

PREFACE

Housing and Urban Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh vide letter number 1/2015/3708/eight-1-14-29LDA/2013 dated 7th January, 2015 had communicated a decision of the Government to nominate M/S RITES Limited, A Government of India Enterprise for the preparation of Detailed Project Reports for Rail based Mass Transit System in Kanpur, Varanasi, Agra and Meerut. Further, the Government vide letter no. 285/8-1-2015-29LDA/2013 dated 21st January, 2015 nominated the respective Development Authorities as Nodal Agencies and Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation Limited (LMRCL) as the Coordinating Agency for the preparation of DPR's.

Subsequently a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) & RITES Ltd. to take up the Detailed Project Report on 22nd May, 2015.

Varanasi due to its historical nature has characteristically narrow roads and lanes. Traffic jams and heavy congestion on the roads are largely caused due to sizable tourist population and intra-city movement of local population. The sharing of limited right of way by a variety of modes and other utility services has resulted in traffic congestion, accidents, inadequate parking area and environment deterioration. An efficient and safe rail based mass transport system has been envisaged in Varanasi. The objective of the assignment is to prepare a Detailed Project Report for the priority MRTS corridors as part of an overall MRTS Master Plan for the City.

Existing Traffic & Travel Characteristics were assessed and analyzed through various primary traffic and travel surveys in VDA area. A Travel Demand Model was developed to identify the major travel corridors and to forecast the metro ridership in various horizon years. The preferred technology for most suitable transit technology for Varanasi has been presented in the Report. Other important components like Alignment Design, Station locations, Depot Locations and Geotechnical Investigations have also been carried out as part of the study. The study presents the components like Station Planning, Intermodal Integration, Environmental & Social Impact Assessment and Cost Estimates. Economic and Financial Analysis along with Funding Pattern for the priority corridors of Varanasi Metro has also been carried out.

A Draft DPR was submitted on 6th January, 2016 and extensive consultations were made with VDA, LMRCL and stakeholders on the same. This Final Report incorporates all the suggestions made on the Draft DPR.

This DPR will enable the government to process the formal approval of Varanasi Metro Project towards its implementation.

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