

BMC panel axes plan to cut 2,238 Aarey trees for Metro

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MUMBAI: The civic body's tree authority on Wednesday refused to clear a proposal to cut 2,238 trees and replant 464 trees in Aarey Milk Colony to make way for the upcoming Metro-3 car depot, seeking more details from the civic administration. The panel also demanded a case be registered against Metro authorities, after it noticed construction on the 33-hectare plot, without its permission.

On August 10, three expert members of the authority had visited the proposed site and last week, they submitted their observations to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). In its report, the experts said the site in Aarey is home to trees that should be retained as "heritage trees".

In its meeting on Wednesday, the 18-member authority, which



■ Metro work site at the Aarey Milk Colony. HT FILE

TREE PANEL SEEKS MORE DETAILS

In its meeting on Wednesday, the 18-member panel, which includes five experts, were not convinced by the Aarey Metro-3 car shed proposal, seeking more details from the civic administration

The panel also demanded a case be registered against Metro authorities after it noticed construction at the spot, without permission from the panel

includes five experts, were not convinced by the car-shed proposal. Corporators from Shiv Sena, BJP, Congress and NCP, who are members of the tree authority, had visited the site on Tuesday. Yashwant Jadhav, member of the tree authority, from Shiv Sena, which has been

opposing the car shed, said, "The proposal was sent back because it was incomplete. We need detailed information on the answers given by the administration to the 82,000 complaints sent in by citizens and also explore the possibility of an underground car shed."

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