

# HMRL puts Old City metro works on track

CITY BUREAU

Hyderabad

In a major boost to the Old City, the Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) on Sunday said it has started preparatory works for undertaking the prestigious metro rail project.

**To issue land acquisition notices to 1,000-odd affected properties**

In the coming month, the HMRL authorities will also issue land acquisition notices to 1,000-odd affected properties to take up balance work in Old City.

The 5.5 km balance metro alignment in Old City is from Mahatma Gandhi Bus Station to Falaknuma via Darulshifa junction - Purani Haveli - Ettebar Chowk - Al-ijakotla - Mir Momin Daira - Haribowli - Shalibanda - Shamsheergunj and Alibabad. There will be 5 stations including Salarjung Museum, Charminar, Shalibanda, Shamsheergunj and



To save the 103 religious/sensitive structures along the stretch, road widening will be restricted to 80 feet.

Falaknuma. Though the metro station locations are about 500 meters away from Salarjung Museum and Charminar, these two stations are being named after them in view of their importance and pride of place in the city, NVS Reddy, HMRL MD, said.

#### Religious structures

There are 103 religious and other sensitive structures,

including 21 masjids, 12 temples, 12 Ashoorkhanas, 33 dargas, seven graveyards and six chillas along the stretch.

Through engineering solutions, such as adjustment of curvature, viaduct design and heights, suitable alteration of metro pillar locations, except for four, all these religious/sensitive structures would be saved, he further said. (SEE PAGE 2)

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On the instructions of Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao and Minister K T Rama Rao, further engineering refinement is being done to the metro alignment to save the religious structures. To save the religious structures, road widening will be restricted to 80 feet. Learning lessons from the Phase 1 project, the road will be widened at the station locations to 120 ft. Preparation of individual sketches of the 1,000-odd affected properties has started and land acquisition notices will be issued in about a month, NVS Reddy said.