

CITY ALL SET FOR FOB WITH TRAVELATOR

For Metro, Mono and suburban rail passengers, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority will build the city's first foot overbridge (FOB) with a travelator between Jacob Circle and Mahalaxmi. The travelator will be nearly 700m long and the project will commence early next year. While the Monorail runs between Jacob Circle and Chembur, a new Metro is being constructed on the Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ route, with Mahalaxmi railway station being a central connector. **CITY**

City to get first FOB with travelator

The project has been planned at a strategic location connecting three modes of transport

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To provide convenient access to commuters of Metro, Mono and suburban rails, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) will build the city's first travelator at south Mumbai's Jacob Circle-Mahalaxmi. To be constructed on a proposed foot over bridge (FOB), the travelator will be approx. 700m in length and the project will commence in early 2023.

The three public travel modes fall under three different government authorities. Operated by the MMRDA, Mumbai Monorail runs be-

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Jacob Circle-Mahalaxmi

Estimated cost
₹63.68 crore

Project to commence in	Deadline
early 2023	February 2024

Travelator length **700**m

FOB length	Width
335 m	7 m

tween Jacob Circle, also known as Sant Ghadge Maharaj Chowk to Chembur. Whereas, Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ underground metro

rail is being constructed by the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation. Mahalaxmi—which is an intermediate station—falls under the Indian

Railways and connects a large number of working population daily between Churchgate to Dahanu. The distance between

Monorail's Sant Ghadge Maharaj Chowk station and Mahalaxmi railway station is close to 600m. The obstructions and multiple lanes en route increases the time to traverse the two points. Therefore, having a dedicated walkway will help in not only integrating the different public commuting modes, but also encourage passengers to take rail-based transport.

The planned FOB will be 335m long and 7m in width. It will also have escalators and elevators to provide ease of access for commuters to traverse between the underground Metro station and the bridge. To get a pedestrian bridge to be constructed, a

budget estimate of Rs63.68 crore has been earmarked by the MMRDA. The agency has asked for quotations from civil contractors. "Work will commence in another three months and is expected to be completed in a year; that is, by Feb 2024," said the MMRDA official.

Recently, the MMRDA had planned to extend the Monorail line up to Mahalaxmi station to integrate and come closer to the Aqua metro line's underground station. But a revisit to the plans found that installing travelators will be an economical option, which is about one-third of Monorail's cost.