



Dear {firstname},

Greetings from SPTM!

Our conquest for an inclusive, sustainable and safe Pune hinges on the city having a transportation system with 'Walk-Bus-Cycle' as its backbone. On one hand, it is **good to see MahaMetro adopt this theme** for one of their campaigns; but we also see that **several decision makers are yet to understand this mantra** — but that strengthens our resolve to make the transformation happen!

The transformation will happen sooner if you are with us. Not just as a well-wisher, but by doing your bit. **In this newsletter you will find a few links and buttons to click, to accelerate the transformation!**

📌 The Walkability Campaign!

'Walk the Talk' dialogue series

Every day, our cityscape shifts—sidewalks shrink, roads fill up, and public spaces vanish under a sea of parked and moving vehicles. In this growing chaos, it's easy to forget that our streets are meant for people too—for walking, cycling, play, and safe public transport.

To bring focus back to this, we've been hosting **Walk the Talk**—an in-person dialogue series to spark local conversations on reclaiming our public spaces. Our recent session in Bhosale Nagar brought together 25 engaged residents—not only from Bhosalenagar, but also from other areas like Model Colony, Sinhadgad Road. We reflected on our neighbourhoods, questioned what's changing, and asked: is it really for the better?



Hands-on tutorial

Participants also got a hands-on tutorial on using the PMC Care WhatsApp number to report civic issues—because every complaint filed is a step toward a more liveable city.

Want to host *Walk the Talk* in your locality?

Gather 20+ neighbours and reach out to us:

- WhatsApp at **88880-41000**
- Or email **meetus@savepunetraffic.org**
- Or just reply to this email!

📌 🚲 World Bicycle Day 2025

Shining a Light on Those Who Ride for a Living

As a child, a bicycle was a prized possession for many of us — freedom on two wheels. Today, sadly, it's dismissed by many as a poor person's vehicle. Motor vehicle ownership has become a status symbol, and our cities have paid the price: crumbling footpaths, endless flyovers, and every square inch of public space overrun by private cars and bikes.

But if you pause on the footpaths of Timber Market or Senapati Bapat Road — or any road, really! you'll notice a quiet, persistent flow of livelihood cyclists — vendors, guards, delivery workers — riding against the tide of traffic chaos. Last year, SPTM volunteers reached out to ~500 such cyclists across Pune, pasting reflective stickers on their cycles to make them more visible in low light. It's a small gesture for their safety, but a powerful reminder of who truly keeps this city moving.



This year, we marked World Bicycle Day by speaking at a The Toro Company about creating a **walk-bus-cycle city**.



We also launched **The Green Route** — a fun family game designed to build sustainable travel habits. After all, meaningful change needs all of us. Let's pedal together!

Dice Total	Challenge of the Week
2	Neighborhood Walk Explorer Walk a 15-minute route in your neighborhood and observe the different types of people and places you see.
3	Footpath Fixer Observe your neighborhood for footpath issues. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
4	Way On, Way Off Adventure Walk from the start of SPTM's walk to a nearby park or open space. Observe your route and follow someone. Tell them what you saw.
5	Health Scout Have someone in your family or yourself describe a SPTM bus stop and the nearby area. Ask to see the area and describe it. (10 minutes)
6	Green Street Ride Ride a bicycle on your street. Observe things going on in the area. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
7	Cycle Way Guide Draw a simple map of your neighborhood or city. Label the different types of roads and places you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
8	Observe the Safety Observe a busy street and write down what you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
9	Watch Your Walk: The Right Way Walk a 15-minute route in your neighborhood. Observe the different types of people and places you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
10	Share Your Ride Observe a busy street and write down what you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
11	Use a Cycle Smart Observe a busy street and write down what you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.
12	Right Way Observe a busy street and write down what you see. Write down what you see and what you think should be done to fix it.

The Green Route: Family members roll dice, and execute the prescribed fun challenge 😊

"WBC&M"

MahaMetro's campaign to nudge people to use the Metro, in association with PKCF, CEE and SPTM is now named as "WBC&M". Yeah, that is "Walk, Bus, Cycle and Metro". As much as possible, use anything but cars and 2-wheelers for an inclusive and sustainable Pune!



The project focuses on the first five stations of the Aqua Line — **Vanaz, Anandnagar, Ideal Colony, Nal Stop, and Garware College**.

On the weekend of 13-14-15th June, PKC, SPTM and CEE had engaging conversations with residents of **Rambaug Colony near the Anand Nagar station**, facilitated by the CF@11 initiative, to discuss their daily commute patterns and to understand what they need to switch to Walk/Bus/Cycle/Metro as their preferred modes of commute.



Signal free roads: Nightmare for pedestrians 😞

Pune Traffic Police made Nagar Road 'signal free' in April-May.

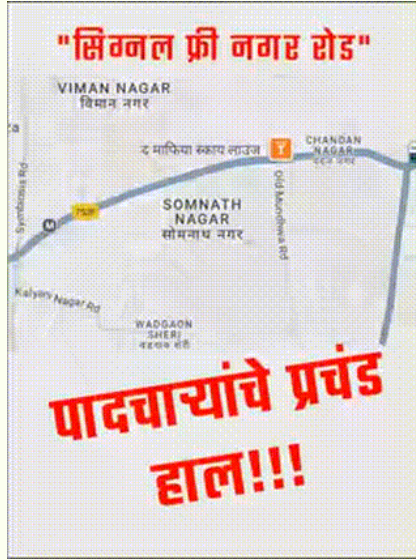
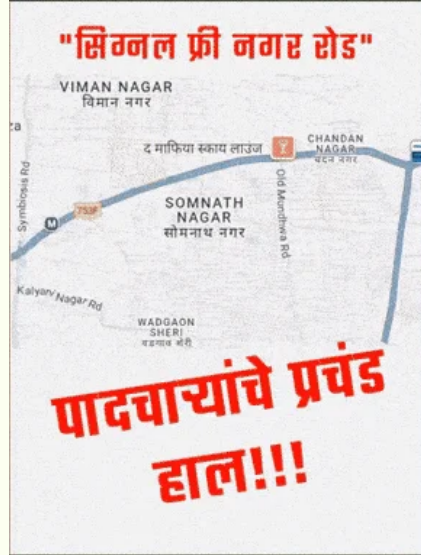
What does 'signal free' mean to you?

To most drivers, it means speed. A sense of freedom, from an 'unnecessary hurdle.'

To pedestrians, it means loss of a safe place to cross the road.

To this lady, it means tears — because she cannot cross the road to go home 😞 "वाहन जाऊ शकतात, माणसं नाही जाऊ शकत."

To this man, it means a risk of life — and a sense of helplessness.



While 'signal free' benefits vehicles, what impact does it have on pedestrians? Time and again, we forget that driving is a mere privilege, since you need a license (= a permission!) to drive! Pedestrians don't need a license, they have a right to walk. So vehicles' convenience must NEVER be at the cost of pedestrians!

Now they have turned their attention to Solapur Road. But SPTM is working with residents of Fatimanagar to ensure that their right to cross the road safely is protected!

📌 PMPML increases the fares 😞

PMPML increased their fares by 50-100% from 1st June 2025. The major reason given is — the fares have been the same for nearly 11 years, while the expenses and hence the losses are mounting.

We, as well as several other NGOs and activists objected to this increase, saying that various other avenues of increasing the revenue are not yet tapped. Plus, any such fare increase ends up encouraging some people to use a personal mode of commute. And even worse, for those who cannot afford such a switch, it affects their quality of life — since they are forced to compromise on other essential needs!

We will soon publish a blog that talks about the myriad of angles of this problem. Stay tuned!

On the other hand, **have you come across PMC worrying about a flyover making losses?** A flyover is primarily built for speeding up cars and 2-wheeler. It is considered an 'investment in infrastructure', even though it ends up fueling congestion in the long run — **And this fact is stated in PMC's Comprehensive Mobility Plan too!**

It's all about building the right narrative!

We all want to see a city where it is safe to walk, convenient to use a bus and attractive to cycle, right?

But what do we see happening around us?

- Ill-maintained zebra stripes
- Unwalkable footpaths
- *Dabba* buses that break down without warning
- Kids want to cycle to school, but parents tremble in fear at the mere thought
- ...

And 'those people' demanding signal free roads, flyovers ... 'measures' that invite more car use and congestion, ... and making it even more difficult to simply cross a road.

Aren't we 'different' from 'those people'?

Yes, but we are silent.

Remember, we won't get what we are dreaming of unless we build our own, strong narrative.

But what do we do, then??

At the very least, join the [Facebook group "Walk Bus Cycle"](#), and **let us build the narrative for a truly inclusive, sustainable and safe transport system!**

Click on the button below to accelerate the transformation!

Walk Bus Cycle

How can you contribute for improving Pune's transportation!

Donations: While we are approaching large CSR donors for the larger Phase 3, every small donation from individual donors will help us provide enough volunteers to conduct Phase 2 effectively. [Please donate generously!](#)

Volunteering: We frequently need volunteers for campaigns and surveys. We can make use of some 'off-road' skills too, in addition to 'on-road' activities. [Interested?](#)

Connections: Do you very closely know a big company or business who can give us a handsome donation? Or a large group of volunteers that can be useful to SPTM? [Let us know!](#)

Use the buttons below for the respective actions. Thank you!

Donate for the cause:
Personal, CSR

Volunteer in the
campaign

Connect us with the
right people

Sus-trans Challenge!

Test your knowledge of sustainable transportation

A 'walkable city' lets people cross roads safely. It is observed that even tall dividers cannot stop people from jumping over them, therefore it is necessary that people are provided safe crossing facilities at regular distances. This distance is prescribed in an IRC standard.

Note: It is incorrect to say that pedestrians are allowed to cross only at zebra crossings. Rather, zebra crossings indicate places where **vehicles must yield** if any pedestrians are trying to cross a road!

What is the prescribed distance for providing safe crossing facilities for pedestrians in a city?

1. Between 80-150m
2. Between 100-200m
3. Between 200-500m
4. Between 500-1000m

Last time we asked, "What percent of all trips in Pune are done by walking?"

Answer: **Between 20-30%**. Surprised? For smaller towns, the number can even be 30+%! A 'trip' is counted when you step out of your premises for any reason. Though many of these walking trips may be for running local errands, a good number of people depend on walking for a living! **Most initiatives that speed up vehicles compromise safety while walking, and could adversely affect even the livelihood of some people** ☹️

☑️ शाब्बास!

PTP App

Don't undisciplined drivers irritate all of us? The **Pune Traffic Police** have provided an app for people to report certain types of violations! You can use the app to click and upload a photo, and they will take an appropriate action on the erring driver/owner of the vehicle.

You can report the following types of violations through the app: Driving and parking on footpaths, driving wrong side, triple seat, talking on mobile, fancy number plate, heavy vehicle in 'red zone', and tinted glass.



The app is called "PTP App" and is available on [Google Play Store](#) as well as [App store for Apple](#)

Enroll yourself as a volunteer, or for an internship for projects that improve people's lives! [Fill up this form.](#)

Stay tuned in with us!



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