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Ensuring Public Realm Through Restructuring M.G Road, Kochi As Mass Transit Commercial Corridor

Public realm is an important component of the city structure that contributes to the identity of the place and the quality of life. The role of public spaces has evolved over years and has influenced the manner in which people interact and engage. In the present context of rapid urbanization, where efforts are made to upgrade the living quality of cities, the role of a public realm is ignored. The TODs are aiming at increasing the public transit ridership. But due to poor or ill maintained infrastructure facilities, the primary pedestrian networks fail to achieve an efficient pedestrian circulation and integrate city's various attractions or activities to each other and to the public transit nodes. The new building regulations to encourage extensive developments in these transit corridors is ignoring the need of a good public realm which is plays a major role attracting new visitors and increase the footfall of an area. This calls for the need to establish a link which between the urban development and the creation of a good public realm.