Make your Streets Walkable!

Community Participation for better pedestrian infrastructure
Meeting Rules!
Transparent Chennai- who we are?

- Transparent Chennai is an action research project housed at the Institute for Financial Management and Research, Chennai.

- The project creates and disseminates maps, data and research about neglected issues in the city, especially those that affect the poor.
DATA: Why do we need data?

What kind of data?
Transparent Chennai - what we do?

Electoral accountability

Participatory planning processes

Pedestrian issues

Public toilets and sanitation

Slums and informal settlements

Solid waste management

Urban governance
PARTICIPATORY PLANNING

What is it?

Why should we have it?
Walk-ability, a pedestrian Issue

Walkability is a measure of pedestrians convenience in an area/ road.

Factors influencing walkability includes

- Safety
- Security
- Comfort
- Conducive Walking Environment
This project broadly comprises of 7 steps
1. Community Outreach

Establish relations between stakeholders and explain the importance of community participation.
2. Surveys, Mapping and Data Collection

Data collection through street surveys, opinion surveys, RTIs, research, interviews, etc.
3. Digitisation and Analysis

Analysis of the existing conditions using surveyed data; Identify design requirements and strategies
4. Design Workshops

A series of interactive and hands-on design exercises that increases understanding and leads to informed suggestions and ideas.
5. Design Finalisation

Using the design suggestions given by the community to create comprehensive and cohesive, final designs for the streets.
6. Implementation Plan

Creating a step-by-step action plan that can help the government provide improved pedestrian infrastructure in a time frame.
7. Follow-up and Accountability

Visiting the community to gauge the progress made towards better pedestrian infrastructure and question relevant authorities for reasons in case of lack of action.
PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

What do we envision for this project?
Raise awareness about pedestrian issues and walking
Equality in the use of public space
Provision of good pedestrian infrastructure
Empower citizens with toolkits and data so that they can advocate for improved pedestrian conditions in their community
Linking elected representatives to ward level conditions – prioritise projects – government accountability – community-government partnership
Increase in walking that leads to increase in use of public transportation
Decrease in personal vehicular use that leads to decongestion of streets
Healthier and safer environment – greener surroundings and cleaner air
Better quality of life that provides the best for future generations
The Project in Nanganallur
Pedestrian and vehicular conflict

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Vehicular conflict</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Walking impossible- significant conflict with heavy and fast moving vehicles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Walking is possible with high risk of accidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Walking is possible but with great inconvenience</td>
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Continuous and Discontinuous footpaths
Safety and Security

- **Service Road**: Environment feels dangerous - pedestrians are at some risk of crime
- **4th Main Road (Chidambaram Bus Stop)**: Instances of chain snatching
Encroachments

Footpath has been blocked by goods kept outside grocery store.
Vendors

4th Main Road: commercial stretch.
New street lights have been installed.
Trees

5th Main Road: Tree coverage does not provide enough shade
Parking-on footpath

Cycles, Two-wheelers and Cars have been parked on pavements.
Public urination
Design workshop
Components of good footpaths:

- Good condition and well maintained
- Clean
- Even surfaces
- Durable and non-slip material
- Curb height should be 15cms.
- Water drainage
- Disable friendly
- Well designed property entrances
Pedestrian zone – width depends on the land use – must always be free of obstructions
Furniture zone:

- Trees – shade, comfort
- Street lights – safety and visibility
- Dustbins – cleanliness
- Vendors – safety, activity, economy, livelihood
- Benches - comfort
- Metered parking
- Utility boxes, telephone boxes, electrical poles, etc. – safety and efficiency
Enforcement
Citizen responsibility
Summary and next steps
Participation and people’s contribution will help to make our roads in Chennai more walkable!

Thank You