Press Release

B.PAC releases the "Bengaluru Sustainability Manifesto"

A bold vision for a sustainable, safe, prosperous, and resilient Bengaluru in 2030.

August 24, 2020, Bengaluru: The **Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC)** has launched the ***Bengaluru Sustainability Manifesto*** ***(BSM)*** today under **B.GREEN, B.PAC's Environmental Sustainability Program**. The BSM lays a bold vision for where citizens want to see Bengaluru by 2030 and will start a conversation to chart our city's green recovery from the Covid crisis in this decade. They key asks under the Manifesto are 1) to make sustainability central to the development agenda in Bengaluru now, 2) to establish a Bengaluru Department of Sustainability by 2021, and 3) to launch a Bengaluru Sustainability and Climate Action Plan by 2023.

The **BSM document** has been developed by B.PAC with inputs from experts in governance and sustainability. It is intended to be a working document that can be refined based on further input from experts, government, and citizens, which will be solicited through surveys and discussions over the next few months. A final list of recommendations developed with actionable targets will be submitted to the Government of Karnataka and BBMP to include in the next budget in early 2021.

This BSM includes a vision for

- More integrated and sustainable land use that considers compact development, transportation planning, and watershed planning, or a *blue-green infrastructure* plan
- Greener mobility planning, infrastructure, and policies to move from the current 48% modal share of public transport to a modal share of 80% public transportation and 15% non-motorized transportation (walking and cycling) by 2030
- Transitioning towards a mandatory green building code that prioritizes energy efficiency, water efficiency, and responsible waste management towards a zero waste Bengaluru by 2030
- Greener utilities by moving towards 100% renewable energy and world class sanitation, water and wastewater management
- Conservation and restoration of existing green spaces (from the current 3% to 30% by 2030), water bodies, watersheds, and lakes, and addition of more green infrastructure for sustainable stormwater management
- Integration of climate resiliency and disaster preparedness in all aspects of planning, infrastructure, and investments,
- Making safety, accessibility, and socio-economic equity for all citizens central to the development agenda
- ...and more!

In the coming weeks B.PAC will work with collaborating organizations to develop benchmarks and specific targets on each area of the sustainability Manifesto and submit recommendations to the government for inclusion in the next budget.

The **BSM campaign**,intended to start a conversation around the asks in the BSM document, will engage citizens , government officials, elected representatives, businesses, non-profits, think tanks, institutions, academics, and students, to not only receive feedback, but also build a unified coalition of support to demonstrate that Bengalureans are ready for a greener future.

Bengaluru has several groups working effectively towards various solutions in urban environmental sustainability, and the goal of the BSM campaign is to create a common overarching goal so that all efforts are additive and become part of a comprehensive roadmap to creating a green Bengaluru by 2030.

Hon. Managing Trustee and CEO of B.PAC, Revathy Ashok, said "A lot of great work is already being done in Bengaluru towards a more sustainable city, but all efforts need to be integrated and scaled with a comprehensive vision in mind. Bengaluru also needs city level leadership and resources to accomplish this much needed intervention. This is the gap that the Manifesto intends to fill. We welcome all feedback and collaboration in this endeavor."

B.PAC invites all Bengaluru based organizations and citizens to read the Manifesto at https://bpac.in/bengaluru-sustainability-manifesto/, share feedback, and join us in charting a **comprehensive green COVID recovery plan** for our city. We also request all to share this widely so that Bengalureans can, in one voice, demonstrate a collective demand for a greener future.

To learn more about this initiative and access the BSM document, please visit www.bpac.in/bengaluru-sustainability-manifesto/. To stay up to date on progress, follow B.PAC on social media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn) at @BPACofficial.

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ABOUT B.PAC

Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) is a non-partisan nonprofit organization that aims to improve governance in Bengaluru and to enhance the quality of life of every citizen. B.PAC is specifically targeting good governance practices, integrity and transparency in all arms of the government, improving the quality of infrastructure in the city, and identification and support of strong candidates for public office at all levels of governance in Bengaluru city.

ABOUT B.GREEN

This campaign falls under B.PAC's B.GREEN program. B.GREEN is focused on advancing environmental sustainability, socio-economic upliftment, climate resilience and quality of life in Bengaluru.

For more information contact:
Sachin Tantry | sachiin@bpac.in | 73495-42201