of city-based Nagrik Chetna Manch (NCM) Qaneez Sukhrani brought to the notice of all concerned government agencies about the incomplete work on the BRTS corridor on Ahmednagar Road.

It is NCM's primary intention to get a good quality public transport system, which is comfortable, clean

and affordable to the general public, the letter stated.

"We are very happy to hear that the land has been allotted for the BRTS terminal at Wagholi and the operations will commence from April 15," Secretary of the Manch Qaneez Sukhrani said.

However, listing out the pending issues on the BRTS corridors, the Manch stated in its letter that the traf-

AHMEDNAGAR ROAD BRTS

fic police needs to obey the Bombay High Court order to clear all the illegal parking on the side margins and on the footpaths of Ahmednagar Road.

Also, the traffic police should clear the segregated lane for BRTS from Yerwada to Wagholi from all unauthorised parking.

Sukhrani said that the Regional Transport Authority (RTO) should conduct

drives to remove all unauthorised self-appointed halts created by commercial vehicles, private buses, six-seaters, private radio taxicabs and state transport buses, etc, as these encroachments are not going to be conducive to public transport.

Even the PMC's anti-encroachment department has to get into the act fast to re-locate all vendors and hawkers. "The PMC and the PMPML should survey the BRTS corridor and close the gaps at big intersections for better operation of the system," Sukhrani said.

"However, recently, after concluding the route inspection headed by former additional municipal commissioner Omprakash Bakoria on January 20, I had asked for a closed-door meeting by the PMC bringing all stakeholders such as traffic police and RTO along with PMPML on one platform for better execution of the project but that meeting never happened since the past one month," Sukhrani said.