

3 firms bid for Porur-Poornamallee metro

8-Km stretch To Now Have 9 Elevated Stations

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Three companies or consortia have shown interest in constructing an elevated metro-rail line between Porur junction and Poornamallee bypass, a route earlier planned to be linked through monorail, covering 8km. The stretch is part of 26.09km corridor-4 from Lighthouse to Poornamallee, which will link the city's core localities such as Mylapore, T Nagar, Vadapalani with the developing IT area in Porur and far-flung suburbs in Poornamallee. Construction for a portion of the 119km phase-2 will begin in early 2021.

HIGH TRAFFIC ROUTE

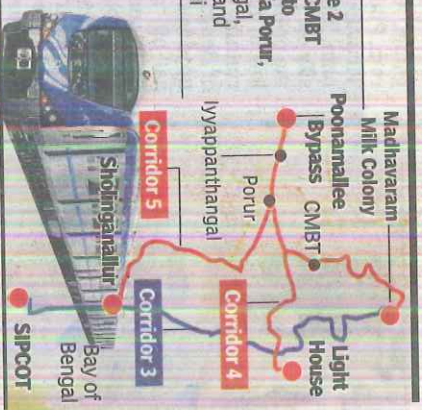
> As of 2012, stretch between Kathipara and Poornamallee via Porur, SRMC Hospital, Iyyappanthangal, Kattupakkam, Kumananchavadi and Karayanchavadi was to be connected by monorail



> Corridor-4 of phase 2 from Lighthouse to CMRT Poornamallee via Porur, Iyyappanthangal, Kattupakkam and Karayanchavadi

> CMRL conducted a study on passenger traffic on the Porur and Poornamallee stretch and found high traffic that can be served by metro-rail and not monorail

> In August 2020, CMRL floated tender to construct an 8-km elevated line from Porur to Poornamallee with nine stations



Sources said it was revealed that three companies or consortia Hindustan Construction Company Ltd- KEC International (HCC-KEC) JV, Larsen & Toubro Ltd and NCC Ltd have submitted tenders for constructing the line when CMRL opened technical bids on Tuesday. Officials said the financial bid will be opened in a month or

two after technically qualified bidders are selected and the lowest bidder among them may bag the contract.

The contractor is expected to construct the line with nine elevated stations and a maintenance depot at Poornamallee within three years, officials said.

Corridor-4, which is also

called the orbital corridor as it connects the rest of the corridors of both phase-1 and 2, cuts across city's central localities starting from Lighthouse to link Porur junction and Poornamallee bypass. The nine stations between Porur junction and Poornamallee include Chennai bypass crossing, Ramachandra Hospital, Iyyap-

panthangal bus depot, Kattupakkam, Kumananchavadi, Karayanchavadi, Mullai Thottam, Poornamallee bus terminus and Poornamallee bypass. While AIIB has agreed to fund a 16-km stretch from Meenakshi College to Poornamallee bypass, it was reported in June 2020 that ADB began evaluation to fund a 10km line from Lighthouse to Meenakshi College.

As of 2012, Porur-Poornamallee stretch was part of a monorail project from Kathipara to Poornamallee in a 'Y' shaped alignment, including an arm from Porur to Vadapalani and Velachery to Vandalur. CMRL conducted a study on the passenger flow which revealed high traffic density between Porur and Poornamallee that could be catered only by metro rail. Subsequently, corridor-4 of phase 2 from Lighthouse to CMRT was extended up to Poornamallee bypass following nod from the government.