

المسار almasar

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Al Shindagha Bridge, Shaping the city's new skyline



Vision Mission

Vision

Safe and Smooth Transport for All

Mission

Develop and Manage integrated and sustainable Roads and transportation systems at a world-class level, and provide pioneered services to all.

Stakeholders for their happiness, and support Dubai's vision through Shaping the future, preparing policies and legislations, adopting.

Technologies and innovations, and implementing world-class practices and Standards.



H.E. Mattar Al Tayer
Director General and Chairman of
the Board of Executive Directors

The Sixth Crossing

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has launched the groundbreaking of Al Shindagha Bridge Project featuring an iconic infinity sign design concept.

Al Shindagha Bridge resembles a key milestone of Al Shindagha corridor project extending 13 km along Sheikh Rashid Road as well as Al Mina Road, Al Khaleej Road and Cairo Road with a total project cost of approximately AED5.035 billion.

The construction of Al Shindagha Bridge is part of RTA's relentless efforts to keep pace with the upswing of the ever growing city of Dubai. So far, RTA has accomplished the first two phases of the Project such as Wafi Interchange and Sheikh Rashid Road with Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Road Interchange.

In addition to Al Shindagha Bridge, the Corridor has two additional phases which include the improvement of Al Khaleej Road as well as the improvement of Al Khaleej Road with Abu Hail Road Interchange. It also covers the Interchange of Al Khaleej Road with Jumeirah Road, Al Mina Road and Al Mankhoul Road as well as bridges leading to the southern part of Deira Islands.

Al Shindagha Bridge fulfils the needs of mega surrounding projects such as Deira Islands, Dubai Water Front, Rashid Port and Dubai Maritime City. The total length of the Bridge is 295m, of which 150m crosses over the Dubai Creek. It also consists of six lanes in each direction along with a pedestrian crossing. The Bridge rises above water level by 15.5m and the top of its architectural arch, symbolising the mathematical infinity sign is 42m high above the bridge structure.

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Mohammed bin Rashid launches construction of AED394 million Shandagha Bridge project

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, accompanied by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, has launched the construction of the AED394 million Shandagha Bridge Project, which features an iconic design based on the concept of the infinity sign.





The Shandagha Bridge is part of the AED 5.035 billion Shandagha Corridor Project extending 13 km along Sheikh Rashid Street as well as Al Mina, Al Khaleej and Cairo Streets.

On arrival at the launch venue, His Highness was received by HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA, along with several senior officials of the RTA.

The launch of the Shandagha Bridge project was attended by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chief Executive of Emirates Group, H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation, and H.H. Sheikh Mansour bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Briefing HH Sheikh Mohammed, HE Mattar Al Tayer said that the new bridge is being developed under the third phase of the Shandagha Corridor Project, following the completion of the first two phases. The bridge extends about 295 m, 150 m of which is over the Dubai Creek, and consists of six lanes in each direction in addition to a pedestrian crossing. The Bridge rises 15.5 m above the water level, which allows the passage of various types of boats plying the Creek. The bridge's iconic design features an architectural arch shaped in the form of the mathematical symbol for infinity. The top of the infinity arch rises 42 m. About 2,400 tons of steel will be used in the construction of the bridge.

HH Sheikh Mohammed drew the infinity sign of the bridge on an electronic screen, following which a mammoth design of the Bridge was unveiled, heralding the start of construction works for the Al Shandagha Bridge.

Shindagha Corridor

His Highness viewed a mural displaying the construction timeline of the Al Shandagha Roads Network. The mural, which takes a trip down memory lane, takes viewers back to 1972, when the late Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum signed an agreement in the UK for the construction the Al Shandagha Tunnel. In 1986, the Tunnel underwent its first maintenance, as part of which a coating was applied to the surface of the old concrete-steel, the cracks around water barriers were treated, and a special type of



plaster was used to protect the concrete tunnel works.

The first two phases of the Shandagha Corridor Project have been completed. In 2016, the RTA launched the initial phase of the Shandagha Network, which was marked by the opening of the Improvement of the Sheikh Rashid Street–Oud Metha



Street Junction (Wafi Junction). In 2017, the Tunnel underwent maintenance works including drilling tests for the outer wall of the Tunnel.

In May this year, the RTA opened Phase II of the Project involving the opening of Sheikh Rashid Street-Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed

Street Junction; which included the construction of two bridges on the Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street comprising two lanes in each direction. It also included the construction of a one-lane bridge from Zabeel Street in the direction of Sheikh Rashid Street, and a tunnel on Sheikh Rashid



Street in the direction of Al Mankhool Junction comprising four lanes in each direction. Construction works also included a signalized junction underneath the bridge that facilitates a free turn from main roads to subsidiary roads.

Phase III of the project includes the construction of the Al Shandagha Bridge, whose iconic architectural design will make it a unique landmark. Works in this phase include the construction of the Corniche Street on Al Khaleej Street, improvements of the Falcon Junction and entry/exit points for Rashid Port. The total length of the bridge is 8.5 km. The tunnels span 535 m while surface roads extend 8 km. The project, which involves the construction of 10 surface junctions, will be completed in 2022.

Phase IV of the Project covers the construction of the extension of Shandagha Bridge. It includes the improvement of Al Khaleej

Street along with its intersection with Abu Hail Street, and the improvement of the intersection of Sheikh Rashid Street with Jumeirah Street, Al Mina Street and Al Mankhool Street.

These works require the construction of bridges stretching 3.4 km, tunnels running 2.25 km, seven surface junctions, and roads extending 5.1 km. This phase is expected to be completed by 2025. Phase V, which covers the construction of Deira Southern Island, with bridges spanning 1.5 km, is expected to be completed by 2027.

During his visit, His Highness and his entourage also watched a movie on the Al Shandagha Bridge Project which meets the needs of mega development projects in the surrounding areas such as Deira Plam Island, Dubai Waterfront, Rashid Port, and the Dubai Maritime City.







The Ruler of Dubai orders payment of AED33m bonus to taxi plate owners

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in his capacity as Ruler of Dubai, has ordered the payment of a bonus amounting to AED33,295,000 (Thirty Three million, Two Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Dirham) to the Emirati citizens. The total number of the number plates is (6659) taxicab number plates that are operated by the Dubai Taxi Corporation and Taxi Franchise Companies at the Roads & Transport Authority (RTA).

The Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) will start distribution of the 2017 bonus to the entitled recipients, over and above their annual financial dues from this week.

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA thanked HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum for rewarding taxi plate owners, who are part of the fixed income group, and enabling them to better cope

with the requirements of life and decent living for them and their families.

“This bonus is one of several other generous gestures customarily done by H.H to make the people happy. This gesture goes with the Year of Zayed and the nearing of the Holy Month of Ramadan. It is a sincere testament to his commitment to support and check on his people and his attention to their social affairs

An MoU with Transit Australia Group to boost cooperation in PT



and living conditions, particularly those with fixed incomes. It also illustrates the attention made to provide good living to all

members of the community, and articulates the prevailing social solidarity concepts among individuals,” said Al Tayer.

Mohammed bin Rashid orders distribution of AED33m bonus to taxi plate owners in Dubai

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has ordered distribution of an additional bonus amounting to AED33,295,000 (Thirty Three million, Two Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Dirham) to the owners of taxi plates in Dubai. The total number of plates benefiting from the distribution is (6659). Dubai Taxi Corporation and other taxi franchise companies operate the plates. The Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) will start distribution of the 2017 bonus to the entitled recipients, over and above their annual financial dues from this week.

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA, thanked HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, affirming that it will help enhancing the quality of life for the owners of the taxi plates and their families.

“This bonus is one of Sheikh Mohammed’s several other generous gestures. Its lineup with His Highness’s efforts during the Year of Zayed and marking the close approach of the Holy Month of Ramadan.” said Al Tayer.

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), and the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait of the State of Queensland, Australia, have witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between RTA and Transit Australia Group; one of the biggest public transport companies in Australia. The MoU will remain valid for five years.

Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO of Public Transport Agency, signed for RTA; and Mr Michael McGee, signed for Transit Australia Group.

The MoU provided for boosting the strategic partnership and cooperation between the two parties. It also called for sharing expertise, technical consultancies and best practices in public transport sectors in areas of practices planning, designing and operating public buses in both Dubai and Australia. The MoU also calls for exchanging technical visits of delegations and deputationists for familiarisation with public transport experiences, joint mobility, design & scheduling of network lines, and bus management & operation.

“The two parties share many objectives and can share the

best practices in planning, operation and maintenance of buses. According to the MoU, the two parties will benchmark public transport between Dubai and Brisbane and the development of sustainable public transport. Examples include express buses on dedicated lanes, electric buses, modern technologies for charging batteries and share expertise in planning and operating the transit of visitors during major events, like Expo 2020,” said Al Tayer.

Mr Jackie Trad praised the sweeping development seen by Dubai, especially the infrastructure of public transport; which plays a key role in the mobility of Dubai residents. He stressed the importance of the MoU as it avails the two parties the opportunity to pick up experience & knowledge and familiarise with the highest global standards.



Al Tayer attends closing session of MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition, honours sponsors

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has attended the closing ceremony of the 3rd MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018, held in Dubai by the RTA in conjunction with the UITP under the theme (Pioneering for Customers Happiness). Attendees included HE Mohammed Al MEZGHANI, Secretary General of the UITP, HE Khalid Al HOGAIL, Chairman of the Executive Office of UTIP MENA Division, CEO and Board of Director, Saudi Public Transport Co. - Riyadh, KSA, in addition to a host of officials from the UAE and overseas.



Honouring Sponsors

In the closing ceremony, Al Tayer awarded the sponsors of the MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition. Honourees included The Department of Transport – Abu Dhabi, Dubai Taxi Corporation, Cars Taxi, Wade Adams, Systra, Dubai Technology, Thales Group, Hyundai, GBM, Juma Al Majid, Etihad Rail, INIT, Serkal Group, Dobowi LLC,

OWS, ACACUS, Alstom, Metro Taxi, Arthur D Little, Voith, STS, Gulf Computers, KEOLIS, Dell, Al Zarooni, National Taxi, SAAB, Parsons, Arabia Taxi, and the Dubai Maritime City Authority.

Al Tayer also honoured members of the Organising Committee of the Congress, and the Organising Committee of the 2nd Dubai Hackathon taking part in the Hackathon.



Abdullah Al Nuaimi :We aim to be No (1) in all competitiveinfrastructuralstandards

Events of the 3rd MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018 continued for the second day running, where several main, subsidiary and parallel sessions were held.

HE Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi, Minister of the Infrastructure Development, UAE, was the keynote speaker during a parallel session reviewing public transport projects in the MENA region. The session was held in Zabeel 4 Hall, Dubai World Trade Center; the premises of the Congress hosted by the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai and the UITP featuring huge global participation.

“The UAE is striving to be Number One in all international competitiveness standards for roads and infrastructure, having achieved first place in road quality, fourth in quality of infrastructure, fifth in infrastructure and 13th in logistics performance.

The session, which was attended by HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors

of the RTA, and several officials, revealed mega projects in the MENA region worth \$ 106 billion. Participants expressed their anticipations for future investment opportunities in the MENA region including bus and train operators, and other mass transit companies in the region.

Khalid Al-Hogail, President of UITP – MENA, and Managing Director of SAPTCO in Saudi Arabia, who chaired the session, asked: How can we align the political decision with community visions? How can we provide funding for projects? How can we shape the future of our cities to meet the aspirations of our peoples?

HE Hisham Arafat, Minister of Transport, Egypt, also spoke during the parallel session about public transportation projects in the MENA and praised the vital role of the UITP in supporting sustainable urban transport. He praised the theme of the Congress: “Pioneering for Customers Happiness”, a clear testament to RTA’s efforts to bring happiness to customers as well as Dubai visitors from various parts of the world.



Saudi Arabia's Deputy Minister of Transport, Saad Al-Khaleb, said, "The Kingdom's vision includes benefiting from the huge human and natural resources it possesses and renewable energies. A strategic partnership must link the public and private sectors. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia currently hosts about 8 million pilgrims and the plan is to up the capacity to receive 30 million visitors for Hajj and Umrah annually. This warrants the development of ambitious plans of transport networks within and between cities and airports. The King Abdul Aziz Airport receives 16 million passengers annually, and this number will rise to up to 30 million in the future."

Rumaih Al Rumaih, President of Public Transport Authority in Saudi Arabia, said: "Unfortunately, we build cities and then think about public transport. We are now trying to reconcile the two. We are starting to make public transport gradually grow to meet

people's aspirations. We will not be happy unless we succeed in convincing community members to use public buses. We have phased out old buses and brought in new sophisticated ones.

Alwaleed Al-Akrich, Deputy Head of Programs and Projects, and the Supreme Authority for the Development of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, spoke about the transport projects in Riyadh, especially the Riyadh metro project. He noted that the population of Riyadh is approximately 6.5 million, most of them under 30. Abdul Mohsen Ibrahim Younes, CEO of Rail Agency, RTA, concluded the session by reviewing the key stations of Route 2020. He stated that the organisation of Expo 2020 in Dubai was a strategic event for the whole region, not only the UAE. He added that the event would attract about 25 million visitors during a six months period. It has prompted the RTA to develop a specific strategy for transporting 50% of visitors on public transport means.

UAE takes leading role in customers' happiness, mobility experience

The opening session of Day 1 of the 3rd MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition 2018 was held under the theme: Measuring and Increasing Happiness in Public Transport. The session stressed the leading role of the UAE across the world in diffusing happiness highlighted by the appointment of Happiness Minister; which underlines the keenness of leaders to diffuse happiness across the community.

Ms Ann L. Note, Chairperson of Business Management and HR, UITP, who directed the session, indicated that happiness was a psychological state experienced by humans, and could only be achieved if satisfaction was gained. When living a happy experience, people attempt to replicate it in order to prolong the happiness duration.

Bruno Sharid, CEO of Transdiv Latin America, Southern Europe and MENA, Chile, pointed out the need to migrate from a culture

of transport to a culture of making the transport journey enjoyable and satisfying to customers.

Ahmed Ali Al Baloushi, Executive Director of Oman National Transport Company (Mawasalat), said: "Since 2015, we have changed our policies, brand and the profile of the company. Although we are the only state-owned company providing transportation services in Omani cities and abroad, we have added more services to keep up with the expectations of our customers. We try to provide services such as shaded bus stops, Wi-Fi, and Google Maps. We have given employees a host of benefits as we recognise employees happiness reflects on customers happiness. Leila Francis, President of Middle East and Hyderabad cum Chairperson of Kiwis Downer, Australia, concluded the session by quoting an interesting initiative where her company attempted to delight customers by making the final bus trip to customers' homes rather than the last stop, as were the rest of the day's journeys.



RTA signs contract for procuring 316 buses costing AED465m on sideline of MENA Transport Congress

HE Mattar Al Tayer ,Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority) RTA (in Dubai ,has witnessed the signing of a contract for procuring 316 multi-size buses compatible to the European low carbon emissions .The total cost of these buses ,which are fitted with Euro 5 and Euro 6 engines for the first time in the MENA region ,is about



AED465 million dirham .The signing took place on the sidelines of the MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition.2018 The agreement was signed on behalf of the RTA by Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian ,CEO of Public Transport Agency ,and on behalf of Optare Company by Suwaidan Saeed Al Naboodah ,MD of Al Naboodah Group Enterprises .For United Motors & Heavy Equipment Company L.L.C signed Khalifa Saif Al Kutbi ,CEO of the Company ,and for Famco ,signed the CEO Nigel Johnson. "The procurement of the new buses is part of a master plan set out to upgrade mass transit systems in Dubai and keep them aligned with the highest global practices .The plan also calls for providing best-in-class services to mass transit users and keeping abreast of the sustained growth of ridership of these modes .It conforms to RTA's endeavours to make public transport the ideal mobility choice of people and push the share of public transport in people mobility to as much as 30% by " ,2030 said Al Tayer" .

MENA Transport Congress envisages public transport future

The MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition has held a plenary session entitled (Public Transport Into the Future) in Zabeel Hall 4, Dubai World Trade Center. The session was chaired by Mohamed MEZGHANI Secretary-General, UITP, Brussels, Belgium. Panellists included Ahmed BAHROZYAN CEO, Public Transport Agency, RTA, who reviewed the vision of the RTA for the future. Bibop G. GRESTA Chairman, Hyperloop Transpor-

tation Technologies, Dubai, spoke about the future of mobility: Beyond driverless vehicles.

Christopher FREE, Strategy Lead for Europe, Middle East and Africa, spoke about the future of public transport. Ralf BARON Partner, Head of Global Travel & Transportation Practice, Arthur D. Little, GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, Germany shared his experience with attendees, and so did Stefan KLOCKE Shareholder – Member of the Board, Volocopter GmbH, Karlsruhe, Germany.



Technology trends dictate financing, governance of public transport

The Plenary Session of the 3rd MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018 held by the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) and the UITP, stressed that the need for funding and governance of public transport projects is not only initiated by the slow economic growth, but also by the market necessities. As such, it is imperative to keep pace with the modern trends & technologies. The services associated with public transport means warrant a high-level of governance and transparency in order to deliver them in best possible manner.

The session entitled (Financing and Governance of Public Transport) and chaired by Abdul Mohsen Ibrahim Younes, CEO of Rail Agency, RTA, covered an array of topics incorporated under the Congress theme: Pioneering for Customers Happiness. Topics discussed included the funding of public transport under constrained public budgets, and how can digitalisation, automated operation and e-mobility are changing public transport. The discussion covered emerging business models, revenue-boosting strategies, utilization of resources, and developing partnerships with the private sector.

Several international panellists participated in the session,

which was held in Zabeel 4 Hall at the Dubai World Trade Center including a keynote speech by Laurence BATLLE, President of the Executive Board, RATP Dev, Paris, France; Peter JONES Professor, Centre for Transport Studies, University College London (UCL), London, United Kingdom; Ian JENNINGS Senior Urban Transport Specialist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), London, United Kingdom; and Roman LATYPOV, First Deputy Head, Moscow Metro, Head of Moscow Circle Line, Moscow, Russia. From the RTA participated Ibrahim AL HADDAD Director of Commercial & Investment.

Ibrahim Al-Haddad reviewed the vision of the Dubai government, which aims to rank Dubai as the happiest city in the world, and RTA's role in implementing this vision. "Dubai hosts three million residents receives one million visitors from other cities on a daily basis, and Dubai Airport receives 300,000 passengers every day. The cell phone use among Dubai community members is 100%, thus helping the launch of smart programs and applications, which contributed to developing public transport." Al-Haddad also discussed the partnership between the RTA and the private sector in financing many transport projects including the Route 2020, Salik, among others.

Future of taxis, ride-hailing apps

Dr Yousef Al Ali, CEO of Dubai Taxi Corporation, RTA,

chaired a session about the Future of taxis and ride-hailing apps. Topics discussed included current expansion



across MENA region, how ride-hailing apps are affecting access to public transport ridership, and how authorities are dealing with ride-hailing apps across MENA in terms of regulations, laws, investments and partnerships, access to data. Topics also included how ride-hailing apps are affecting socio-economic indicators like access to jobs/education, Gender dynamics of ride hailing in MENA, and Ride-hailing apps in the future: are they shifting to a public transport model.

RTA plans to make Dubai one of the best cities providing cycling lanes

Ms Mona Al Osaimi, Director of Strategic Planning, Roads and Transport Authority in Dubai, said, “The RTA has strategic plans to make Dubai one of the best cities in providing cycling lanes and supporting non-mechanical mobility means.

Participants in the session entitled: Mobility through Walking and Non-Mechanical Means, included Christian Brink, Director of Business Development, Next Bike Company, and Antony Reynaldi, Business Development Manager in PBSC, and Nasma Hannawi, Researcher in London University College. Mona stated that the RTA had a plan for supporting walking mobility in Dubai based on six key pillars: development of modern cities, caring for pedestrian services, developing legislation for using private vehicles, paying attention to cycling lanes, supporting public

Ismail VADI Member of the Executive Council, Department of Roads and Transport of Gauteng, Gauteng, South Africa, about (The Informal transport in the Gauteng city region), Joseph SALEM Principal, Arthur D. Little Middle East FZ-LLC, Dubai, about (Striking the optimal equilibrium in the ride-hailing market). Othman Mohammed ALOTHMAN Director of Implementation Support, Public Transport Authority, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, about The role of Saudi public transport authority in regulating shared mobility services.

transport mobility, and improving the benefits relating outlets, pavements on streets of the Emirate.

Christian focused on making bicycles in megacities a means of entertainment and mobility as well. He stated that his company had served in five projects in Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and Turkey and contributed significantly to improving the bicycle sharing system which has become common in several global cities.

Antony was impressed with the steps taken by Dubai, adding that the strategic plans of Dubai had set a good model for the huge improvements in the Middle East to emulate.

Nasma concluded the session by calling on government departments to address the means of public transport and cycling lanes when making plans for cities and mega residential districts. She called on GCC countries to encourage the use of public transport and cycling, rather than the semi-total reliance on private vehicles.





Experts of MENA Transport Congress review role of data in improving public transit means

Experts taking part in the 3rd MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition stated that public transport mobility and management was still facing challenges in cities and areas which were not privileged with the highest development opportunities. Accordingly, such cities were lacking in technologies of compiling and using data and digital information.

Devin DE VRIES CEO, WhereIsMyTransport, South Africa said, “Unofficially operated transport provides up to 80 percent of all public transport in emerging cities that have little or no information about operations. Digital information has become crucial to developing inter-city & city transport services. Providing and using data in transport operations con-

tributes significantly to improving operations, city planning and providing high-level services to the public.”

Hazem ZUREIQAT Founder, Maan Nassel, Amman, Jordan, presented a paper about the maps and improvements in the public transport system in Jordan, saying “The annual increase rate in the number of public transport vehicles is 6.6%, with 146 vehicles per 1000 of the population. The lack of information, non-documentation of trips and poor pedestrian infrastructure hamper public transport development.

Mohamed HEGAZY Director, Transport for Cairo (TfC), Cairo, Egypt, reviewed the large public transport networks in Cairo (Megacity), highlighting the improvement in the public transport network and its role in reducing environmental pollution, which is high in large cities such as Cairo.

MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition reviews smart technologies for journey planners, tariff payment and car rental

The Middle East and North Africa Transport Congress and Exhibition underway at the Dubai World Trade Center, has continued sessions for the third day running. A work session was held today reviewing smart Apps in the MENA cities and Mobility as a Ser-

vice (MaaS), moderated by Abdullah Al Madani, CEO of Corporate Technical Support Services Sector, RTA, in addition to specialised keynote speakers from the UAE, Canada and Germany. Adel Shakeri, Director of RTA's Transport Systems, said: “25% of the total transportation in Dubai will be transformed to autonomous modes by 2030 and will be smartly integrated with several Dubai's transport systems using future technology programs

which the TRA has already embarked on.”

Eyad Tayeb, Director of a Business Development Company in Traffic Systems. He outlined the development of public transport tickets purchase starting from conventional money, paper tickets, magnetic cards, telephone-based and artificial intelligence-based (biometrics) in the near future.

Alain MARTINAIS Director, Marketing, New Markets, Giro Inc., Montreal, Canada, reviewed the benefits on offer by his company to passengers who enjoy the latest technologies, research

and studies conducted. He added that the company had established a mobile laboratory to measure public satisfaction with the service on offer and using such data to improve services.

Alexander NASE, Managing Director, FEV Consulting GmbH, Aachen, Germany, discussed a new public transportation experience called “Personal Public Vehicles”. The idea is that three people can share a single, self-driving vehicle that can be programmed to serve more than one person throughout the day.

MENA Congress speakers focus on electric bus trend

Li Jianguo, product manager at Zhengzhou Yutong, said, “There is a dire need for transporting people via electricity-powered transit means. He pointed out that the sales of electric buses in China have increased in recent years, especially after the Chinese authorities took serious measures to reduce the environmental pollution and encourage communities to use the clean energy.

In his paper, “Electric Bus Era”, Li Jian reviewed the advantages

and services provided by Yutong electric buses. He explained the intelligent systems that connected electric buses electronically to many other transport systems such as metro, taxi and bicycle. Jochen Fitzg, the director of ZF German Company, presented his paper “Electrical Mobilization of Urban and City Bus Applications” and gave a brief explanation of services offered by his company in the field of electric bus industry. He explained the advantages that the electric buses have given to the community, and highlighted its intelligent and modern systems that assist the driver and the control rooms of the operating companies.



Alex De Jong, Director of Public Transport Business at DL Bus Dutch Company, addressed the electrical systems used in the electronic buses in many Dutch cities. He explained the simple ways that intelligent systems can recharge the bus at stations in close proximity or at the main station from which buses start. He pointed out that many transport companies began plans for replacing traditional vehicles by electric vehicles. The benefits are no longer limited to the environment only, but also include

savings in spending, quality control, and operations.

Ulrich Schmidt, executive director of Germany's Initpellen GmbH said in a paper on the effects of running electric buses that the recent studies in Europe supported all recent research on areas of clean energy. "There are encouraging government legislations, and the trend has taken place after the government and private sectors have identified the positive effects of using electric in powering buses."

MENA Transport Congress examines service improvements through technologies, data

Alok Jain, Director General of Trans-Consult, Hong Kong, started the session by delivering a working paper entitled: (Use of telematics data in improving delivery of bus services and its role in improving services to public transport riders in Hong Kong).

Mohammed Al Khayat, Director of Smart Services, RTA delivered a paper entitled: (Shaping the Future of Public Transport - Dubai Integrated Mobility Platform - S'hail App). He shed light on S'hail App; the latest smart apps of the RTA that comprises all transit means of Dubai as well as the milestones of the RTA. The paper also touched on the record achievements made by the RTA including smart apps, which have contributed to raising the profile of Dubai.

The third work paper was entitled (Getting connected - how digitalisation is changing the mass transit business) and was presented by Melih Arpacı, Siemens AG Mobility Management. It covered several aspects focusing on the importance

of digitalisation in automating public transport technologies, especially as Siemens is one of the leading companies in this field among others. Mohab Abla, Account Manager, GIRO, delivered a paper entitled (Leverage data to improve customer experience) focusing on the importance of data in improving this experience.

The fifth paper was entitled (How Big Data and Artificial Intelligence can improve the operational performance of public transport) and was delivered by Guillaume Martinett, Chief Data Office, RATP Dev, France. He stressed the importance of data considering it the petroleum or gold of the 21st century. The sixth and final work paper was entitled (Istanbul Metro-bus Capacity Increase Project) and was delivered by Ms Bushra Boran. She reviewed the importance of Istanbul city as the business capital of Turkey and its huge population as well as visitors from all countries of the globe. Such circumstances, she noted, warrant the provision of an integrated and automated transit system built to the highest international standards.





Diverse participation in Exhibition of MENA Transport Congress 2018

The Exhibition accompanying MENA Transport Congress (23-25 April 2018) attracted diverse participation of public, semi-public and private entities descending in Dubai from all parts of the globe.

Numerous companies & organisations from the UAE,

MENA, Europe, USA, Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, S. Korea, Russia, Netherland and other advanced countries participated in the event with advanced technologies, smart apps, and driverless mobility pods. Exhibitors included firms specialized in the infrastructure, road engineering and other solutions, products and important technologies in this field.

2000 participants

Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla, RTA Board Member and Chairman of the Higher Committee of MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition, said, "The Congress has attracted more than 2000 participants and visitors from the MENA region. They shared ideas and practices of cities of the region facing similar challenges with the aim of providing integrated public transport in the region. The Congress hosted 85 speakers from 21 countries and 49 exhibitors from 17 countries. The event attracted 36 sponsor companies.

"The Congress witnessed the signing of five MoUs, and 200 students from 18 schools were invited to attend. More than 200 drivers and bus conductors were trained on safe driving. The Congress hosted the 4th World Hackathon in partnership with youth for public transport (Y4PT), where 45 students from 21 countries came seeking to develop innovative ideas."

"The share of public transport in people mobility in Dubai has grown significantly in the last ten years, from 6% in 2006 to 16.5% in 2017. The RTA aspires to push this share to as much as 30% by 2030; which requires learning platforms to share best practices and the latest trends of the industry," added Al Mulla

Al Tayer explores cooperation with Saudi Consul to Dubai

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai, has received, in his office, HE Abdul Hadi bin Mohammed Al Shafi, Consul General of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Dubai. The visit was in the context of cementing friendly ties between the two parties.

Al Tayer welcomed the visiting Saudi Consul General wishing him a pleasant stay in the UAE and every success in boosting the bilateral relations between the two nations. He briefed the visitor about road projects and transportation systems undertaken by the RTA up to 2020 to keep pace with the upswing seen by Dubai and meet the

needs of hosting Expo 2020.

The Saudi Consul was impressed by the huge projects accomplished by the RTA in upgrading the infrastructure of roads and transportation in Dubai. He expressed his hope for forging a strategic partnership between the RTA and its counterpart in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The 5th DIPMF this December under the theme of ‘Building Nations’

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has announced that the fifth round of the Dubai International Project Management Forum (DIPMF) would be held on 8-11 December 2018 under the theme ‘Building Nations.’ The event will be co-organized by the Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA), DP World, Emaar and the Project Management Institute (PMI). During the event, the winners of the Hamdan bin Mohammed Award for Innovation in Project Management (HBMAIPM) will be honoured. Registration for the Forum opens on May 3, 2018, through the website (www.dipmf.ae).

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA, said, “The staging of the DIPMF is part of RTA’s endeavours to play an active role in steering the development drive in the region. It aims at identifying the ingredients for accelerating this process on sound scientific bases aligned with the highest international standards. The event reflects the keenness of Dubai, in its capacity as an Arab city with a global profile, to act as a link in sharing expertise, concepts and visions between gurus of various industries worldwide. The Forum has evolved into a global platform for reviewing the best practices and coming up with innovative PM solutions with the participation of visionary global experts who have creative ideas contributing to the successful delivery of mega projects.”

Key Topics

“Building Nations has been endorsed as the theme for the fifth edition of the Forum, which fits well with the UAE Government drive designating 2018 as The Year of Zayed. The year is celebrated to showcase the role of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan in establishing the UAE and making towering achievements locally & globally as well as spotlighting his care for nations and peoples. The forthcoming Forum will discuss an array of topics relating to modern management concepts and project applications.

Topics include: Future/History of Project Management, Project Management Maturity, Artificial Intelligence in Project Management, Project Management for Innovation,



Future project management competencies, Knowledge Management, Managing Cultural differences, and Project Management for Digitalization/Digital Transformation. They also include OPM & Governance/ PMO, Smart Mobility Projects, Project Management for Interpreter, Shared Economy, Project Management Tools, Mega Projects, and HBMAIPM Showcase. Specialist training courses (master classes) will be held on the sidelines of the event tackling leadership, quality & competition, emergency & crises management, agile project management and benefits management,” added Al Tayer.

AED2.6 m

During the 5th DIPMF, winners of the Hamdan bin Mohammed Award for Innovation in Project Management will be honoured. The purse of the Award has increased by 29% to reach AED2.6m (US\$710,000). Categories of the Award have increased to four following the introduction of the Academic category, which comprises the Scientific Research Award for Innovative PM, and Innovative PM (Academic Category). The second (corporate) category has three awards: Innovative Idea in PM, Innovative Idea in Programmes Management, and Innovative Idea in Projects Portfolio. The third (individual) category comprises the Innovative Project Man-

ager and the Director of Innovative PMO. The fourth (teams) category includes the Innovative Team Award.

6000 participants

Ms Laila Faridoun, Executive Director of the Office of RTA Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors Chairperson of the DIPMF Organising Committee, said, “Over the four past editions, the DIPMF has made huge achievements judging by the number of attendees, international speakers and topics discussed. More than 6000 delegates from 50 countries took part in the past editions of the event. The number of participants in the 4th round has grown by 15% from the 3rd round by as much as 1669 participants from 40 countries and 59 speakers. The fourth edition included three closed sessions, four discussion panels, 18 parallel sessions covering six topics over two days, several field visits, four case studies about key projects in Dubai, and research about the standing of Agile Project Management in the Middle East.”

New bridges on Airport St completed

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai, announced the opening of three new bridges as part of the Airport Street Improvement Project on 27 April. By opening these bridges, the RTA completes the opening of all bridges on the Airport Street; which considerably contributes to easing the traffic flow. A two-lane tunnel will be opened to serve the traffic inbound from the Airport Street heading towards Marrakech Street in July this year.

Bridges to be opened include a two-lane bridge to serve the traffic from Nad Al Hamar Street to the Airport Street. This bridge will ease the snarls resulting from the overlapping traffic at Nad Al Hamar Interchange between the first circular slope heading leftward from Nad Al Hamar to the Airport Street, and the second circular slope heading leftward from the Airport Street to

Nad Al Hamar Street. The traffic on the first circular slope will be limited to U-turns in the direction of Nad Al Hamar Street.

Upgrading Marrakech-Aiport Streets Junction includes the opening of a ramp leading to Terminal 3 of Dubai International Airport; which enables motorists access to the building without waiting at the junction.







RTA will also open the bridge leading to the premises of the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects (Ex location of the Dubai Airshow).

The opening of all bridges at the four junctions of the Airport Street increases the intake of the Airport Street by as much as 5000 vehicles per hour. It will also step up the traffic safety and

flow. The Project is needed to cope with the sharp growth rate in the number of passengers using Dubai International Airport; which is expected to hit 92m passengers by 2020.

The Airport Improvement Project comprises upgrading four junctions. The first was Rashidiya junction; which included the construction of two bridges on the Airport Street of three



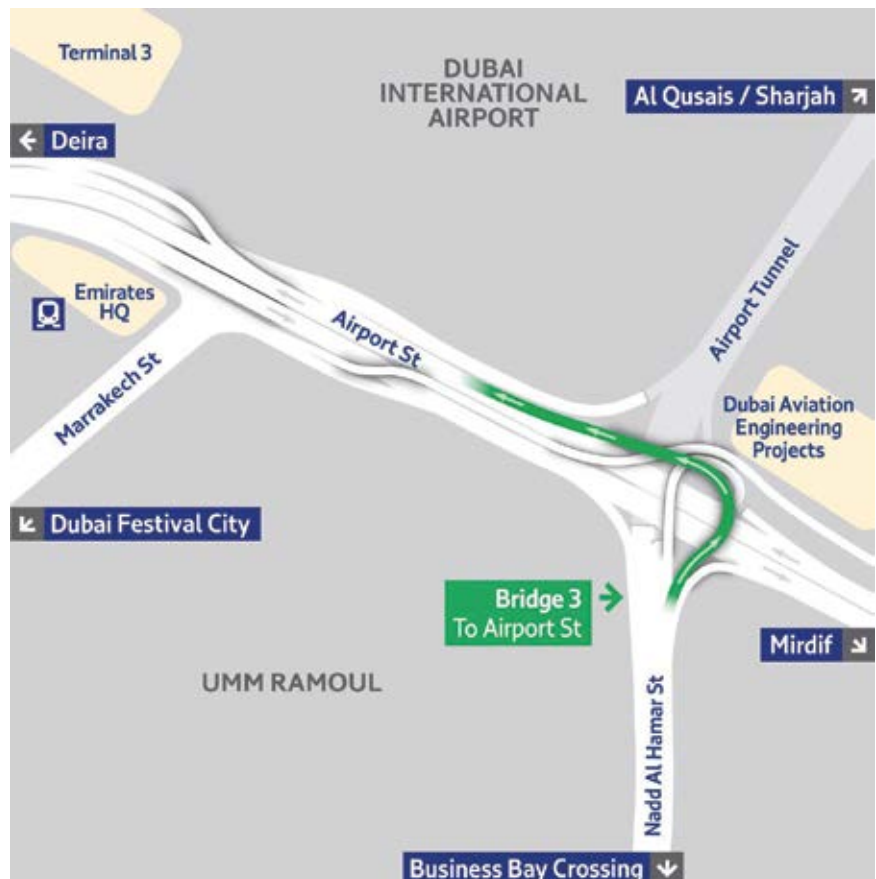


lanes in each direction. The second included upgrading the Airport-Nad Al Hamar Streets Junction through constructing a two-lane ramp to serve the traffic from Nad Al Hamar Street to the Airport Street.

The third junction included upgrading Marrakech junction through the construction of two bridges of three lanes in each direction along with a ramp leading to Terminal 3 of Dubai International Airport without waiting at the light signal. It also included the construction of another bridge leading to the premises of the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects (Ex Dubai Airshow) and a two-lane underpass to serve the traffic heading leftward from the Airport Street in the direction of Marrakech Street.

The fourth junction covered upgrading Casablanca Street junction through the construction of an additional single-lane ramp to serve the traffic from the Airport Street in the direction of Casablanca Street, thus eliminating the waiting time at the light signal. It also included the construction of an alternative route for traffic inbound from Al Garhoud enabling direct access to Terminal 1 and 3 of the Dubai International Airport, besides increasing the number of lanes of Casablanca Street in the direction

of Al Garhoud from 3 to 4 lanes. The Project considerably reduces the total waiting time at Casablanca Intersection and eases the tailbacks generated by the overlapping traffic between vehicles heading towards Casablanca junction and others coming from Terminal 1 heading leftwards to Casablanca Street.



RTA opens 4-lane tunnel on Sheikh Rashid Street on Thursday

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai, announced the opening of a tunnel on both sides of Sheikh Rashid Street (Al Garhoud and Mina Rashid) comprising four lanes in each direction on (May 3). The opening of the tunnel will greatly improve the traffic flow on Sheikh Rashid Street.

This tunnel is part of the Improvement of Sheikh Rashid and Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Streets Intersection Project. Early February this year, RTA opened two major bridges, one on Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street comprising two lanes in each direction, and the other was a one-lane bridge stretching from Zabeel Street to the direction of Sheikh Rashid Street. The opening of the two bridges had eased the traffic heading to Al Karama, and the World Trade Center junction in the direction of Sheikh Zayed Road.

“The Project is situated at the intersection of Sheikh Rashid Street leading to Al Shandagha northward, and Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street leading to the intersection with Al Kuwait Street. The Project is part of RTA’s master plan for the improve-

ment of roads, bridges, crossings and underpasses to accommodate the growing traffic volumes, and ease the traffic movement in all parts of Dubai Emirate. It is also part of the overall efforts to implement RTA’s strategic plan for upgrading roads and transport infrastructure in Dubai. The objective is to develop integrated solutions of roads and marine network that are safe for users, and capable of matching the development plans and demographic growth and encouraging the development and investment in the Emirate,” explained Al Tayer.

“The Project includes the construction of two bridges on Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street comprising two lanes in each direction to ease the traffic flow from the Trade Center R/A to the intersection of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street and Al





Kuwait Street and vice versa. It also includes the construction of another single-lane ramp stretching from Zabeel Street and heading to Sheikh Rashid Street.

“It also entails the construction of a tunnel of four lanes in each direction on the Sheikh Rashid Street in the direction of the intersection with Al Mankhool Street, and a signalised junction under the bridge to provide free turns from main roads to subsidiary roads. It also includes lighting, pavement, irrigation, sewage, storm-water drainage works as well as the shifting and protecting utility lines such as electricity,

water and telecommunication,” added Al Tayer.

It is worth mentioning that the RTA had opened in April 2016 the Improvement of Wafi Intersection Project involving an intersection of Sheikh Rashid Street and Oud Metha Street. It encompassed the construction of a three-lane bridge from Oud Metha Street (near Latifa Hospital) in the direction of Sheikh Rashid Street, and from there to Sheikh Zayed Road and Al Saada Street (Upper Deck leading to the Dubai World Trade Center). The Bridge extends 700 meters and can accommodate 3300 vehicles per hour.



RTA opens Phase II of Seh Al Salam Street Improvement Project on 14 May

The street extends 20 km from Al Qudra R/A to the intersection of Dubai-Al Ain Road

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai, announced the opening of Phase II of Seh Al Salam Dual Carriageway Project on 14 May. The sector of the project extends 20 km from Al Qudra R/A to the intersection of Dubai-Al Ain Road, with costs amounting to AED178m. Undertaking this Project is part of RTA's efforts to step up the traffic safety, and ensure a smooth vehicular flow on the Street.

"The widening works have transformed the street into a dual carriageway of two lanes in each direction from Al Qudra R/A, nearby the Cycling Rest Area, up to the intersection of the Dubai-Al Ain Road, passing through Al Lisaili and Al Marmoom. The project works also involved the construction of nine R/As at various intersections to ensure a smooth vehicular flow and improve the traffic safety at those areas as well as turns to various directions. Two crossings have been constructed for camels and two as well for horses in addition

to a crossing for cyclists. Works also included service roads at the residential complex of Al Lisaili, car parks, bus stops with shelters along the street, streetlights and rainwater drainage system. The median will be fitted with rails to fend off casual U-turns," explained Al Tayer.

"By the end of 2016, RTA opened Phase I of Seh Al Salam Dual Carriageway Project over a sector extending 12 km from Bab Al Shams Hotel and the Dubai International Endurance City to Al Qudra R/A, nearby the Cycling Rest Area. Accordingly, the

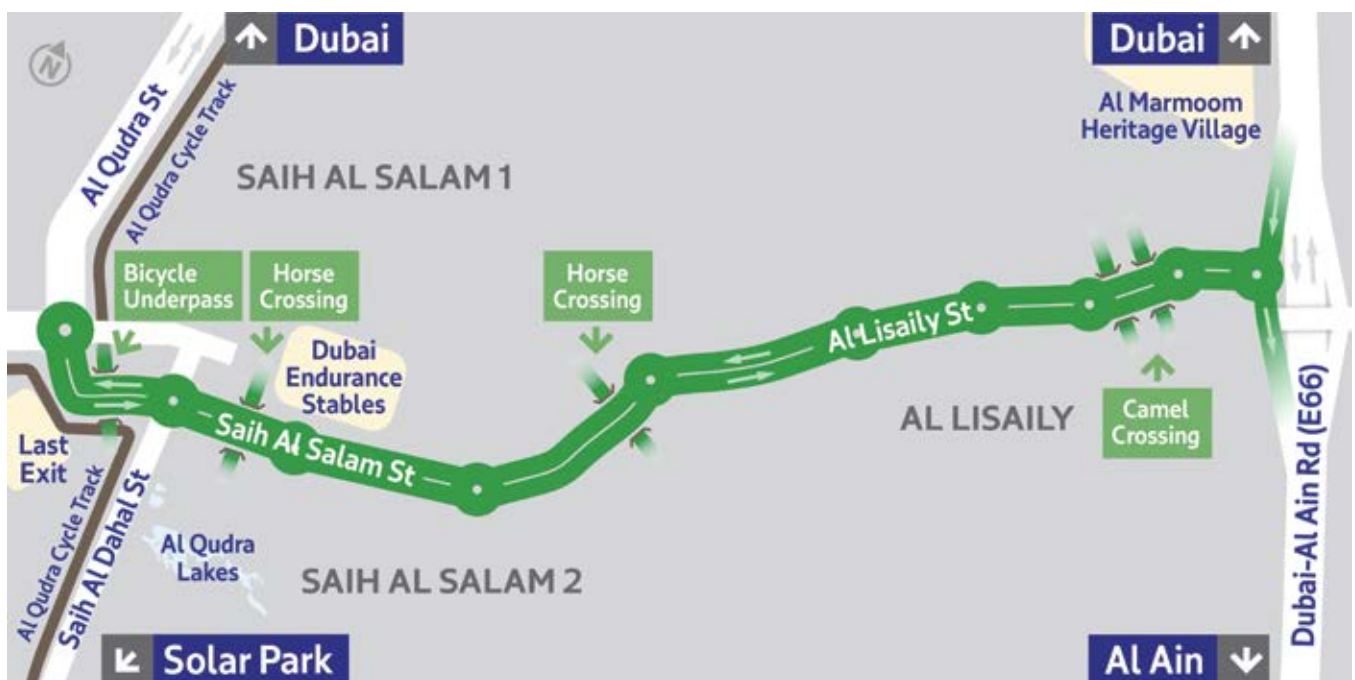




Project works included two crossings for camels, two crossings for horses, and one crossing for bicycles

Street had been widened to two lanes in each direction, and four R/As had been constructed, at a cost of AED68m. By accomplishing Phase II, the RTA completes the construction of a key part of the street extending 32 km from the Dubai International

Endurance City to Al Qudra R/A. From there the traffic can proceed to Dubai-Al Ain Street or Al Qudra Street passing across the Emirates Road and Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road up to Jumeirah,” concluded Al Tayer.



‘Bus on Demand’ reaches out to Dubai Media City

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai intends to broaden the scope of the trial operation of ‘Bus on Demand’ service included the Dubai Media City as of April 15th, free of charge for three months. The service is part of RTA’s initiatives under the Dubai Future Accelerators.

Ahmed Bahrozian, CEO of RTA’s Public Transport Agency said, “This service is part of RTA’s initiatives under the Dubai Future Accelerators. RTA had opted to broaden the scope of the service under the current trial phase starting from Sunday 15th of April to assess the response of the public in the Dubai Media City, which has several vital hotspots such as Nakheel Harbour & Tower Station, American University of Dubai, Dubai Commercial Bank, and Aurora Tower. They also include Reuters Agency, CNN Station, Arabia & MBC Channels, Samsung, SAP, ITP Media, Concord Towers, Jumeirah Palm Tram Station, Tecom Business Parks, Master Card, IBM, Oracle, Google, Microsoft, and Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank.”

“We anticipate a broad response to this service from public transport users, especially as the widening of service covers important areas and passes through Dubai Metro and Tram stations. Thus, it contributes to the integration of public transport

network, and eases the mobility of commuters to their destinations quickly and safely,” added Bahrozian.

“Recently, RTA has added the geospatial data of Al Barsha 1 & 2, Al Warqaa 3 & 4 and Dubai Media City to the MVMANT App. Thus, residents and workers in these three communities, served during the trial run of this free service, can identify their locations and track the movement of the bus until its arrival.

“The smart response to the demand of public transport riders is based on the idea of linking certain localities with mini public buses calling at their locations, through a smart app. The App enables commuters to figure out their routes from the start point up to the final destination, book their preferred seats, and pay the fares. The service offers a creative solution for the First/Last Mile journey between the homes of riders and the nearest public transport station,” continued Bahrozian.

“During the free trial operation of the service in the three com-

‘Naqel’ allows buses to return riders to other Emirates

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has launched Naqel Service allowing buses owned by passenger transport companies and licensed in the Emirate to lift passengers arriving in Dubai for returning them to other Emirates. The step is part of RTA’s endeavours to realise its third strategic goal (People Happiness), curb traffic congestion, and avoid returning buses without riders or obliging companies to contract with other firms.

“Naqel Service, which is operative through RTA’s website (www.rta.ae) is an initiative allowing buses owned by passenger transport firms to load passengers arriving in Dubai and lift them for returning to other Emirates. Through this service, permits can be issued to deluxe vehicles owned by companies licensed in other Emirates allowing them to transport passengers from Dubai International Airports. It will be possible to issue permits to drivers

of these buses and deluxe vehicles by Drivers Licensing Affairs Department at Public Transport Agency. These permits vary according to their time duration (week, month, six months, year), and the capacity of the bus,” said Mohammed Abu Baker Al Hashmi, Director of Planning and Business Development, Public Transport Agency, RTA.

“The permit is a sticker affixed to the vehicle displaying the

munities, it will be possible to assess the service efficiency and accessibility to riders, response time, and the journey time to destination. A questionnaire will be conducted at metro stations for residents and employees at Al Barsha, Al Warqaa and the Dubai Media City to screen their needs, ideas and views about the service before moving to the full operation phase. Such a survey will enable us to measure up to their ambitions for safe and smooth transport,” he further added.

It is noteworthy that RTA has commissioned a site survey and an opinion poll before the launch of this initiative. These surveys have covered more than (1750) samples comprising (63%) males and (37%) females. About (53%) of respondents were aged (25) to (34) years.

The service targets three categories: Workers (23%), occupational specialists (15%), and retail and services business (62%). The site survey was based on several parameters highlighted by the demography of service users, car ownership, mobility options, nearest public transport station/stops, and preferred mobility choices such as the walking distance, waiting time etc. Other parameters included comfort, the accuracy of schedules, and service on demand, service proximity to homes and destinations, and affordable fares. The service is environment-friendly as well. The RTA has adopted the latest international practices of countries such as Spain, Germany, United States and Finland.

The initiative is based on other standards such as the optimal use of land, type of commercial activities, average personal income, age groups, population density, avoiding competition with the existing public transport systems, and requests received from the public.

The Bus on Demand service will be offered through the smart app (MVMANT) available on Google Play and Apple Stores on smartphones and devices. The 18-seater buses will operate on flexible routes and schedules, and bus drivers can communicate with service requesters through the app to reach the nearest point to their destinations.



company name and the permit number. To avail the service, the company is prompted to visit RTA's website and open a new account. After signing up, the user can click on 'Business Sector Services – Naqel Service', and apply for the permit. A text message and an e-mail message shall be sent to the company conveying approval or otherwise. In case of approval, the representative of the company has to visit the premises of the Public Transport Agency to receive the permit and pay the prescribed fees.

“Works is underway to transform this service in 2018 to an entire e-service whereby fees can be paid online, and the permit can be dispatched to the specified address of the company

within two working days. The RTA is always keen to broadening the base of service beneficiaries, and maximising their satisfaction with the aim of making them happier,” added Al Hashimi.



ناقل
Naqel



حكومة دبي
GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI



هيئة الطرق والمواصلات
ROADS & TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

Permit Number

Company Name

رقم التصريح

اسم الشركة



الرجاء التواصل مع الإدارة المعنية في حال وجود تلف في ملصق التصريح

Please contact the concerned department in case of any damage to the permit sticker

rta.ae 8009090

A new bus route to ‘Dubai Parks’

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai launched a new bus route on 17 April, named Route DPR1, to serve visitors of Dubai Parks and Resorts, one of the key tourist and entertainment destinations in the Emirate.

On Tuesday 17 April, the Public Transport Agency, RTA deployed buses to lift riders from Ibn Battuta Metro Station (2) to Dubai Parks and Resorts and vice versa. The service will pass through several spots such the Food Corner of Ibn Battuta Mall, The Gardens Junction at Jebel Ali, and up to the Dubai Parks and Resorts.

The launch of the service aims to bring happiness to public transport riders visiting Dubai Parks and Resorts, and meet the growing demand for the service. Buses are one of the key pillars of the public transport network in Dubai also comprising the metro, tram and marine transit means.

The aim of launching this Route is to provide a quick solution for the needs of public transport riders and respond to the growing economic and tourist movement seen by Dubai and the UAE at all fronts.

The Agency has carried out modifications to other operative routes in Dubai, namely F19A from Gulf Square to Capital Golden Tower through the Business Bay Metro Station southward. Changes also covered Route C14 from Safa and Nahda (1) Station to Sama Hotel Apartments where Al Nahda and Doha streets stops have been abolished, and the Route has been diverted to Al Ittihad Street from Al Mulla Plaza Interchange. Changes also included Route F32 from

Mall of the Emirates Metro Station to the Sustainable City where the Route has been diverted to pass through the Dubai Science Park.

The change included the sequence of bus stops in Routes 7, 88, and F12 where the stops of the Iranian Hospital have been abolished to ease the turn of buses. Changes in Routes 8, 85, N55, F43, and F42 covered the abolishing of Ibn Battuta Station (Chinese Corner) stop for security and safety considerations. Changes in Routes 61, 64, 63E, and 55 included the abolishing the stops of Ras Al Khor, Mubarak Transport (1), and Aden Street (1) and (2) due to road works.

Changes in Routes 91, 91A, and F54 where Aiwa Gulf and Free Zone (1) stop has been abolished. Changes in Routes F48, F47, X28 and C04, were reflected in the sequence of Bus Stops, following the completion of road works.



nol card fulfills the ‘Services 1’ customers’ needs

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has started a pilot service at the Government Services Model Center, known as (Services 1) centre, enabling clients to pay for the services on offer by using nol card. The step is part of RTA’s efforts to enhance cooperation with government bodies towards offering better services to customers.

Abdullah Al Madani, CEO of RTA’s Corporate Technology Support Services Sector said, “The service has been launched recently at ‘Services 1’ Center, Emirates Towers where nol cardholders can pay for the services offered by the Center in Dubai through their nol cards.

“The initiative is an important step towards realising the objective of the RTA to bring happiness to nol card users in Dubai through offering them diverse uses of the card. It is in line with the Smart City initiative of the Dubai Government envisaging the provision of

advanced techniques that make it easier for people to benefit from the wide range of services they use on a daily basis. The initiative reflects RTA’s continuous endeavours to realise its third strategic goal (People Happiness), and cements the cooperation between the RTA and the Prime Minister’s Office at the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and the Future,” he continued.

“Availing different community segments to use nol cards in availing services from the RTA or other public entities in the emirate fully conforms to RTA’s 3rd Strategic Goal (People Happiness). RTA is

8 licensing services only via smart channels

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is intending to divert several licensing services to smart channels starting from the end of this month. The step is part of a strategy to gradually divert all services in line with our government's policy to limit the number of clients at service centres and make the Smart City initiative a reality.

"As of the end of this April, customers seeking 8 licensing services will be prompted to use smart channels (RTA Website (www.rta.ae), Dubai Drive App, Service Kiosks, and the Call Center (8009090). The services will be gradually phased out at service centres such that they will cease by the end of June," said Abdullah Yousef Al Ali, CEO of Licensing Agency, RTA.

"The services that will go online are: renewal of registration of individually-owned vehicles that need testing, list of registered vehicles, return from tourist trips, registration of the first owner, vehicle(s) ownership certificate, re-insurance certificate, replacement of lost/damaged ownership certificate, and clearance certificate," he added.

"The RTA is planning to divert more services by the

end of September this year, namely: payment of fines, renewal of vehicle ownership with a different number plate, and the changing of the number plate. Accordingly, the processing of these services will be channelled through the said electronic and smart platforms.

"RTA's policy of migrating licensing services and others to electronic channels is in response to leadership directives to reduce the number of visitors at service centres and enable clients to process their transactions smoothly at their own convenience. The policy saves customers time & effort, concurs with the Smart City initiative and supports RTA's first and third strategic goals: Smart Dubai, and People Happiness, respectively," concluded Al Ali.

in constant pursuit of developing the best means of enhancing the happiness of people in the UAE, be it citizens, residents, tourists or visitors. Thus, it seeks to offer clients safer, better and secure services to improve their living and make their life easy," added Al Madani.

Mohamed Bin Taliah, Assistant Director-General for Government Services at the Prime Minister's Office in the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and the Future, said, "This initiative is in line with the Government's drive to ease the processing of services using smart and innovative techniques that contribute to better customer experience and happiness.

"The initiative offers clients new options for paying transaction fees in a smooth, simple and highly efficient process. Moreover, the spirit of partnership between federal and local government bodies towards developing innovative solutions in delivering services will bring back benefit to people, and improve the quality of life for community members," added Bin Taliah.

It is noteworthy that RTA has embarked on broadening the uses of

NOL card to include the payment for public transport fare, parking fees in Dubai as well as the entry fee of parks, and Etihad Museum in Dubai. NOL uses also include paying for snacks in selected stores, petrol in EPPCO and ENOC stations, and RTA services at five Customers Happiness Centers.



Smart Scan System mitigates load on parking inspectors

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has unveiled a smart scan system for monitoring & enforcement of parking fee payment through utilising the features of Artificial Intelligence (AI). It involves the deployment of a vehicle driven by inspectors and equipped with a device on top to detect vehicles in breach of parking fee payment. The move is part of the UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence and RTA's endeavours to use the latest and smartest technologies in dealing with parking users.

Eng. Maitha bin Adai, CEO of Traffic and Roads Agency, said, "The Smart Scan System of public parking in Dubai involves the deployment of a vehicle, driven by parking inspectors, and equipped with a device on top capable of spotting vehicles for which no parking fees were paid. The system will step up the efficiency of monitoring and enforcement, and reduce the potential errors in filing offences. The introduction of such smart systems in the RTA underlines its commitment to keep pace with Dubai Government's transition to a Smart Government; which is part of the UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence.

"It is imperative to introduce smart technologies to parking inspection activities, especially as the portion of e-parking tickets is increasingly on the rise, compared to paper tickets. The RTA is also undertaking several smart initiatives in support of the smart transformation covering parking systems and services," added Maitha.



'Your Memorable Moments on Your Vehicle's Plate' reaches out to fifty years old

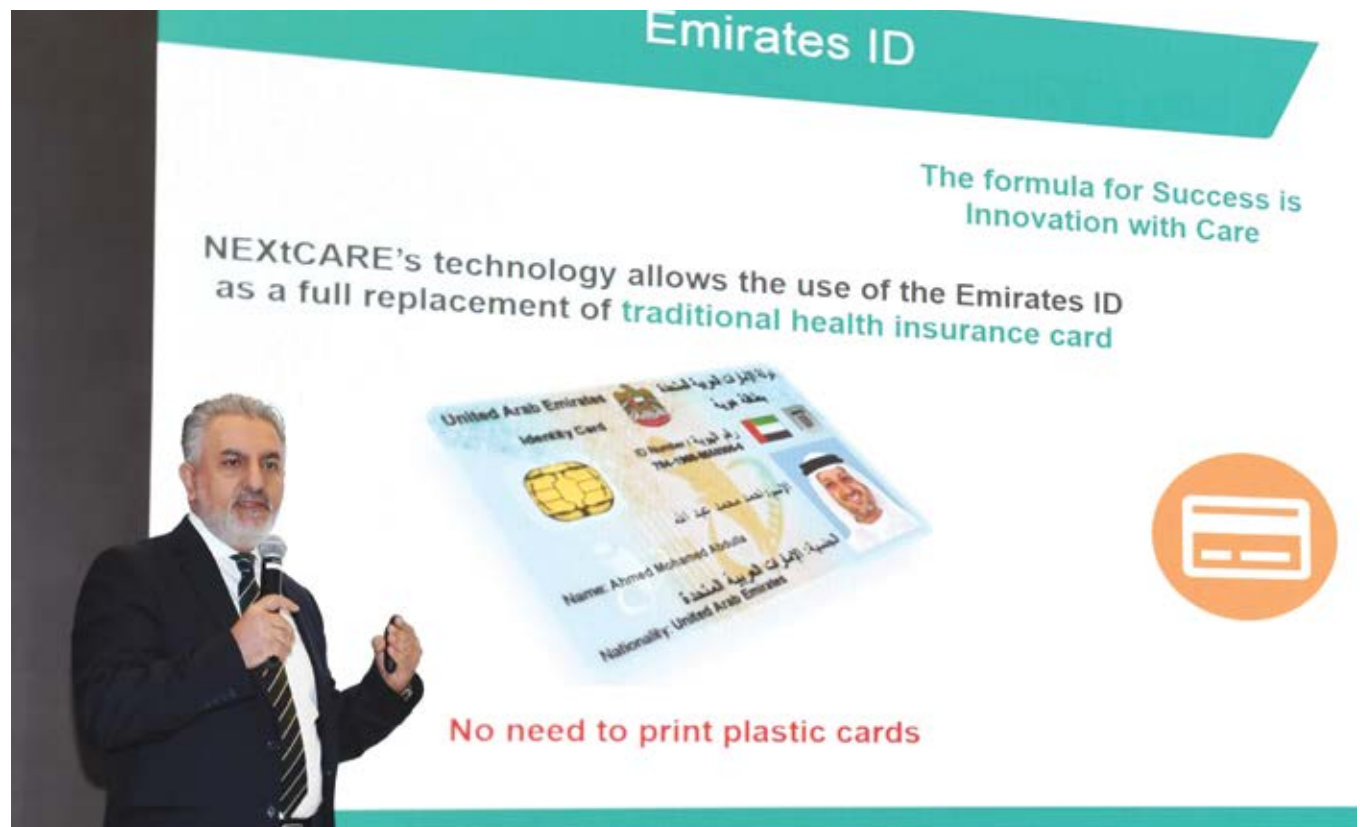
The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched on May 2 a new phase of 'Your Memorable Moments on Your Vehicle's Plate' initiative for V-Coded plates. The initiative avails clients the opportunity to choose five-digit vehicle plates bearing this code and personalised to resemble important dates & events in their lives such as birthday, employment day, wedding day, and graduation day, among others. The available numbers relate to the period from 1967 to 2018.

Sultan Al Marzouqi, Director of Vehicles' Licensing at RTA's Licensing Agency, said: "The V-Coded number plates will be issued, as available, bearing dates from 1967 to 2018. The total cost of the plate is AED 1670. Customers can source their number plates directly from Customer Happiness Centres all over Dubai, service providers, strategic partners, RTA website (www.rta.ae) or the smart app 'Dubai Drive'.

"Launching this phase, of 'Your Memorable Moments on Your Vehicle's Plate' initiative, follows the remarkable response generated by previous Codes. The initiative reflects the core role of the RTA in providing new and premium services to raise customers' satisfaction and happiness through engaging them in selecting personalised & important numbers for their vehicle plates," concluded Al Marzouqi.

RTA employees to use Emirates ID card to avail health treatment

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has started replacing Health Insurance Cards by Emirates Identity Cards, thus activating the use of the latter when visiting medical facilities and health service providers under Nextcare coverage. The RTA has now completed entering details of 70% of employees and their families in the new system.



Nabil Al Ali, Director of Administrative Services at the RTA's Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, said: "The Department has completed adding details of 70% of RTA's employees to the new system through establishing an e-link between Health Insurance Cards and Emirates Identity Cards. The latter can be used when visiting medical facilities and healthcare providers covered by Nextcare health insurance services. This achievement has surpassed our targeted rate of 60%, and this step is part of RTA's efforts to provide fast and high-quality health services to beneficiaries of the health insurance coverage, in line with RTA's strategy to keep employees happy."

"This procedure, he continued, adds to the importance of the Emirates Identity Card rendering it part of the smart services system aimed to streamline administrative procedures when

employees report to the concerned healthcare centres for medical treatment. RTA employees, be it, citizens or residents, males or females always carry their Emirate IDs with them. Thus, it becomes easier for them to use their Emirate IDs at any time including emergency cases. The Administrative Services Department conducted several awareness-raising workshops for employees at RTA's Head Office, bus stations and parking lots to inform them about the benefits of this system and the registration procedure."

"The RTA is always keen to implement government directives to make it easier for employees who are the real wealth. It also seeks to raise their satisfaction and happiness rating; which will, in turn, reflects on better performance & job dedication in the form of smart and sophisticated services," concluded Al Ali.

Al Tayer lecturing at AUD: Dubai leads the world in Quality of Roads

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai, stressed Dubai's relentless efforts to keep pace with the future needs marked by accelerating improvements of roads and transport means in Dubai. He announced plans for protecting the environment, raising traffic safety level, and shortening the time of travelling from one place to another.

"The Dubai Self-Driving Transport Strategy stands out of other global strategies as the transition towards autonomous transport in Dubai is driven by the Government, whereas it is the private sector that steers the process in other cities and countries," Al Tayer said in a lecture delivered at the American University in Dubai entitled: The Role of Youth in the Future of Transportation. "Moreover, the Dubai Strategy spans the entire public transit network comprising trains, buses; marine transport means and taxis in addition to private vehicles, whereas many countries are focused on a limited number of transit means. The Dubai Strategy involves a global competition for engaging advanced companies in smart mobility. Details of this Challenge will be unveiled at a later stage.

"The technological advancement of transport has opened new horizons for developing transit means such as the Hyperloop, driverless vehicles, and autonomous vehicles. All of these

modes will be operating in Dubai, particularly as preparations for Expo 2020 are gathering pace," he noted.

Reflecting on RTA's achievements since 2005, Al Tayer praised Dubai's contribution to ranking the UAE as Number One in the Quality of Roads worldwide over the past five years, according to the Global Competitiveness Report of the World Economic Forum in Davos. Additionally, road fatalities in Dubai have dropped from nearly 22 cases per 100,000 of population in 2006 to 2.5 cases per 100,000 of population in 2017.

Focusing on RTA's future aspirations, Al Tayer said, "Our sights are focused on five transit means that set the global trends and bring in new technologies such as the driverless transport, creative transit means (Hyperloop, Air Taxi), shared mobility, and transport on demand. The implementation of the Dubai Self-Driving Transport Strategy will reduce mobility cost by 44%, curb demand for parking spaces by 50%, cut carbon emis-





Road accident fatalities have dropped from 22 cases per 100k in 2006 to 2.5 cases per 100k of population in 2017

sions by 12%, and curtail traffic accidents and associated losses by 12%. It will also boost the happiness of people by offering them new mobility options.”

Commenting on the role of universities in shaping the future of roads and transport, Al Tayer called for contributions catered to the future of roads, and motivating students through competitions. He stressed the importance of students training exposure in their respective fields before graduation in order to grasp knowledge, which he considered much more important than making money.

At the start of the lecture, Al Tayer said that he was inclined to study civil engineering on an advice of a University Professor in the USA that the UAE was in need of civil engineers. He referred to the principles adopted by the UAE to achieve global excellence, stressing that the successful leadership, free economy,

and diversity had contributed immensely to that success.

Al Tayer concluded by citing a famous quote of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai: “The youth should be equipped with science and knowledge as they are the sole, constant and dominant weapons in this life.”

Introducing the lecturer, Dr. Lance de Masi, President of the American University in Dubai, praised the role model set by Al Tayer in making a paradigm shift in the transportation sector. Attendees included scores of university professors and students who made several questions and inquiries to Al Tayer.

During the lecture, a short movie was shown describing the phenomenal advancement in streamlining Dubai roads and transit modes. At the end of the lecture, the two parties exchanged trophies amid rousing applause from the floor.



RTA holds workshop about Hamdan bin Mohammed Award for Innovation in Project Management

The event targeted local, federal government departments and international firms

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has held an elaborate induction workshop for the Hamdan bin Mohammed Award for Innovation in Project Management. The registration for the second edition of the Award has opened through the website (<http://www.hbmaipm.com/>). Federal and local Government departments across the UAE, as well as representatives of international firms in Dubai, have been briefed on the categories, prizes, nomination and developments of the Award.

Ms Laila Faridoun, Member of Board of Trustees cum Secretary General of the Hamdan bin Mohammed Award for Innovation in Project Management, presented the workshop in the presence of Dr. Khaled Hamdi, Deputy Chairman of the Judges Panel of the Award. "The workshop aimed at attracting an additional participation of local entities in view of the importance of innovation for projects undertaken in the UAE. The Award also aimed to screen experiments, and motivate innovation in PM. It also seeks to nurture a database for the best practices and PM models, besides creating a platform for sharing creative ideas in the field of PM," said Faridoun. "Representatives of government entities have been briefed on the latest developments of the Award, namely the introduction

of the Academic Category, which comprises the Scientific Research Award for Innovative PM, and the Innovative PM in a bid to entice students, academicians and researchers in this field. The prize-money of the Award has been upped by 29% to reach AED2.6 million (USD \$710,000). Winners of the second edition of the Award will be honoured during the Fifth Dubai International Forum for PM in December this year.

"The first edition of the Award was well received and had motivated minds, abilities and creative skills of individuals, teams and entities in the field. It has prompted us to broaden the scope of participation by adding the Academic Category, where a sum of USD \$40,000 is offered for each of the two

RTA opens registration in Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport

Finalists to be announced this October, winners in October 2019

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in Dubai has announced the opening of registration for the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport, which started from May 1 through the website www.sdchallenge.com. HE Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA, had previously unveiled the initiative in collaboration with Khalifa University and NewCities International Organisation.



تحدى دبي العالمي
للتفكير الذاتي القيادة
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awards under this category,” she added.

“The prize for the individuals category was increased from USD \$30,000 to USD \$50,000 per winner (The best innovative project and the best innovative PMO categories). The prize for the team’s category was also hiked from USD \$40,000 to USD \$80,000. The prize for the innovative corporate ideas amounts to USD \$450,000 and it comprises three awards: The Innovative Idea in PM (USD \$100,000), the Innovative Idea in Programs Management (USD \$150,000), and the Innovative Idea in Proj-

ects Portfolio Management (USD \$200,000).

“The General Rules and Conditions stipulated that the submission has to be in English as it is a universal language, and one person has to be nominated as a liaison point in the application form. The Judges Panel consists of experts, and judges will be designated for assessing each submission in order to avoid a potential clash of interests and ensure the implementation of the highest professional and ethical standards by the Committee Members,” concluded Faridoun.

“Registration for the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport started on May 1, finalists will be announced this October, and winners will be unveiled on 15 October 2019. The total prize money of the Challenge exceeds USD \$5 million,” said Adel Shakri, Director of Transportation Systems cum Head of the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport Committee.

“Launching the Challenge is part of RTA’s efforts to support the leading role of Dubai in Self-Driving Transport and its commitment to realise the Government vision for transforming 25% of total mobility trips in Dubai into driverless trips by 2030. Rolled out by the RTA, in collaboration with Khalifa University and NewCities International Organisation, the initiative aims to be a global platform for driverless transport. Through this initiative, the RTA is seeking to bring together prominent experts, special-

ists, policymakers, technology drivers, researchers and academicians. It will attempt to come up with the best ideas & visions that serve the Dubai Government’s drive, achieves RTA’s first strategic goal (Smart Dubai), and realise Dubai initiative (Smart Dubai),” he continued.

“The Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport targets big companies, start-ups and local and international universities. About USD \$3 million has been allocated to mega companies, USD \$1.5m for start-ups, and USD \$600,000 for universities and academic institutions (USD \$300,000 for local universities, and a similar amount for international universities. The Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport has become a key pillar of RTA’s strategy. The RTA is, therefore, launching a host of innovative initiatives such that mobility can be a reality on the ground,” concluded Sharkri.