

Date: 18-04-2022
Ref: UPAA/ PS/ Awas-UP/ 2022-23/ L-

To,
The Principal Secretary,
Housing and Urban Planning Department, Govt. of U.P.,
1st Floor, Lal Bahadur Shastri Bhawan (Annex),
Lucknow – 226001.

SUBJECT: ROLE OF ARCHITECTS IN DEVELOPING THE CITY

Respected Sir/ Ma'am,

In our capacity as a professional organization, initially would like to express our gratitude for publishing draft master plans for so many cities in Uttar Pradesh which are being prepared for at least 10 years i.e. 2031, since this is essential for their future growth. However, we as a professional body of architects, want to express our genuine concern about the way cities are growing and how master plan is prepared to deal with the urban issues.

The ongoing master plans frequently reveal basic issues with how cities are built and master plans are made; for instance, the development scope sometimes only considers a small area of the city or one side of the city, although we feel it should cover the entire city. This results in the majority of municipal master plans simply being kept on paper and not being completely implemented, which contributes to the city's uncontrolled expansion. Master plans are prepared with at least 10 years of development, but relatively few localities really follow them.

Cities are impacted by long-term population increase in a variety of ways, which mostly rely on the socioeconomic environment. It has resulted in a considerable rise of sprawl, a term informally used to disparage low-density development, in numerous urban areas throughout India. There are certain arguments in favour of the suburban way of life (greater seclusion, less noise and air pollution, less crime, and better schools) for which when considering an architectural solution to this issue is to gives rise to vertical cities, which combine a variety of residential and public purposes with a small footprint.

Master planning describes every little aspect since it entails creating a framework for the whole project. The development of the city is something that architects are always working on. They frequently have to deal with urban planning-related issues such as landuse, as well as issues include traffic, garbage disposal, rainwater harvesting, sewerage, water supply, crime, landscaping, proper electrification, LED street lights, functional traffic lights, and CCTV (closed-circuit television) cameras. Architects are required for the development of spatial and environmental components.

In this context, architects have a duty to assess, design, and manage resilient built environments that can more easily absorb and recover cities from various calamities and can better adapt to environmental circumstances. A master plan should be created using a pragmatic approach. There is a potential that the master plan may take a more pragmatic approach if you incorporate local architects in its preparation.

We, therefore, the professional body of the Uttar Pradesh Architects, recommend that the local authorities should also include the local Architects Association since they can assist in identifying the issues and their solutions. We are requesting you to take into consideration while creating master plans so that the precise issues will be identified and resolved effectively. In this manner, the Master Plan will have a greater chance of being implemented practically.

The Uttar Pradesh Architects Association will be extremely appreciative of your assistance in this respect.

Regards,

Ar. Ankit Agarwal
(General Secretary)

Copy to:

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh, Government of Uttar Pradesh
- Special Secretary, Housing & Urban Planning Department, U.P.
- Chief Town & Country Planning Department, U.P.