Development of Transportation Infrastructure and Smart Street on principles of Tactical Urbanism, along the stretch of Board office to Jyoti Talkies Square

The project intends to bring few changes to the built environment with the intention to improve major commercial area of the city i.e. MP nagar along with local neighborhoods and city gathering places. An active street would be created to enhance the experience of onlookers and pedestrians.

The Board Office area in Bhopal has been identified as a very important junction due to the absolute number of passengers boarding and alighting at the intersection. Thus, it is proposed that board office area should accommodate a bus interchange terminal station to facilitate and encourage public transportation and city bus services. In continuation to this, a stretch from Board office to Jyoti Talkies square will also be developed as an active public space on the principles of ‘tactical urbanism’ so as to have better walkable streets with lively, safe and usable urban areas.
Pavement to Plazas
Popularized in New York City, pavement plazas involve converting space on streets to usable public space. The closure of Times Square to vehicular traffic and its low-cost conversion to a pedestrian plaza is a primary example of a pavement plaza.

Open Streets
To temporarily provide safe spaces for walking, bicycling, skating, and social activities; promote local economic development; and raise awareness about the impact of cars in urban spaces.

Pop-up cafes/parks
Pop-up cafes are temporary patios or terraces built in parking spots to provide overflow seating for a nearby cafe or for passersby. Also Pop Up Parks temporarily or permanently transform underused spaces into community gathering areas through beautification.

The project features urban interventions of a sort – quick, often temporary yet effective projects that aim to make a small part of a city more lively or enjoyable. The overall tactics used is to improve the urban environment. These tactics are replicable across city with customization and site specific requirement. Some of the features and guiding principles which are used in the project are as below.
Food carts/Kiosks

Food carts and kiosks are used to attract people to underused public spaces and offer small business opportunities for entrepreneurs.

De-fencing

Removing unnecessary fences to break down barriers between neighbours, beautify communities, and encourage community building.

Pop-up retail

Temporary retail stores are set up.

The project once completed would transform the urban landscape of the busiest commercial district of Bhopal. It would drastically improve the pedestrian and NMT infrastructure with inclusion of people centric activities. With provision of plazas, food kiosks, play areas, socializing areas, public transport interchange center, road side exhibition points, smart poles and allied infrastructure, would systematically rejuvenate the entire precinct.

It is anticipated that the project would not only improve the quality of life but would also help in generating long-term changes to economic and social community landscapes through small-scale, incremental Tactical Urbanism.