

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA

Issue No. 171 September 2022

305m riders used public transport in first half of 2022

Driver and vehicle licensing services reengineered

Aisha Al Mutaiwee,
Gold champ



Vision

The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility.

Mission

Develop & manage integrated and sustainable roads & 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, developing policies and legislations, adopting technologies, innovations & world-class practices and standards.

Sustainable Happiness



“Our first, second, and third priority is the ‘Citizen’ ”

The words of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai, have become a reality thanks to the use of advanced technologies in delivering quality services to Dubai’s residents. The drive not only adds to the well-being and happiness of people in Dubai but also enhancing the credentials of the city as the best place for living in the world.

The smart city that His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has envisioned for Dubai harnesses technology to unlock a new era of development marked by a new standard and scale of living for all residents and visitors of Dubai.

In this context, Dubai’s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has sought to transform its entire customer services into smart, innovative and easy-to-use services. It continued to develop the smart services offering and the latest example was the announcement last month of an initiative to re-engineer vehicle and driver licensing services. In the process, RTA became globally the first government entity to offer an integrated digital experience for obtaining a driver’s license. This integrated digital process has reduced the average service delivery time by 75% from 20 to 5 minutes. It also saved customers’ time and

effort, resulting in a 53% drop in customer visits to driving institutes.

The digitisation of vehicle licensing services also entailed reengineering the existing processes and designs of all licensing services and delivering them in smart packages that ensure streamlined customer transactions. This included transforming all services into paperless services via smart channels.

The initiative also targeted the Transportation Activities Rental System (TARS), a first-of-its-kind system that uses blockchain technology to issue smart car rental contracts in Dubai. The system improved the standards of governance in the car rental business and facilitated the monitoring of operations.

To further enhance its pioneering role and excellence in service delivery, RTA launched the region’s first mobile eyesight testing service. The test is conducted in a vehicle at a time and place selected by the customer against an additional fee, enabling the instant renewal of the driver’s license. The customer can instantly receive an electronic or printed copy of the new license.

Keeping up with international best practices, RTA is continually seeking to improve its services, simplify transaction procedures, reduce service processing time, and diversify its channels of service delivery besides embarking on periodic corrective measures to enhance the customer service offering.

H.E. Mattar Al Tayer

Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors

المسار almasar

Strategic Map For AlMasar Magazine Team

Vision

The Pioneer
Government
Magazine in Dubai

Mission

To work in the spirit
of team in presenting
achievements, enhance
Success , and document
roles of RTA.

Core Values

Transparency &
Credibility
Corporate Reputation
Excellence
Spirit of Team
knowledge Sharing

Reciprocal Ads Initiative

Al Masar magazine Editorial Board offers the Reciprocal Ads initiative whereby a space for an advert is allocated to strategic partners and other government entities against allocating the same space in the magazine of the beneficial entity during the same month for the benefit of the RTA.

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Hamdan Bin Mohammed Approves The Comprehensive Restructuring Of Dubai Municipality

By Establishing 4 New Institutions And Separating Governance And Control Systems From Implementation

In implementation of the decisions of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, may God protect him, at the Dubai Council meeting, aimed at reducing costs by 8 billion dirhams and creating economic opportunities worth 10 billion dirhams, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed adopted Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai, the comprehensive restructuring of Dubai Municipality by establishing 4 new institutions, separating governance and control systems from implementation, and transforming 8 major activities of the municipality to be in partnership with the private sector, which contributes to providing innovative services and according to which the municipality provides more 60% of all city services.

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum said: “As part of Mohammed bin Rashid’s directives at the last Dubai Council meeting to comprehensively restructure a municipality, today we approved the new structure of Dubai Municipality by establishing 4 new institutions, separating oversight and strengthening governance, and transforming 8 major activities into partnership. With the private sector and

creating economic opportunities worth 10 billion dirhams.”

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed added: “The new structure of the municipality includes an environment institution, a facilities management institution, a building licensing institution, and a waste management institution... The goal is to build partnerships, achieve financial sustainability, and develop services that achieve an unprecedented quality of life. Dubai

Municipality is the mother of institutions and their development is A new economic and social stage in Dubai's march.

His Highness also called on the leaders of the new institutions to start developing strategies and implementing plans in line with the vision and ambitions of the Emirate of Dubai. Leading the transformation and we will be with them and support them to achieve the goals they were assigned to."

As His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed said, "The current cadres of Dubai Municipality are appreciated, thanked and trusted, and we rely on them to contribute to change within the new institutions, and we expect major transformations in the organization of construction, in the management of environmental affairs and in the services of parks and neighborhoods for citizens. And the coming is always more beautiful, as he confirms. Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, leader of the development process.

His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, said: "Dubai Municipality provides 60% of the city's services, and represents the social, economic and service nerve of Dubai, and the current changes are part of the city's development journey."

His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum stressed that "Dubai Municipality has been assigned new and strategic tasks, and has been restructured to achieve financial sustainability and quality of services and to be an exemplary entity that contributes to building the future of Dubai in a renewed way."

Operational efficiency and service quality

Dubai Executive Council Resolution No. (43) of 2022, regarding the adoption of the new organizational structure of Dubai Municipality, aims to maximize the economic, tourism and commercial impact of the municipality's public assets, by creating economic opportunities worth 10 billion dirhams, and establishing a new stage of development aimed at providing innovative services. Under it, the municipality provides more than 60% of the city's total services.

The new organizational structure of Dubai Municipality will include two main sectors, namely the planning and governance sector, and the institutional support services sector, in addition to 4 new institutions working under the supervision and management of the municipality, including the Building Regulation and Licensing Corporation, the Environment, Health and Safety Corporation,



Al Tayer pointed out the importance of moving forward in the process of development and continuing to work on implementing strategic plans that aim to make qualitative leaps in Dubai's development process to provide the finest services to its citizens, residents and visitors, according to a comprehensive and integrated system that enhances governance and adopts a modern organizational concept based on specialized institutions and sectors that achieve results desired.

the Public Utilities Corporation, and the Waste and Sanitation Corporation.

The strategic objectives that the new organizational structure of Dubai Municipality will work to achieve include enhancing financial and governance sustainability by reducing operational costs by 10% while raising the quality of services and making the city's residents happy by 20%, in addition to maximizing the economic, tourism and commercial impact of the municipality's public assets, and working To allocate 8 main activities for the municipality to be in partnership with the private sector, in order to achieve the leadership's vision of making Dubai the best city for life in the world, enhance the quality of life in the emirate, consolidate its leadership in competitive indicators, and support the outcomes of governance and partnership with the private sector.

For his part, His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Commissioner-General of the Infrastructure, Urban Planning and

Quality of Life track, stressed the continuation of the unremitting efforts to enhance governance, efficiency of performance and raise productivity to achieve the vision of the wise leadership in making Dubai the best city for life in the world, and in enhancing its competitiveness worldwide in adopting Flexibility and speed of project completion.

New departments led by young cadres

Based on the decision, new departments were created for the first time in the history of municipal work, based on specialization and defining tasks and priorities, in order to raise productivity and efficiency and achieve the best results, and they included food security management, digital transformation management, urban planning and quality of life management, enterprise risk management and business continuity The Department of Customer Happiness, the Department of City Beautification and Public Projects, the Department of Public Beaches and Water Canals, the Department of Environmental Sustainability, and the Department of Strategy and Waste Projects. These departments aim to focus on emerging files and those that are a top priority amidst the rapid changes and developments taking place worldwide. The new and largest organizational structure in the history of Dubai Municipality in general, establishes an exceptional stage of institutional work and organizational governance in the emirate, by supporting and empowering young citizens, and giving young leaders with specialized expertise the opportunity to join the work team and manage the stage of achieving the objectives of the Dubai Urban Plan 2040 Where it will work according to specific agreements and regulations to evaluate the leadership team during the performance of their duties, to ensure a qualitative leap in performance and results.

In the details of the new organizational structure

The decisions issued by His Highness the Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai in this regard, which will be published in the Official Gazette and will be enforced from the date of their issuance, included Executive Council Resolution No. 48 of 2022 appointing Nasser Hamad Khalifa Bushahab as Executive Director of the Planning and Governance Sector in Dubai Municipality, whose most prominent tasks are urban planning for the city, and working to enhance the quality of community life by developing policies and strategies

related to investment and partnership with the private sector, adopting advanced digital plans, working to double the value of assets and properties, ensuring business continuity and others.

Executive Council Resolution No. (49) of 2022 appointed Wissam Al-Abbas Hussain Lootah as Executive Director of the Institutional Support Services Sector in Dubai Municipality. and talents.

Public Utilities Corporation in Dubai Municipality

Executive Council Resolution No. (46) of 2022 also stipulated the appointment of Badr Ahmed Hassan Anwahi as Executive Director of the Public Utilities Corporation in Dubai Municipality. Under the resolution, this institution aims to beautify the city, adopt innovative projects according to the best international standards, manage and develop public beaches and water canals, adopt innovative solutions in the development of public parks and recreational facilities, develop strategies and market services, in addition to managing agriculture and providing distinguished services with added value to all residents. and visitors, and implement projects to preserve the urban heritage and antiquities in the city.

Building Regulation and Licensing Corporation in Dubai Municipality

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed issued Resolution No. (44) for the year 2022, which mandates Maryam Obaid Humaid Al Muhairi to perform the duties of the Executive Director of the Building Regulation and Licensing Corporation in Dubai Municipality. In employing geographic information systems to serve the city, in addition to working on developing planning and surveying services in Dubai.

Environment, Health and Safety Corporation of Dubai Municipality

According to Executive Council Resolution No. (45) of 2022, Alia Abdul Rahim Abdullah Al Harmoudi was assigned the duties of the Executive Director of the Environment, Health and Safety Foundation in Dubai Municipality, provided that the Foundation's tasks include developing the food security system and supporting strategies, promoting environmental sustainability, and developing the public health and safety system. In addition to raising the level of food safety, and developing inspection services and standards and measurement specifications.

Waste and Sewerage Corporation in Dubai Municipality

Adel Muhammad Tayeb Al Marzouqi was delegated the duties of the Executive Director of the Waste and Sanitation Corporation in Dubai Municipality, according to Dubai Executive Council Resolution No. (47) for the year 2022. The tasks of the Corporation include developing the sewage and rainwater drainage network and projects, and enhancing the sustainability of the city's infrastructure, And the development of waste treatment and recycling centers in partnership with the private sector.

The Executive Council resolution also stipulated giving the Director General of Dubai Municipality the power to issue the necessary decisions to implement the provisions of this resolution, including approving the tasks of the organizational units covered by the approved organizational structure according to its provisions, provided that this resolution is implemented from the date of its issuance.

Strategic objectives that enhance Dubai's competitiveness

The new restructuring of Dubai Municipality comes to support the emirate's priorities and future directions in all sectors, as it aims to reduce operational costs by 10%, which will enhance efficiency in performing tasks and completing projects, in addition to raising people's happiness by 20% through enhancing the quality of service delivery and speed of response to requirements.

The resolution, which complements the efforts of the Emirate of Dubai to keep pace with future trends, especially in the areas of environment, climate change, and the circular economy, aims to launch a package of new and innovative services, and strengthen partnership with the private sector through 8 basic activities and projects, including irrigation services, city beautification, agriculture, veterinary services and slaughterhouses. Waste management, markets management, public parks and recreational facilities management, water treatment plants management and technical laboratories management.

In this context, His Excellency Daoud Al Hajri, Director-General of Dubai Municipality, referred to the qualitative leaps made by Dubai Municipality in terms of operational efficiency and innovative services that meet the requirements and aspirations of the emirate's residents and

Dubai Municipality Organization Structure



A major shift in the Dubai Municipality:

- The new functional model achieves a significant shift in the municipality from operational to a more efficient and flexible regulatory entity.
- Adopting the Private-Public-Partnership framework thereby contributing to fulfilling the leadership vision of marking Dubai, "the best city for living in the world".
- Empowering entrepreneurship and global competitiveness in the emirate of Dubai's local workforce, while achieving the requirements of the cities of the future, to enhance the quality of living.
- Implementing a governmental concept through a model of departments and sectors that promotes financial sustainability and boosts work efficiency.
- Enhancing the impact of the economy, tourism, and trade on assets of the municipality.

visitors, stressing the municipality's keenness to continue working to implement the directives of the wise leadership in the Emirate of Dubai, by doubling The endeavors and efforts to develop targeted plans and achieve the required achievements during the coming period, in line with the new growth phase witnessed by the emirate and enhance its competitiveness within the global growth and performance indicators.

It is noteworthy that the new structure will work to achieve a number of basic objectives such as providing services of the highest quality, enhancing keeping pace with new global changes in the fields of environment, climate change, circular economy, and others, as well as enhancing partnership opportunities with the private sector in a way that enhances flexibility and speed of project completion.

Unveiling initiatives for revamping vehicles and drivers licensing and opening mobile eyesight testing service

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the launch of 'Click and Drive' initiative for reengineering customers' journeys to obtaining driver licenses. RTA is the first government entity in the world to offer an integrated digital experience for obtaining a driver's license. Al Tayer also announced an array of initiatives in support of the digitisation of vehicle registration services, including a first-of-a-kind mobile eyesight testing service in the region.

While meeting the Licensing Agency team, Al Tayer stressed RTA's standing commitment to enhancing vehicle and driver licensing services and supporting the migration to digital and smart platforms. "These efforts aim to realise the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and the directives of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council, to transform Dubai into the world's smartest city. Achieving this goal warrants delivering services at levels that exceed customers' expectations, which will pave the way for bringing more happiness to residents and visitors of Dubai," said Al Tayer.

Click and Drive

"Click and Drive initiative helped in achieving 92% of the digital transformation and reduced the average service delivery time by 75% (from 20 to 5 minutes). It also saved customers' time and effort by slashing the service procedures from 12 to 7 steps, resulting in a 53% drop in customer visits to driving institutes. The initiative achieved high-performance indicators such as increasing customer satisfaction from 93% to 97%, improving the service delivery period from 87% to 97%, easing the use of service from 88% to 94%, and enhancing the accessibility of service from 90% to 94%," explained Al Tayer.

"The digitisation of vehicle licensing services entails revamping the existing processes and designs of all licensing services and delivering them in smart packages that ensure streamlined customer procedures. Moreover, transforming all services into paperless services via smart channels serves the goal of digital adoption. RTA has reengineered more than 50% of vehicle licensing services and will complete the process in Q4 2022. The first stage of the project yielded significant results, including the transfer of vehicle ownership without visiting the service centres, thereby facilitating the service delivery and accelerating the processing time," he further added.





Smart Contracts

“The Transportation Activities Rental System (TARS) is a first-of-its-kind system that uses blockchain technology to issue smart car rental contracts in Dubai. The system improved the standards of governance in the car rental business, facilitated the monitoring of operational processes, and raised the efficiency of inspection and controlled operations by automating tasks, which saved the time and effort of RTA’s inspectors. It has also integrated data by linking RTA’s system to the systems of other relevant government entities and provided added services to the car rental market,” elaborated Al Tayer.

“From the launch date in September 2021 to June 2022, TARS achieved high performance indicators. The total number of rental contracts exceeded 840,000 contracts and the number of processed transactions went over 520,000 transactions. In addition, the system added about 118,000 vehicles, registered 1451 companies, and completed 2518 inspections,” explained Al Tayer.

Eyesight testing vehicle

Al Tayer also unveiled the region’s first mobile eyesight testing service, currently run by Al Jaber Optical, and the scope of the service will be expanded to include other

accredited service providers. The mobile eyesight test is operated in a vehicle at a time and place selected by the customer against an additional fee, enabling the instant renewal of the driver’s license.

Offering this optional mobile service contributes to RTA’s pioneering role and excellence in service delivery. The service is accessible through prior booking via the support centre of Al Jaber Optical enabling the payment of fees and selecting of appointment dates. After the test, the customer can download the test result, renew the license, and receive an electronic or printed copy of the new license.



Completing 55% of construction at Falcon Interchange

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that 55% of the construction had been completed at the Falcon Interchange Improvement Project situated between Al Khaleej Street, Khalid bin Al Waleed Street and Al Ghubaiba Street. The project links with the Northern side of the Infinity Bridge (Al Shindagha Bridge).

“The project is implemented in response to the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, to develop Al Shindagha corridor to match the extensive development of the area and meet the urbanisation needs in future,” said His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority.

“The Falcon Interchange Improvement Project is part of Al Shindagha Roads Corridor Improvement Project, which extends 13 km along Al Mina Street, Al Khaleej Street and Cairo Street. Upgrading the Falcon Interchange will ensure free traffic movement across Al Shindagha Corridor (Al Khaleej and Al Mina Streets) and step up the intake of both streets. It will also enhance traffic safety, provide entry/exit points for Rashid Port, and provide more parking spaces under the new bridge to serve the area,” said Al Tayer.

Completed Works

“The contractor has completed the construction works

of the main Northern bridge at the junction, the link with the Infinity Bridge and Deira side of Al Shindagha Tunnel, and the link with the improved junctions of Sheikh Rashid Street. 25% of the construction has been completed in the tunnel from Khalid bin Al Waleed Street to Al Mina Street. Construction is underway on the Southern main bridge as well as for the stormwater drainage system. The capacity of bridges and tunnels under the project amount to 28,800 vehicles per hour,” commented Al Tayer.

“The project includes the construction of two bridges along Al Khaleej Street. The first bridge extends 750 m Northwards, and the second one stretches 1075 m Southwards. The bridges are comprised of 6 lanes in each direction with a capacity of up to 24,000 vehicles per hour in both directions. Construction also includes a one-lane bridge extending 250 m for right-turn from Khalid bin Al Waleed Street to Al Khaleej Street with a capacity of 1600 vehicles per hour, and the construction of a two-lane 500m tunnel for left turns from Khalid bin Al Waleed St to Al Mina St capable of handling 3200 vehicles per hour in





addition to a surface signalised junction linking Al Khaleej with Al Ghubaiba and Khaled bin Al Waleed Streets. The project includes other works like pavements, lighting, traffic systems, rainwater drainage network and irrigation systems,” explained Al Tayer.

7 Phases

Al Shindagha Corridor Project is one of the biggest projects currently undertaken by RTA. Due to the massive scope of the project, it had been split into seven phases. Six phases are completed namely the intersection of Sheikh Rashid-Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Streets; entry/exit points of Deira Islands at the junction of Abu Bakr Al Siddique; improvement of the intersection of Omar bin Al Khattab and Al Musalla Streets with Al Khaleej Street; and flyovers of the Corniche Street, Infinity Bridge, and the slope of the Infinity Bridge, Deira side.

Plans of the project cover the improvements of Al Khaleej Street and its intersection with Abu Hail Street, and the junction of Sheikh Rashid Street with Jumeirah, Al Mina and Al Mankhool Streets. Works also include the construction of bridges stretching 3.4 km, tunnels extending 2.25 km, six surface junctions, and roads extending 5.1 km. Future works also include the construction of southward bridges leading to Deira.



■ The project is part of bridges and tunnels extending 2500m

■ The capacity of the bridges and tunnels will rise to 28.8 k vehicles per hour

Completing 75% of Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Corridor Project

The transit timing drops from 20 to 7 minutes

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that 75% of the construction of Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Corridor Improvement is completed. The project extends 8 km along Ras Al Khor Road from the intersection of Dubai-Al Ain Road to the intersection of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road. Works include constructing bridges extending 2 km, widening Ras Al Khor Road from three to four lanes in each direction, and building two-lane service roads on both sides.

“The project aims to increase the capacity of Ras Al Khor Road to 10,000 vehicles per hour, slash the travel time from 20 minutes to about 7 minutes, enhance traffic safety and flow, and eliminate the existing overlapping traffic spots. The project serves a host of major development projects inhabited by 650,000 residents namely The Lagoons, Dubai Creek, Meydan Horizon, Ras Al Khor, Al Wasl, and Nad Al Hamar Complex,” said His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, RTA.

“The project also includes improving the intersection of Nad Al Hamar Road with Ras Al Khor Road to enhance its capacity to 30,000 vehicles per hour by constructing a two-lane bridge extending 988 metres to enable free left-side turns of traffic inbound from Nad Al Hamar Road heading in the direction of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road. It also involves the construction of another two-lane bridge extending 115 metres to serve the traffic inbound

from Nad Al Hamar heading to Ras Al Khor Road heading in the direction of Dubai-Al Ain Road. Works also include the construction of a two-lane tunnel extending 368 metres to enable right-side turns from Ras Al Khor Road to Nad Al Hamar, improving the existing intersection, and widening the existing turns,” added Al Tayer.

Phases

“The Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Corridor Improvement Project is one of the biggest projects undertaken by RTA. In future, it will include the construction of Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Crossing; a bridge crossing over the Dubai Creek to link Al Jaddaf in Bur Dubai with the street extending between Dubai Creek Project and Dubai Festival City.

“The Project has been divided into several phases. Last year, RTA completed the construction of a 3-lane bridge extending 740 metres leading to the Western entrance to Dubai Creek - Dubai Creek Harbour. The bridge connects the





traffic inbound from Dubai – Al Ain Road and Al Khail Road, heading East to the Dubai Creek – Dubai Creek Harbour, with a capacity of 7,500 incoming vehicles per hour.

“RTA has also constructed a new 1.5-kilometre road of four lanes in each direction along with entry and exit points to and from the newly completed areas and buildings to facilitate the movement of traffic inbound from Nad Al Hamar-Ras Al Khor Roads intersection.

“The new roads and bridges network contributed to

streamlining the traffic flow to the newly completed housing units at Dubai Creek, by linking them with the surrounding roads. The new roads were also fitted with a lighting network of 108 streetlight poles. Works are currently underway in the construction of a 640-metre bridge to ensure a smooth traffic movement from Dubai Creek Harbour project towards Ras Al Khor Road with a capacity of about 3,100 vehicles per hour,” explained Al Tayer.



Upgrading automated system for assessing roads condition, maintenance and pavement

The automated testing technology has achieved savings in operating expenses equivalent to 78% of the annual maintenance works

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has upgraded the automated system for assessing the condition of roads, managing their maintenance and pavement to achieve the relevant strategic objectives. The system constitutes a comprehensive programme for automating and governing the assessment of the performance of the functional and construction pavement condition of the road network through software applications such as the automated systems for pavement management system.

"This system is a digital version of roads with artificial intelligence techniques in implementing the strategies and policies of RTA and maintenance department to assess the road network and optimum selection of the appropriate type of maintenance within the allocated budgets. This development is subject to great challenges given the continued expansion of the road network and these challenges are represented by

the exposure of this network to various factors that lead to the emergence of some damages due to its obsolescence caused by environmental factors or operational payloads," said Hamad Al Shehi, Director of Roads and Facilities Maintenance, RTA.

"To achieve the transformation to the digital version, the software mechanism has been developed to identify and schedule the implementation of the annual maintenance needs based on the planning that is carried out through these modern systems, to maximise the satisfaction of road users first and rationalize operating expenses secondly. The system has been developed to distribute the budget to the network maintenance activities to ensure that it maintains quality though optimal utilisation of the allocated budget," added Al Shehi.

"The automated smart system for assessing the condition of roads and managing their maintenance uses laser scanning techniques to configure the digital copy of roads and verify

Completing 67% of improvements of Al Manama Street

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) confirmed 67% completion of phased improvements on Al Manama Street. The project is within the domain of the recently opened Dubai-Al Ain Road Improvement Project. The construction includes a new traffic corridor that links Al Meydan Street with Al Manama Street through a bridge of 4 lanes in each direction with a capacity of 8000 vehicles per hour per direction. The project also included construction of slip lanes to link with the Dubai-Al Ain Road.

The construction includes increasing the capacity of the existing road by transforming the first three intersections on Al Manama Street with Aden Street, Sanaa Street and Nad Al Hamar Street into signalised surface junctions. It also involved increasing the number of traffic lanes to 4 in each direction up to the intersection with Nad Al Hamar Street, besides changing some traffic lanes of Aden Street.

These improvements will increase the capacity of the street by 2000 vehicles per hour per direction, cut the delay rates, and improve the smooth flow of traffic at intersections.

The construction is scheduled for completion during the third quarter of this year. RTA had recently opened the improved intersection of Al Manama Street and Sanaa Street. Work is underway in the remaining intersections and the main street.

the life cycle of paving assets and their maintenance in the Road Maintenance and Facilities Department. The life cycle of RTA's Agile PMS is characterized by the accuracy of data and a reference compatible with reality. All parts of the road network within the system have a fixed digital label in the system database, which represents the smallest part that can be used in planning maintenance works."

He added, "The road network has been divided into parts not exceeding 100m/lane to raise data accuracy to 99%. It requires raising the reliability index of data accuracy and matching it with sites to more than 97%, accurately locating damages on the network through the automatic detection of damages, determining the optimal type of maintenance on the network and rationalizing the operational expense. It requires performing maintenance on priority sites while making the most of the allocated budget. Accordingly, the system can list roads length based on their functional importance such as highways, main roads and internal roads, as the digital version of roads contributes to automating the process.

Al Shehi concluded, "The economic feasibility of developing the digital version of the roads and smart maintenance management systems to maintain the network has multiple

benefits that include: keeping pace with the industrial revolution in generating the digital version of the roads and optimising the spending on maintenance as maintenance of the road network means fundamental investment in the value of road assets.

Through the digital version of roads developed using artificial intelligence to evaluate the paving of roads to ensure their sustainability and maintain their operational condition, this smart system has achieved savings in operating expenses equivalent to 78% of the annual maintenance works, thanks to the use of smart software to ensure the optimal planning of maintenance works of the new system compared with the traditional method.



RTA achieves 18% energy efficiency consumption rate, 13% cut in emissions

Indicators show a 36% drop in gasoline consumption

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that RTA had achieved the targeted energy efficiency performance indicators 2021 and reduced total energy consumption in all operations and projects by 18%, when compared with the average consumption from 2016 to 2019. It also managed to reduce the total emissions by 13% and energy costs by 10% during the same period.

“Sustainability is a key pillar of RTA’s strategic goals and objectives, and the concept of sustainability has become deeply rooted in RTA’s corporate performance. Protecting the environment, optimising the use of energy, reducing carbon emissions, and ensuring assets sustainability have become priorities. RTA has a well-defined roadmap that aims to achieve zero-emission from public transport in Dubai by 2050. In the process, RTA is becoming the first government entity in the Middle East and North Africa to develop an integrated roadmap targeting public transport and its infrastructure,” said Al Tayer.

Indicators and Results

“As compared to the average in the years from 2016 to 2019, RTA Energy Analysis Report 2021 showed a decrease in the total energy consumption by 18%, and gasoline consumption by 36%. This drop is attributed to the increased use of hybrid and electric taxis by Dubai Taxi Corporation, along with a 15% decrease in diesel consumption, despite an increase in the public bus fleet. “RTA has carried out a process to upgrade its old fleet of buses to replace them with modern buses equipped with eco-friendly Euro 6 engines compatible with the



European specifications for carbon emissions. The report also indicated an increase in electricity consumption by 11%, as a result of the operation of the 15-kilometre Dubai Metro Route 2020, which includes seven stations,” explained Al Tayer.

Projects and Initiatives

“RTA has implemented 36 energy and green economy initiatives in 2021, resulting in record savings of AED 85 million, 68 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, 55 million gallons of water, 21 million litres of gasoline, 1.8 million litres of diesel, and a reduction of approximately 86 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. It also diverted about 450,000 tons of waste from landfill through effective waste management practices,” explained Al Tayer.

“RTA has accomplished over 95% of green economy initiatives and projects, and future directions are guided by a range of factors, including soft and shared mobility, sustainable transport, circular economy, self-driving vehicles for passengers and goods, and developing services based on customer needs and future skills,” concluded Al Tayer.

The year 2021 saw the official operation of the Dubai Metro Route 2020 Project, which serves densely populated districts inhabited by 270 thousand inhabitants. The path of the route was based on several perimeters namely the anticipated number of riders in each station, commercial activities around, and the link with other public transit



means at each station such as buses, which contributes to Dubai’s sustainable growth.

The year also saw the completion of numerous road and bridge projects, highlighted by constructing roads spanning 138 lane-kilometres with 9 flyovers to serve Expo 2020 Dubai. It opened model public bus stations, pedestrian bridges, and cycling tracks to transform Dubai into a bicycle-friendly city, which entails the provision of suitable options to encourage people to practice cycling.



RTA Call Centre receives 951 k calls in first half of 2022

The Call Centre (8009090) of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has received 951,492 calls during the first half of 2022.

Commenting on the results achieved during the period Mehailah Alzehmi, Director of Customers Happiness, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA, said, "We are pleased to receive the public calls via the Call Centre (8009090), but we're always encouraging the community to use smart and digital channels to obtain our diverse package of services."

Digital Transformation

"Keeping in line with the government's push towards digitisation and making Dubai the smartest and happiest city in the world, and out of RTA's commitment to making customers happy by availing them smooth and unique service experiences, we continuously strive to educate and encourage customers to use RTA's smart and digital channels to complete their transactions. Consequently, this drive resulted in reducing the dependency on the Call Centre for certain services, including public transport journey planning and parking, which resulted in a 20% drop in the incoming calls. Additionally, the Madinati service in RTA Dubai smart app has been improved, allowing users to report faults and damages via the app. Consequently, the service uptake in the first half of this year soared by 34% over the level reported during the first half of last year," added Al Zahmi.

"RTA is currently considering upgrading the technology in use at the Call Centre by introducing artificial intelligence to ease customers' accessibility to various channels. An improved automatic answering system will be launched enabling natural

conversation run by a virtual advisor instead of using the phone's keypad to choose options from the autoresponder menu. Work is also underway to introduce interactive and instant emotional analysis on all calls handled by the centre, which helps to understand the needs of customers and gauge their satisfaction with the services provided," she explained.

Numbers and details

Commenting on the number of complaints and suggested improvements received from the public, Al Zahmi revealed that RTA had received in the first half of this year 49,353 complaints and suggested improvement requests through the Call Centre and electronic channels, which reflects a 7% drop compared to the same period in the previous two years.

"These complaints and suggested improvements focused mainly on transportation services. 51% of complaints and suggested improvements were related to the use of buses and taxis, and 8% were related to parking services highlighted by requests for exemption from parking violations. 24% of requests were related to the infrastructure, and 4% of the services were related to the use

Obtaining renewal of ISO for Governance of IT for the organization

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has managed to renew the ISO/IEC 38500:2015 certification for Information Technology - Governance of IT for the Organization, which was initially obtained in 2019. As such, it has become pioneer in the UAE to obtain this certificate, which is recognised as an international standard for the organisation's IT governance.



of the nol card. Other complaints and suggested improvements were related to improvements of other RTA services. “RTA always seeks to develop channels of communication with customers and speed up the response time. 98% of complaints and suggested improvements were signed-off within the specified period i.e. 5 working days for complaints and comments, and 15 working days for suggested improvements.

In the first half of this year, RTA received 5,724 emergency reports through the Call Centre and (Madinati) through RTA DUBAI app. The instant response and sign-off rate clocked 99%, which reflects the mutual response between the community and RTA and the public’s keenness to protect the appearance of the

emirate. During the same period, the Call Center received 44,062 reports of items lost in taxis. Found items included a total sum of AED1,272,800 in cash, 12,410 mobile phones, 2,819 electronic devices, 766 passports, and 342 laptops,” explained Al Zahmi. “RTA honours taxi drivers for their honesty and credibility. It is a gesture of recognition of their valuable efforts to present a good image of the UAE in general and Dubai in particular to tourists, visitors, and residents using taxis in the emirate, and at the same time motivates taxi drivers to deliver more and better services to taxi riders. RTA also honours the best performing taxi franchise companies along with their outstanding drivers through the Taxi Excellence Award,” she concluded.

The certificate was granted following the audit conducted by Certification Partner Global (CPG), one of the leading companies in the certification of quality, standards and standardization worldwide.

“RTA is a pioneer in fulfilling ISO requirements and this achievement is an endorsement of the advanced level RTA has reached in this field as well as its sustained maturity of IT governance,” said Musa Al Rayeesi, Director of

Technology Strategy and Governance, RTA.

“The achievement supports the 7th strategic goal: Advance RTA and contributes to the objectives of corporate governance such as investing in a portfolio of technology projects, and developing high-class operational plans with a limited risk level besides reducing the costs of achieving this objective and safeguarding the interests of all stakeholders,” he added.

EC3 Obtains the Best Business Award 2022 for innovative technology use

Represented by the Enterprise Command and Control Centre (EC3), Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has won the Best Business Award for the Innovative Use of Technology. The awards are among the most reputed accolades in the UK for recognising excellence in a variety of fields.

This new achievement is credited to a submission by RTA about its Enterprise Command and Control Centre (EC3). "The EC3 is acknowledged as one of the biggest and most sophisticated control centres worldwide in terms of technology used and ability to integrate and control all mass transit means such as the metro, tram, public buses, taxis and marine transit modes. It also links and controls traffic control systems and ensures smooth planning of transportation to meet various transportation challenges in the emirate.

Enterprise Command and Control Centre

The Enterprise Command and Control Centre (EC3) was developed using agile procedures to manage a road network consisting of about 5,000 kilometres, 1700 public buses, more than 10,000 taxis, 129 metro trains comprising 645 carriages, and 54 metro stations including 7 stations

on Route 2020, in addition to 11 trams and 11 tram stations. It also manages the main control room fitted with a giant screen covering 53 square metres and linked to 34 technical devices to ensure full and instant integration of all systems. The EC3 is also capable of accommodating and processing the feed of more than 10,000 surveillance cameras. It can use artificial intelligence in managing accidents and crises and mobile phone data in planning and managing mobility and crowds through identifying dense assembly points and directing transport means to serve them. The Centre can simulate the reality in the heart of an event through a 3D visual display and monitor mobility by drones. It also has other technical capabilities rendering it one of the largest and distinguished control centres worldwide.

Best Business Awards

The Best Business Awards are acknowledged as one of the prestigious business awards in the United Kingdom that attract broad-based participation from businesses and organisations including multinational companies and SMEs characterised by innovation and leadership. The awards are managed by the reputed business awards expert Awards Intelligence.





Al Garhoud Shipyard now offers a docking service for boats and yachts.

RTA's Al Garhoud Marine Workshop is a compact dry dock in the heart of Dubai that gives you the space you need to carry out all your maintenance and docking requirements for your private boats. You can choose and bring the maintenance company* that offers you the best services and deals.

For further information, please email us at external.boatlifting@rta.ae

rta.ae

For more details,
please scan the
QR code:



Timings

Saturday – Thursday
8:00 am – 5:00 pm for maintenance work
9:00 am – 4:00 pm for docking

Services include

Docking / undocking
Dry berthing
Power and water supply

Boat specifications

Up to 20 metres and less than 10 tonnes

*The maintenance company must be arranged by boat owners as RTA does not provide this facility.

304.6m riders used public transport means, shared mobility and taxis in the first half of 2022

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that the number of riders using public transport means and shared mobility in Dubai that include Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, public buses, marine transport means (abras, ferry, water taxi, water bus), e-hail rides, smart car rental, Bus-On-Demand, and taxis (Dubai Taxi and franchise company taxis) clocked nearly 304.6 million during the first half of 2022. The number compares well with the number lifted in the first half of 2021 which amounted to about 202 million riders. The daily average rate of riders using public transport means, shared mobility and taxis in the first half of 2022 reached about 1.68 million riders, compared to about 1.1 million riders in the first half of 2021.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said: "The Dubai Metro and taxis accounted for the biggest share in the number of riders using public transport, shared transport and taxis, with 36% for Dubai Metro, and 29% for taxis, while public buses contributed to 26%. March 2022 was the busiest of all months recording 62 million riders, which coincided with the end of Expo 2020 Dubai. Ridership in other months ranged from 46 to 49 million riders. The first half of 2022 saw a 3% growth in the ridership rate, in comparison with the same period in 2019, before the Covid-19 pandemic. It is an important indicator of the rising demand for public transport means as well as the resurgence of economic activity in Dubai."

Metro Stations

"Dubai Metro ridership on both the Red and Green Lines reached 109.1 million riders in the first half of 2022, with Burjuman and Union stations accounting for the biggest share of riders. On both the Red and Green Lines, Burjuman Station served 6.2 million riders, while Union Station was used by 5.3 million riders," added Al Tayer.

"Al Rigga Station was the busiest on the Red Line serving 4.7 million riders, followed by Mall of the Emirates Station (4.6 million riders), and Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall Station (4.3 million riders). On the Green Line, Baniyas and Sharaf DG Stations ranked first in terms of riders (3.6 million riders each), next came the Stadium Station (2.7 million riders)





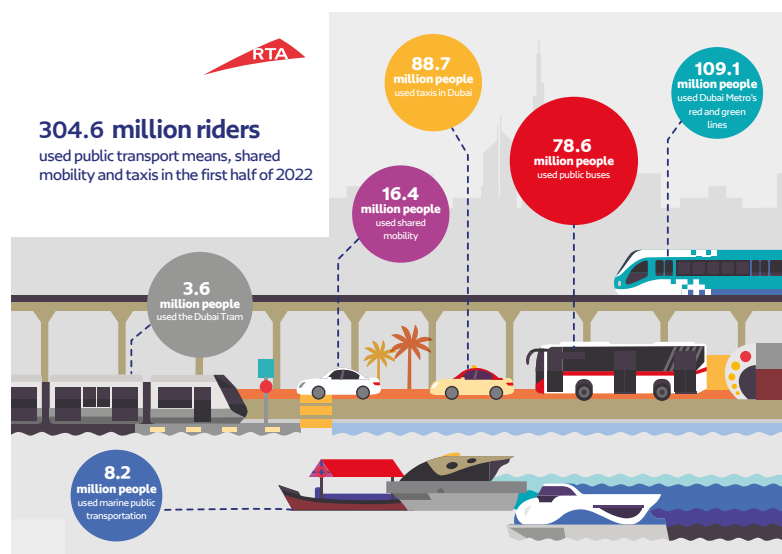
ahead of Salah Al Din Station (2.5 million riders) and Al Ghubaiba Station (2.3 million riders),” explained Al Tayer. In the first half of 2022, Dubai Tram lifted 3.6 million riders, public buses served 78.6 million riders, and marine transport means (abras, water bus, water taxi, and ferry) lifted 8.2 million riders. Shared mobility means (e-hailing, smart rental vehicles, Bus-On-Demand) lifted 16.4 million riders and taxis (Dubai Taxi, and franchise companies) lifted 88.7 million riders.

Integrated Network

“These results reflect the efficiency of RTA’s plans and programmes implemented to provide diverse mobility options for people in the emirate. Dubai’s public transport network, which is fully integrated, has now become the backbone of people’s movement around Dubai. The network succeeded in coaxing a change and evolution in the culture and attitudes of

the community towards using more public transport means,” noted Al Tayer.

“RTA’s strategic and executive plans are built on the principle of integration. As such, the smooth traffic flow in the emirate hinges on the provision of integrated solutions for broadening and improving the networks of roads, crossings and public transport means including the metro, tram, buses, marine transport means, first and last-mile mobility means and shared transport. It also depends on the improvement and integration of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and upgrading traffic systems, roads and public transport to ensure optimal utilisation and efficiency. The smooth mobility elements also cover the implementation of policies capable of limiting the public reliance on private vehicles and increasing their reliance on other mobility means including public and shared transport,” concluded Al Tayer.



■ An average of 1.68 million daily riders

■ Al Tayer: The average daily ridership grew by 3% compared with the first half of 2019 (before the Covid-19 pandemic)

■ 62% of commuters used Dubai Metro, buses

Inspecting buses of 286 schools and nurseries this Sept

Dubai Taxi enhances school transport services for 24000 students across the Emirate of Dubai

The Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC) at the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) confirmed the preparedness of the school transport sector for the start of the new academic year 2022/2023-. School buses equipped with the latest technologies are fully ready to run a safe and smooth mobility service for more than 24 thousand students across Dubai.

DTC affirmed its keenness as a leading government entity in providing school transport services, to invest its vast experience and capabilities in providing secure and sustainable services in accordance with the highest standards of security, safety and surveillance standards approved in Dubai. Providing such services is intended to meet the requirements of academic institutions as well as the students and parents in the emirate.

The improvements made to the bus fleet and the school transport services reflect the continuous commitment of

the DTC towards effectively contributing to translating the policies of leaders to bring about a quantum shift in the school transport services to high excellence standards. DTC is making every effort to boost the confidence of students and parents as well as the educational institutions in its services to make DTC the first choice for school transport services as it fits with the strategic objectives directed at bringing about a positive impact on the community and accordingly enhancing the profile of Dubai as one of the happiest cities in the world.





Continuous Improvement

DTC is committed to keeping pace with the continuous research and development programmes to equip its school buses fleet with cutting-edge technologies and systems including surveillance cameras and sensors to ensure that no student is left behind on any bus. Buses are also fitted with emergency

notification systems synchronised with the control centre, students and GPS bus tracking systems for bus boarding and disembarkation locations of students, and an identification system using RFID technology. Buses are also fitted with a system for self-extinguishing engine fires compatible with the highest local and international standards of quality and safety.





All bus drivers and supervisors are subjected to intensive training programmes by specialized and certified trainers i to train them on safe and responsible driving practices in line with RTA's legislations that prioritise the safety of students. They are also trained about how to cope with emergency conditions, deliver First Aid and other services. Educational institutions and parents can register students and update their information via DTC's website and through the "DTC School Bus" app.

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is running an inspection campaign encompassing buses of 286 schools and nurseries in Dubai. The move is part of RTA's standing commitment to streamlining the school transport practices, verifying the compliance of operators with the regulations in place, and implementing preventive measures to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic while lifting students. RTA explained that visits to schools would be based on an analysis of data captured from schools in terms of the number

of violations reported during the previous academic year 2021-2022 through a smart inspection system. The inspection of school buses covers: (The security and safety of buses, permits for drivers and attendants along with their compliance with the assigned tasks and the cleanliness of buses). From the start of the new academic year 2022-2023-, Passenger Transport Activities Monitoring Department at RTA's Public Transport Agency will embark on the said inspections, which are part of ongoing inspection campaigns in this important sector dealing with different groups of students. RTA is always keen on offering safe and smooth transport services and the inspections of school buses are part of pre-set strategic plans to monitor the operation of these buses across Dubai and verify their compliance with the regulations governing their operation. Field inspectors carry out periodic safety inspections on school buses to ensure their compliance with specifications and the fulfilment of the requirements of the school bus



transport services. RTA adopts the highest safety standards on par with the top international practices of the industry. RTA has also set safety standards for operating school buses such as setting a cap on the speed limit of buses such that they should not exceed 80 km/h. Each bus must be fitted with a speed control device compatible with the standards of the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology.

Fire Extinguishers

Each bus must contain a First Aid kit the contents of which must conform to the number of seats. It should have a 6 kg fire extinguisher dedicated to extinguishing all types of fires and placed in a designated place near the driver's seat and a sign should indicate its position. The extinguishers have to comply with a set of guidelines such as having one 6 kg fire extinguisher on buses with less than 50 riders, and two 6 kg fire extinguishers on buses with more than 50 riders.

Specifications

All models of buses designated for transporting students must not be older than 15 years from the date of manufacture. Each bus must have emergency exits commensurate with

the number of passengers, with at least one emergency exit on each side, excluding the exit or the driver's door which are not classified as emergency exit doors. The locations of these exits should be clearly marked, and no obstacles should be placed in a way that prevents the accessibility of riders to these exits during emergency cases.

All school buses must be subjected to an electronic GPS tracking system enabling identifying the locations of buses. Safety belts with double hooks must be fitted to all seats exposed from the front, such as the front seats and the middle seat of the last seats. The driver's seat must have triple hooks. To prevent accidents for students inside and outside the bus, all internal and external parts of the bus must not have sharp edges.

RTA had set several standards and controls for operators of school transport services highlighted by Regulations No (2) for 2008 regulating the school transport in Dubai, and the Executive Regulation and the handbook detailing specifications of school buses. The regulations detail the design and standards of security of safety of school buses, roles and responsibilities of schools, entities, attendants and operators of school buses along with bus drivers, students and their parents.

Resuming operation of Intercity Bus Route between Ibn Battuta Bus Station to Musaffah in Abu Dhabi

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is resumed the intercity bus service E102 on August 9th to support the return to normalcy following the Covid-19 pandemic and in response to the increasing demand for the intercity bus service.

The intercity bus route E102 will shuttle between Ibn Battuta Bus Station in Dubai and Musaffah Community Bus Station in Abu Dhabi, and commuters will be treated to a luxury journey aboard deluxe coaches operating at 60 minutes intervals.

On the same date, RTA will extend 8 bus routes as follows: Route 24 will be extended to reach the International City Bus Station, Route 44 will be extended to pass by Jaddaf, Route 88 will be extended at the Dubai Internet City, Route C04 will be extended to pass by Jaddaf, Route F08 will be extended to pass by Al Tawar, Route F33 will be

extended to pass along a new business district, Route F56 will be extended at the Dubai Internet City, and Route X28 will be extended at the Dubai Internet City. Changes on the same date also include improving the journey timing as per the set timetables.

Commuting on buses is cost-effective and buses are flexible and integrated with other mass transit means. Moreover, bus riders can enjoy the city's landscape in a stress free and relaxed environment. RTA has a fleet of sophisticated buses that are robust, comfortable and safe.

Issuing 38 thousands permits for e-scooter riders in 3 months

423 daily permits are issued since the launch of the registration platform

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has issued 38,102 permits for riding e-scooters during the first three months from the launch of the free online registration platform on RTA's website on April 28th, 2022. The daily average number of permits issued clocked 423 permits.

The age group 30-40 years accounted for the largest number of permits issued (15,807 permits) which is equal to 41% of permits issued to all other age groups. The age group 20-30 years was equally prominent in the total number of permits issued recording 14,576 permits, followed by the age group of those over 40 years, and last 1,570 permits from below 20 years of age. These facts illustrate the huge interest in using e-scooters among a wide spectrum of community members of different age groups and the trend to use this mobility means as it can

take users smoothly to their intended destinations.

Nationality-wise, Filipinos accounted for 15,502 permits, followed by Indians (8,006 permits) ahead of Pakistanis (3,840 permits). The number of nationalities registered on the platform is 149 nationalities, which means a diversification of social segments that are committed to benefit from the use of e-scooters.

Results of the first three months since the launch of the platform also indicated that 11,206 permit holders (29%) were tourists and visitors to Dubai. The figures highlight Dubai Government's efforts to transform Dubai into a cycle-friendly city. They also



reflect RTA's pioneering efforts to encourage residents and visitors to use e-scooters as alternative individual mobility means considered ideal for short as well as first and last-mile journeys. Obtaining a free permit requires passing an awareness training course run via RTA's website. Trainees should not be less than 16 years of age. The training course includes lessons about the technical specifications and standards of e-scooters, obligations of riders and districts where the use of e-scooters is permitted. The course also briefs users about traffic signs and relevant symbols.

It is mandatory to obtain permits for those using shared or

individual e-scooters on designated streets. However, it is not mandatory to obtain scooter permits if riders are riding in places other than streets, such as cycling tracks or pavements designated by RTA. Exception from the course is granted to holders of valid driving licenses or international driving licenses. RTA calls on all individuals to comply with the regulations of riding e-scooters in the designated places such as wearing protective helmets and safety jackets, avoiding the use of mobile phones, clearing the streets before entering, avoiding entering pedestrian zones, and fitting e-scooters with reflective signs to maintain the security of users and other road users.



Launching trial digital platform to serve demand for medium-sized bus services

The service is launched in collaboration with Dubai Future Accelerators

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed an agreement with arcab to launch a digital platform on a trial base in the shape of a smart app to meet the public demand for medium-sized bus services.

The trial platform will be operational in two of Dubai's districts. The first route will commute between the International City/Dubai Silicon Oasis and Jebel Ali Free Zone. The second route will shuttle between the International City and JLT. Following a three-month trial, the service will expand to include 12 other districts in Dubai. The agreement was made in collaboration with the Dubai Future Accelerators Programme, one of the initiatives of the Dubai Future Foundation launched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum,

Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council in 2016 to set a platform combining government entities, start-ups, and business leaders from all over the world. The initiative aimed to launch innovative projects driven by future technology to power vital sectors.

The agreement was signed by Ahmed Hashem Bahrozian, CEO of Public Transport Agency, RTA and Bilal Shabandri, Co-Founder & CEO of arcab. The agreement provides for establishing a highly sophisticated and flexible digital platform for commuting people smoothly and safely to

Launching Young Mobility Capabilities programme to train fresh graduates, young employees

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the launch of the Young Mobility Capabilities programme in September. The programme aims at grooming young Emiratis talents to work with RTA partners among top international companies to gain specialist knowledge and experience. Interested applicants can register through the Dubai Careers platform from August 1st to August 19th.

The Young Mobility Capabilities programme seeks to achieve five objectives: contribute to the national youth strategy, provide an effective tool to attract and qualify young Emirati talents, and qualify RTA employees as well as fresh graduates in a variety of specialist jobs at RTA. It also aims to increase the productivity, develop innovative options for recruitment and training costs, and reduce the job rotation of technical and specialist jobs.

The programme focuses on Emirati graduates and young RTA employees. They will be trained in specialist fields such as the metro and tram operation, planning and operating buses, maintenance of infrastructure, bus maintenance, engineering consultancies, digital infrastructure and other fields related to infrastructure, financial studies and specialist feasibility studies.

The Human Resource and Development Department will

various destinations across Dubai.

The agreement states that the company shall provide the technology needed for managing micro-mobility networks in a way that saves operational expenses. The platform will play a vital role in generating demand for micro-mobility networks by opening routes for medium-sized buses, thus attracting a new segment of riders. The platform is so flexible to undertake changes in mobility and journeys to match demand patterns.

Ahmed Hashem Bahrozian expressed his delight over the signing of the agreement, particularly since arcab was named a winner in the eighth edition of the Dubai Future Accelerators challenge.

“Joining forces with the private sector will strengthen RTA’s public-private partnership, which RTA always seeks to undertake as a means of enhancing its public service offerings such as transportation on medium-sized buses, especially in districts and localities normally not covered by buses. Upon completion of the 3-month trial period, the service will expand to 12 other districts in Dubai,” said Bahrozian.



Bilal Shabandri, Co-founder & CEO at arcab, commented: “We are very pleased to be able to launch and participate in the work our team has been working on. We are pleased to partner with RTA to provide solutions that benefit thousands of passengers, in perfect fit with the excellent public transport system that Dubai has developed over the years.”

In partnership with Dubai Future Accelerators, RTA and arcab will introduce arcab Traveler, a new service in the UAE that will assist people in travelling to and from work and home daily. The service is an extension of the services RTA currently provides, which include smart services, e-hailing,

oversee the implementation of the project in coordination with agencies and sectors to identify nominees and take necessary action toward implementing the programme. They will coordinate with RTA partners to revamp the Young Mobility Capabilities programme, ensure the commitment of partners to the optimal implementation besides following the needs of trainees, measuring the impact of training and assessing the return on investment.

Duration and Criteria

The programme will last for approximately one to six months depending on the category and specialty, with candidates evaluated and selected based on specific criteria for each category (young RTA employees and fresh graduates). The candidate is required to fulfil these criteria. The criteria for RTA employees require the application to be Emirati, have a university degree in one of the disciplines required for the programme, and have graduated not more than three years before.

The criteria for fresh graduates require citizenship of the



United Arab Emirates and to have a degree in one of the required disciplines from a recognised university or college, the graduation should not be more than three years before, and the cumulative GPA should be at least 3.0 out of 4.0. Additionally, the applicant must be medically fit, have completed national service requirements (if male), provide a certificate of good conduct, and pass interviews and admission tests.

Graduating 86 inductees of 'Ajyal' summer programme

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has graduated 86 students from secondary schools and universities who have completed RTA's annual summer internship programme (Ajyal).

The programme is designed to equip the students with the skills and trending professional abilities such as personnel management, planning, initiatives, self-assessment and career development to stretch their expertise and skills needed for the job market. The graduation ceremony was attended by Sultan Al Akraf, Director of Human Resources and Development, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA.

During the programme, which started on June 22 and ended on August 17, students took part in a field training course,

during which they examined the working environment, performed tasks applicable to their professions, and learned about RTA's competencies and expertise. Furthermore, students had the opportunity to learn about RTA's agencies and sectors and attended theoretical workshops and lectures. Ajyal programme contributes to realizing RTA's strategic objectives and goals, which urge the promotion of social responsibility and the training and qualification of talented individuals to qualify a generation of youth with creative thinking and research in the fields of management, engineering and planning.

Registration for the 3rd Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport is over

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced 31st August 2022 as a deadline for registration for the 3rd Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport 2023. RTA called on companies and local academia to register on time through the website (www.sdcongress.com) and compete for a share of the prizemoney of US\$2,300,000 (Two Million and Three Hundred Thousand Dollars).

Ahmed Hashem Bahrozian, CEO of Public Transport Agency, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport, RTA said, "The third edition of the event is focused on self-driving buses. RTA started receiving applications for participation in the event several months ago. Setting August 31st as a deadline that aims to prompt and encourage industry leaders and local academia to expedite their participation through the website.

"The launch of the third edition of the Challenge follows the successes of the first two editions. It is part of RTA's efforts to enhance the high standing of Dubai

in self-driving transport. It also echoes RTA's commitment to realising the government's vision to transform 25% of total mobility trips in Dubai into self-driving trips by year 2030," he added.

The third edition of the Challenge comes with a new competitive theme focused on self-driving buses. It reflects RTA's commitment of moving forward with the Dubai Government's pioneering efforts to expand the use of self-driving transport technology at all levels. A fund of \$2,000,000 (Two Million Dollars) is allocated for industry leaders and \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars) is allocated for local academia. All local and international



The inductees of the Ajyal programme during the summer vacation expressed their gratitude and appreciation for RTA, which provided them with the opportunity to train and

benefit during their time. Students stressed the importance of the experience which had benefited them greatly and empowered their knowledge and practice.



companies listed under the category of Industry Leaders can take part in the Challenge. The company has to be registered in the country of origin or locally, and has to operate in developing or operating self-driving buses.

The Local Academia category covers all universities, institutes and research centres in the UAE interested in autonomous technology research and engaged in developing relevant models.

Developing the academic and professional skills In collaboration Ministry of Education through scholarships

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed an agreement with Ministry of Education (MoE) to enhance the academic and professional skills of Emirati students by offering them scholarship programmes run by the MoE at numerous universities and institutes worldwide. This programme is designed to foster the competencies and skills of Emiratis to enable them to cope with the rapidly evolving technology and growing demands for public transport sector.

The agreement calls for a group of high academic achievers among Emiratis students to study undergraduate programmes at prestigious universities and international institutions in a variety of fields, including Transportation Engineering, Railway Engineering, Robotics Engineering, Infrastructure Engineering, Data Analysis, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Transport Economics.

“By cooperating with national entities, the Ministry of Education is seeking to groom competent Emiratis under the vision of ‘Towards the Next 50’ and the directives of our leaders to rank the UAE the first in the world in the economic and human indicators,” said His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Mualla, Undersecretary for Academic Affairs, Ministry of Education.

Al Mualla stressed the importance of strategic cooperation with RTA in preparing Emiratis at the top global academic institutions to meet future needs, which requires qualified human resources and nurturing a competitive knowledge community.

“MoE has launched a variety of training programmes for students in several fields such ‘Intilaqa’ aimed to qualify them in majors of high priority to the UAE’s strategy. The programmes will enable them to polish their skills and prepare them to work in a competitive environment besides promoting the culture of lifetime learning in a way befitting their professional interests, knowledge and abilities,” he added.

Yousef Al Redha, CEO of the Corporate Administration Support Services Sector, RTA, expressed his delight over the signing of the agreement. “This agreement marks a significant step in extending cooperation between the two parties and reaching common goals in academic and professional areas.

“As part of this agreement, RTA and MoE will strengthen their existing cooperation to forge a sustainable and fruitful strategic partnership in collaboration with other competent entities to develop the scientific and practical skills of Emiratis. The programme is designed to despatch exceptional and qualified students to study abroad in prestigious institutions of higher

education in fields that meet the country’s academic standards and are ranked among the finest globally. The purpose is to develop Emirati generations possessing cultural and intellectual richness capable of assuming leadership positions in various fields,” he added.

“This cooperation begins before the students receive their scholarship and includes programmes and initiatives offered by both parties to hone the academic and professional skills of students. The scholarship also involves guidance, follow-up, and motivation to ensure continued education, up until the post-graduation stage, via training and job opportunities provided by the relevant entities to serve various sectors of the country and achieve the strategic objectives of all parties,” explained Al Redha. “The agreement calls for both parties to develop and acquire competent Emiratis in a wide variety of fields and exchange ideas and information to enhance the cooperation and serve the objectives of the agreement. The agreement requires charting out the tasks assigned to both parties and identifying the requirements and the means to provide them. It also calls for providing training and employment opportunities during and after the scholarship period,” concluded Al Redha.





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Overview of MENA Transport Report 20202021-; A Publication of the Middle East and North Africa Centre for Transport Excellence (MENA CTE)

The Middle East and North Africa Centre for Transport Excellence (MENA CTE) continues its publications towards generation of knowledge and share of best practices among the organizations of public transport in cities and issued the 6th edition of the UITP MENA Transport Report, the premier reference document for public transport and urban mobility in the (MENA).

The report comes post to COVID-19 Pandemic which had significant and direct impacts on the urban mobility ecosystem the world over. The report reveals that the MENA region faired quite well and the resumption of public transport services after the initial phase of the pandemic is quite promising and ridership levels in several key markets is approaching normal pre-pandemic levels.

While there were some delays in key projects, from mega rail and e-bus projects to first- and last-mile transport solutions, public transport projects are back on track in MENA to better serve the growing and changing needs of the region, and ultimately enhance the quality of life for its residents.

With the Dubai Expo and the inauguration of a new metro line to the rapid developments in Egypt, the ambitious work in Saudi Arabia, and the continued drive in Morocco and other countries to develop public transport, MENA continues its transformation towards sustainable mobility.

The 6th edition report builds upon

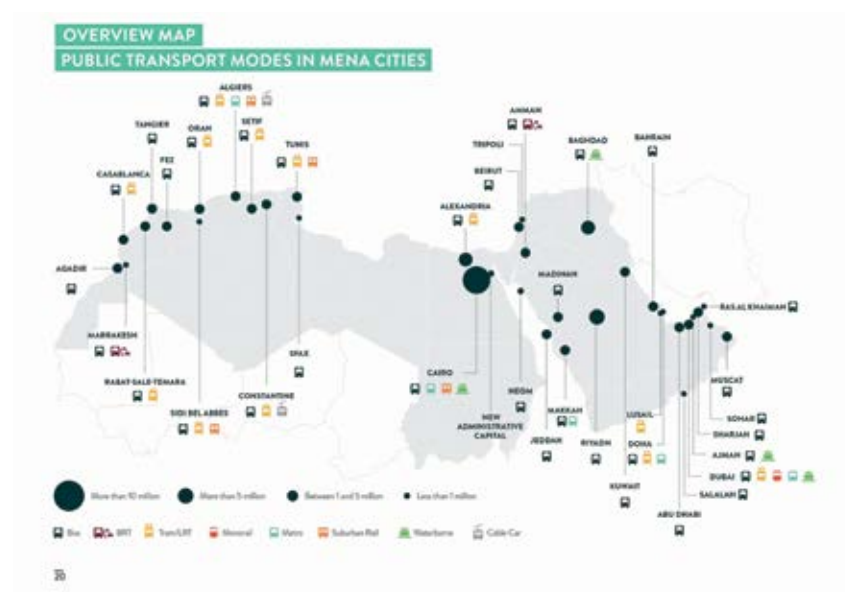


previous editions while covering more cities, more projects, and more data. The regional overview maps in the report provide detailed information on core public transport as well as emerging mobility services across 37 cities in 13 MENA countries. The maps also track the process of digitalizing public transport services through e-ticketing and trip planners and give an overview of the measures operators and authorities use to further decarbonize public transport. Furthermore, ongoing and planned projects are showcased by mode, type, and location.

The report comes in 166 pages, structured for ease of use, country chapters are ordered alphabetically, and within each country, the capital city is presented first, followed by other cities in order of population. Each country and city chapter gives an overview of the relevant public transport authorities and strategies before looking into the existing public transport services and the ongoing and planned projects. Moreover, the international benchmarking in the report compares system indicators, ridership and fares for selected international and MENA cities. This information shows the progress within the region and provides some potential targets.

Finally, the report acknowledges the active contribution of UITP members and MENA CTE partners who have provided data, and insightful comment without , the report would not have been possible.

(Report project team: Ayman Smadi, Director and Farida Moawad, researcher(UITP MENA CTE)



MENA TRANSPORT REPORT

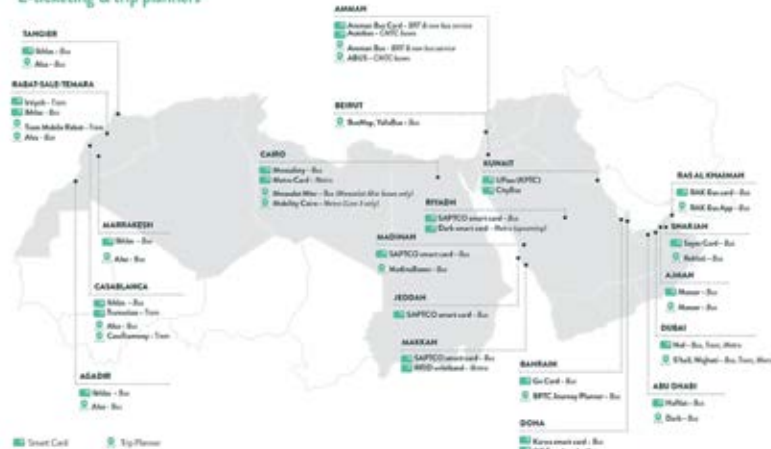
DECARBONISATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Alternative fuels & e-mobility



DIGITALISATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

E-ticketing & trip planners



Emirati Women's Day Inspiring Reality .. Sustainable Future

Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women's Union (GWU), President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation (FDF), and Mother of the Nation has confirmed that the theme of Emirati Women's Day 2022, held on 28th August, will be "Inspiring Reality.. Sustainable Future".

The United Arab Emirates emphasises a variety of activities for enhancing interactions between citizens, strengthening relations between them, and promoting national unity, as evidenced by the UAE National Day. Several occasions are devoted to Emirati women because they hold exceptional status in several fields. Because of this, the UAE celebrated a day to honour women, who have been recognised around the world as educators of generations whose challenges and hopes still resonate today.

In August, the UAE celebrates Emirati Women's Day to honour the women's contribution and sacrifices to the nation, and to all tasks, they carry out. As a result of the rulers' strong belief that women play an active role in building society, establishing Emirati Women's Day was an affirmation of their capacity to overcome obstacles and push themselves and their society to continue achieving the highest gains.

It was created to spread great energy of love and support for all the remarkable women of the UAE who have worked hard to elevate the status of women and the nation. We should appreciate and honour Emirati women on this day, as they are the shield of this country and one of its symbols of tolerance and peace.

In the UAE, women hold high positions. It is the first Arab country to empower women as leaders and parliamentarians, and the first in the world to respect women and preserve their dignity. A significant proportion of Emirati women work in the public sector, including those in decision-making positions, and they play a prominent and effective role in all sectors of government.

Emirati Women's Day 2022 will have the theme 'Inspiring Reality Sustainable Future' to reflect the reality of women in the UAE, and what they embody as role models and

sources of inspiration for women around the world, as they have achieved great success in every level during the fifty-year history of the country. This is an important pillar for future foresight that must be preserved to ensure building a sustainable and secure future for Emirati women.

Emirati women have come to where they are today thanks to the care and great interest of our leaders, in addition to a supportive environment and empowerment programs. Women's rights are also supported and protected by numerous legislations and laws,



including ones that address gender equality in the workplace throughout the UAE.

Events of Emirati Women's Day 2022

There are diverse events on Emirati Women's Day focusing on the huge role of women in building the UAE and contributing to the development drive at all levels. Women occupy administrative and diplomatic posts and are pioneers of various projects. They have immense roles in aviation, space, renewable energy, technology, medicine and other fields. These topics underscore women's empowerment in the community and the future ambitions of all Emirati women.



Celebrating Emirati Women's Day 2022

Public and private organisations celebrate Emirati Women's Day 2022 by:

- Showcasing the achievements of Emirati women via mass media
- Holding gatherings to exchange expertise between Emirati women in various specialities
- Spotlight the role and contributions of Emirati women
- Focusing on the new issues of women at the local, regional and global levels
- Promoting the efforts of the UAE leaders in empowering women

Key Societies and Entities supporting Emirati Women

• General Women Union

The General Women Union is a government organization established in 1975 to empower Emirati women as part of the sustained development drive in all fields

The Union launched several projects and initiatives that enabled Emirati women to occupy leading positions. Examples of such initiatives include: Be a woman, women and technology, and know your rights among others.

• Dubai Women Establishment

The Dubai Women's Establishment is a governmental institution established in 2006, with the key objective of creating business opportunities for Emirati women to establish their presence in the job market. At the same time, the Dubai Women's Establishment seeks to support Emirati women in all ways, such as raising awareness of their effective role in society.

• Dubai Foundation for Women and Children

In the context of supporting and protecting women, the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children is sheltering Emirati women who need protection, as well as rehabilitating and educating them through development and educational programmes.

• Women's Union Association

The Women's Union Society in Sharjah is one of the most important Emirati women's organizations. The association supports women through awareness programmes, vocational training and education besides participating in enacting laws specific to Emirati women.

• NAMA Women Advancement Establishment

NAMA Women Advancement Establishment seeks to provide a supportive environment for women to facilitate their access to the highest positions through an integrated development network. It has 3 institutions involved in the women's empowerment project: the Sharjah Business Women's Council, the Badri Academy for Knowledge and Capacity Building, and My Legacy Council for Contemporary Crafts.

Aisha Al Mutaiwee, an Olympic Athlete of People of Determination Obtains 4 Gold Medals

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) will sponsor and empower the Olympic athlete Aisha Al Mutaiwee, who won four Gold medals in The Para Powerlifting Asia-Oceania Open Championships. The move is part of an agreement with the Dubai Club for People of Determination, to support and empower the People of Determination in sports. It stems from the keenness of both parties to promote their strategic cooperation, integrate their efforts and exchange experiences.

The agreement aims to provide moral and physical resources to empower and promote the skills of people of determination. It seeks to open the door for their participation in local and international events as well as external training camps and provide them with the technical support needed to lead them to obtain top honours.

Yousef Al Redha, CEO of Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA said, "RTA is keen to support the People of Determination in line with its strategic goals and objectives which provide for the happiness of people and social responsibility. Accordingly, RTA signed an agreement to support people of determination with the Dubai Club for People of Determination in 2019 to support them in the sports field and enable them to excel in local and international championships.

"Through this agreement, RTA aims to raise the public awareness about the importance of empowering People of Determination such that they can have a real contribution to

the community. Achieving this objective requires creating appropriate opportunities for the people of determination and encouraging their integration into society. The move also comes in line with the national policy to empower them and offer them equal opportunities.

"RTA is keen to launch effective community initiatives, such as supporting the player Aisha Al Mutaiwee in the sports field. RTA's initiatives for various community members (youth, students, people of determination, girls and women) were launched after conducting studies that included the goals and the desired results. RTA also cares about following up on the results achieved and carrying out further improvements to reach the specific goals," concluded Al Redha.

Thani Juma Berregad, Chairman of the Dubai Club for People of Determination praised RTA's support and empowerment of people of determination in the sports field. He paid tribute to RTA's sponsorship of Aisha Al Mutaiwee, which contributed to her winning 4 gold medals in the Para Powerlifting Asia-Oceania Open Championships. It stems from the great attention of our leaders to the people of determination and the importance of providing all means of upgrading their abilities and talents in all fields. The empowerment of the people of determination cements the social fabric and enhances the realisation of this vision under the established strategy.

The cooperation between RTA and Dubai Club for People of Determination stems from the integrated efforts of both parties to ensure the success of the people of determination and the realisation of Dubai Government's



vision to empowering people of determination. Dubai has become a friendly city for this category and cares for their happiness and wellbeing,” said Majid Al-Usami, Executive Director of Dubai Club for People of Determination.

“RTA’s initiatives will contribute to the integration of people of determination in sports to identify their talents and cement the partnerships with various spectrums of the community, especially as sports has become a lifestyle and a gateway to change for the better. The successes of the people of determination can be attributed to the support and positivity of our leaders, which opened the door to realise their ambitions,” added Al-Usami.

RTA’s agreement with the Dubai Club for People of Determination contributed to exchanging expertise and enhancing the partnerships in the interest of people of



determination. It also empowered them to prepare and participate in local and international championships. The two parties are keen to hold regular meetings to review the best practices in this field.

Metro Operation Control Centre Youth Council delegation

The Roads and Transport Authority’s Youth Council organised an initiative titled ‘Youth Visits’ in collaboration with the Rail Agency and Dubai Metro’s maintenance and operations contractor including a visit to the Dubai Metro’s Depot at Al Rashdiya. The initiative aimed to support the communication and exchange of superb experiences, gain exposure to the highest practices and familiarise with the top centres across the RTA.

During the visit, participants met with Eng. Ali Al Shehhi, Deputy Director of Rail Maintenance, Rail Agency, and Eng. Abdullah Al Awadi, Deputy Director of Rail Operation, Rail Agency.

Representatives of the Rail Agency commended the youths’ enthusiasm for expanding their knowledge and experience and practices in various fields. They also learned about Dubai Metro’s operation and maintenance as well as the responsibilities of the centre’s employees in responding to emergencies and malfunctioning, managing security issues, maintaining service continuity, starting and ending metro operations, monitoring the electrical supply and safe operation of the rolling stock and implementing contingency plans during emergencies in collaboration with internal and external RTA bodies.

As part of the initiative, the youth learned how to

develop teamwork skills and attended a presentation about general information about the metro including the daily schedule, technologies, processes of the Operation Control Centre and three metro depots as well as the equipment and technologies used.



Urging employees to create new and innovative jobs

You are the future, don't wait for it to come

Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has urged newly recruited employees to set their sights on the future as it holds immense knowledge as well as revolutionary science and services. It called on them to move on to the future rather than wait for it to come.

The CEO of RTA's Public Transport Agency Ahmed Bahrozyan addressed a breakfast gathering to host new RTA employees at THE SIX - Board Game Cafe, on the Boulevard. "The selection of this venue away from formal working places carries a message to you that work is not a psychological or physical burden, but rather fun. Our souls need recreation, even during working hours in a way compatible

with roles and responsibilities. Thank God we work in a government entity focused on the future and encourage employees to tackle it.

"You're the future. The future of each of you will not start tomorrow, rather it began when you decided to join RTA. When you think about the future, don't say (tomorrow). Do not wait for the future to come, you go to it. You can make it, dream of it, and realise it. You





live in a country that races against time in anticipating the future and is keen to be part of it. You work in an entity that seeks to play a leading role in roads, transportation and services and set a global model to realise its vision (The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility),” added Bahrozian. He called on new employees, who enjoyed a great time in the café before the start of the official meeting, to shun the routine, and avoid being sluggish to a minimum of duties, if they wanted to stand out. “You should rather endeavour to achieve maximum performance, chart a different path for yourself, and ensure you do a quality job. Those who want to stand out have to add unparalleled skills and abilities to their academic studies and previous experiences. Before that, they have to foresee the extent of excellence and creativity they are aspiring to,” he commented. He also called on employees not to wait for routine promotions: “It is you who create and decide on the

job of the future, even if it was off your career paths, designations and degrees. That will happen when you convince officials that you have created a job that is indispensable to achieving the vision, goals, and strategies of the government and the RTA,” he noted. Bahrozian capped his comments with a tip to employees: “No matter how creative and distinguished you are, stick to the team spirit. The little that you get from others will turn big if you want to be at the forefront. Remember that giving was something taken before it became something to give, especially when it comes to science, knowledge, experience and skill.” The CEO of the Public Transport Agency then exchanged friendly talks with the new employees of the Agency and stressed that they will receive full support from all RTA officials, who will be keen to hear to them likewise what they do with RTA officials.



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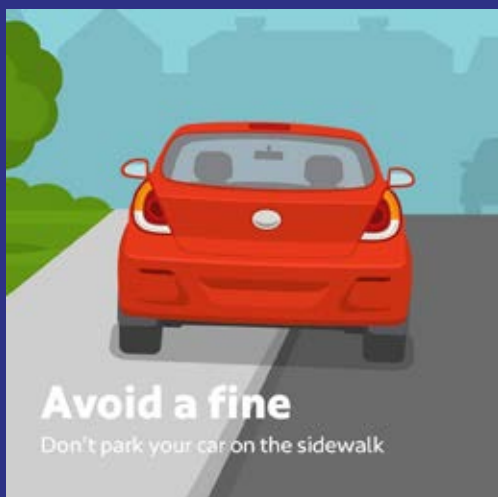


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Electric bus travels 90 km with 10-minute charge

The Turkish public transport system has introduced fast-charging electric buses, a first of its kind in terms of features and specifications among other types of vehicles.

“Fast-charging electric buses will commence service in Samsun for public transport, and test drives are expected to conclude shortly,” reported Turkish media.

After only 10 minutes of charging, the electric bus can travel 90 kilometres, demonstrating its fast-charging capabilities and long-term charging capacity.

An industrial project aimed at electrifying the public transport system in Samsun has been completed by the city and the Ministry of Industry and Technology. The project aims to eliminate waste gas emissions, contribute to a cleaner environment, reduce operating costs and save fuel.

Samsun Metropolitan

Municipality has finalised preparations for using lithium-ion battery electric buses in alternative energy system, and the trial operation is scheduled to conclude by the end of the year. Samsun will become the first Turkish city to offer electric buses powered by lithium batteries.



Lithium Battery

Three scientists have been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discovering lithium batteries, which have revolutionised our lives.

There is a wide range of devices using lithium batteries, including mobile phones, laptops, and electric vehicles. Lithium batteries contribute to a cleaner environment by reducing fossil fuel consumption and storing renewable energy such as solar and wind.

How does it work?

Chemical reactions occur primarily at the anode (negative pole) and cathode (positive pole) of batteries to store and release energy. Recharging the battery requires negatively charged anions to move toward positively charged cathode via an electrolyte medium, and vice versa.

Scientists are currently working on developing lithium-carbon dioxide batteries, which, because of their long lifetime and ability to recharge, are expected to revolutionise battery technology.

Norway seizes the opportunity

News sources in Turkey report that autonomous electric buses developed by Turkish engineers currently provide public transport services in Stavanger, Norway.

First of its kind in Europe, the eco-friendly Level 4 autonomous electric bus is manufactured by Turkish automaker Karsan, in partnership with the Turkish technology company Adastec. The vehicle is Europe's first autonomous electric vehicle of the 8-meter class.

With a range of 300 km, the 8.3-metre-long bus can accommodate 52 passengers, thanks to its 220 kWh rechargeable batterie



بعضها أكسير الحياة هل كل الدهون في جسم الإنسان ضارة؟

يظن بعض العوام أن الدهون والشحوم والزيوت ضارة على كل حال، وأنه كلما استطاع الإنسان تجنبها والتخلص منها، كان أكثر رشاقة وأكثر صحة، وأبعد عن الأمراض.



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ولكن الحقيقة ليست كذلك، فهناك دهون وشحوم في جسم الإنسان، لا يمكنه الاستمرار في الحياة لو فقدها، وهي تحتاج للتعزيز بشكل مستمر، تجنباً للآزمات صحية خطيرة، قد تؤدي بحياته لو تجاهلها تجاهلاً كاملاً.

فهناك أنواع متعددة من الدهون في جسم الإنسان، يؤدي كل منها دوراً مختلفاً، فبعضها يعزز التمثيل الغذائي الصحي ومستويات الهرمونات، بينما يسبب بعضها عند زيادته على الحد المقبول مشكلات صحية تهدد الحياة، بما في ذلك السكري، وأمراض القلب، وضغط الدم المرتفع والسرطان.

وهذه أهم الدهون التي يحتوي عليها الجسم البشري:

1 - الدهون البيضاء

تتكون الدهون البيضاء من خلايا بيضاء كبيرة، مخزنة تحت الجلد أو حول الأعضاء في البطن والذراعين والأرداف والفخذين، وهذه الخلايا الدهنية هي طريقة الجسم لتخزين الطاقة لاستخدامها لاحقاً.

ويؤدي هذا النوع من الدهون دوراً كبيراً في وظيفة بعض الهرمونات في الجسم، مثل هرمون الاستروجين، والليبتين، وهو أحد الهرمونات التي تبعث على الشعور بالجوع، والأنسولين، والكورتيزول، وكذلك هرمون النمو.

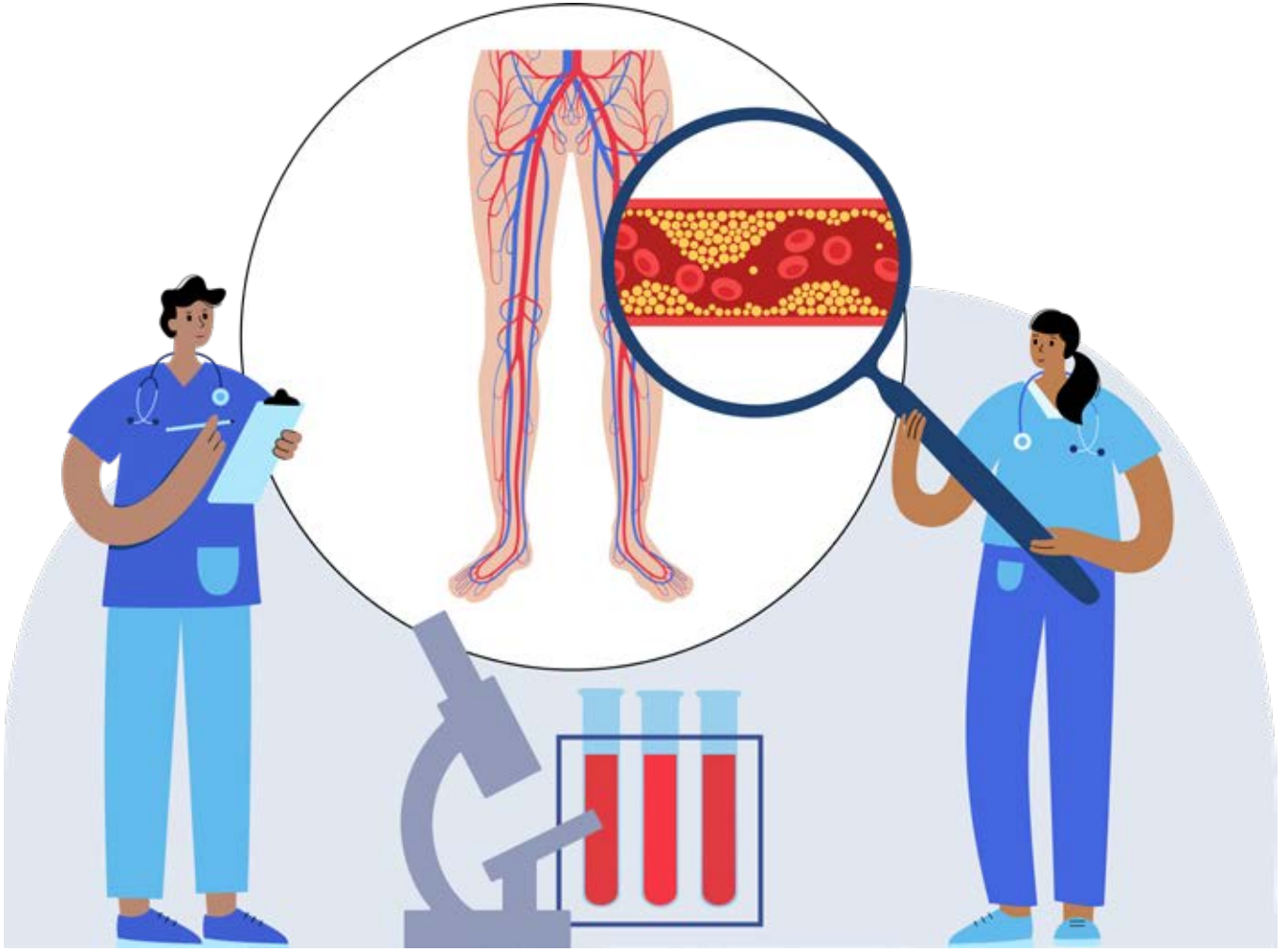


وبالرغم أن بعض الدهون البيضاء ضرورية لصحة جيدة، فإن الزيادة في الدهون البيضاء ضارة للغاية، وتتقرر نسب الدهون الصحية في الجسم، اعتماداً على مستوى اللياقة أو النشاط البدني، ووفقاً للمجلس الأمريكي للتمارين الرياضية، يجب أن تكون لدى الرجال غير الرياضيين، نسبة دهون الجسم الإجمالية في نطاق 14 إلى 24 في المائة، بينما يجب أن تكون عند النساء غير الرياضيات، في نطاق 21 إلى 31 في المائة.

يمكن أن تزيد نسبة الدهون البيضاء في الجسم، التي تزيد على المعدل الصحي من خطر الإصابة بالمشكلات الصحية التالية: داء السكري من النوع 2، ومرض القلب التاجي، وضغط الدم المرتفع، والسكتة الدماغية، والاختلالات الهرمونية، ومضاعفات الحمل، ومرض الكبد، والسرطان.

2 - الدهون البنية





4 - الدهون تحت الجلد

الدهون تحت الجلد هي مزيج من الخلايا الدهنية البنية والبيج والبيضاء، وغالبية الدهون الموجودة تحت الجلد يمكن الضغط عليها في الذراعين ومناطق الجسم المختلفة، ويستخدم محترفو اللياقة البدنية مقياس الدهون تحت الجلد، وسيلة لتقدير النسبة المئوية الإجمالية للدهون في الجسم.

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3 - الدهون الأساسية

الدهون الأساسية ضرورية لحياة الشخص وللحصول على جسم صحي، وتوجد تلك الدهون في الدماغ ونخاع العظام والأعصاب والأغشية التي تحمي الأعضاء، وتؤدي هذه الدهون دورًا رئيسًا في تنظيم الهرمونات، بما في ذلك الهرمونات التي تتحكم في الخصوبة وامتصاص الفيتامينات وتنظيم درجة الحرارة.

ووفقًا للمجلس الأمريكي لممارسة الرياضة، تحتاج النساء إلى ما لا يقل عن 10 إلى 13 في المائة من تكوين أجسامهن من الدهون الأساسية، لكي يتمتعن بصحة جيدة، بينما يحتاج الرجال إلى 2 إلى 5 في المائة على الأقل.

5 - الدهون الحشوية

الدهون الحشوية المعروفة أيضًا باسم «دهون البطن» هي الدهون البيضاء المخزنة في البطن وحول جميع الأعضاء الرئيسية، مثل الكبد والكلى والبنكرياس والأمعاء والقلب، ويمكن أن تزيد مستويات الدهون الحشوية من خطر الإصابة بمرض السكري وأمراض القلب والسكتة الدماغية وأمراض الشرايين، وبعض أنواع السرطان.

تعمل الدهون الحشوية على إمداد الجسم بالكثير من المنافع مثل تنظيم درجة الحرارة، وتخزين الفيتامينات من الطعام، وتحسين صحة الجهاز العصبي، وتساعد على تحسين القدرة الإنجابية، وتزيد معدل التمثيل الغذائي، وتحافظ على مستوى السكر بالدم.

العودة إلى المدارس.. ماذا أعددتُم لها ولكم ولأبنائكم؟



يقول أحد الحكماء: (ما خالطت السعادة المشقة قط، فجعلتها متعة وإيجابية وتفاؤلاً، كما تخالطها عند رعاية فلذات أكبادنا، والسعي في مصالحهم وإسعادهم).
وها هي المدارس والجامعات والكليات والمعاهد تفتح أبوابها لأبنائنا الطلبة والطالبات.
أسرة تحرير مجلة المسار، تهني الجميع بالعودة إلى مقاعد الدراسة، وتسأل الله أن يكون عام خير ونجاح وتفوق، واستعرضت مع أولياء الأمور من داخل الهيئة وخارجها استعداداتهم للعام الدراسي الجديد: (2022 – 2023)، وخرجت بالتحقيق الآتي:

يقول مازن محمد مازن: جلست مع أولادي نتحاور، وركزت على المبادئ الآتية: (السعي والتوكل على الله)، و(من جد وجد)، و(محاولة المراجعة والاستذكار بشكل عام، لما درسه من مواد علمية العام السابق)، و(تحديد المتطلبات والمستلزمات الجديدة للعام الجديد)، و(الاهتمام بالأكل الصحي، والنوم الصحي، لأن ذلك يعزز قدرتهم على الدراسة)، و(الابتعاد عن اللهو، والأدوات التي تساهم في اللهو، خلال أيام الدراسة، وتركها لأيام الإجازة الأسبوعية)، وغيرها من الأمور ذات العلاقة بالاستعداد، وتعود الأسلوب والوقت والحياة الدراسية، خاصة أن للإجازة أثراً ذات راحة عامة، تعودوا خلال على الاسترخاء والسفر والسياحة).

أما صالح ميرزا البلوشي فقال: العودة إلى مقاعد الدراسة، إحدى المناسبات الجميلة لأبنائنا الطلبة، فبعد عطلة صيفية مليئة بالأنشطة والترفيه، يعود فلذات أكبادنا إلى «مملكة بناء العقول»، يجهزون أدواتهم، من حقائب ودفاتر وغيرها، وكلهم شغف للقاء أصدقاء الدراسة من ناحية، وحماس للعام الدراسي مليء بالإنجازات من ناحية، مؤكداً أن موسم العودة إلى المدارس موسم عيد بالنسبة لأبنائنا. وأضاف: نحن أولياء الأمور نساهم بتهيئة البيئة الملائمة لطلابنا، وذلك من خلال بيان أهمية المدرسة، وأنها الملاذ الآمن للعقول النيرة، والأفكار الخيرة، كما سعيينا جاهدين لمساعدة أبنائنا على رسم أهدافهم المستقبلية، التي سيكون للمدرسة الدور الأكبر في تحقيقها بإذن الله تعالى.

وقال حازم أحمد: نحن مستعینون بالله أولاً، ولدينا رجاء أن نبدأ العام الدراسي الحالي، بداية جديدة تختلف عن العامين الماضيين، اللذين عانينا فيهما من جائحة كورونا، ولم تكن المدارس كما كانت من قبل. وأضاف: بالرغم من الصعوبات التي واجهت أبنائنا خلال العامين السابقين، فقد تعلموا مهارات جديدة علينا وعليهم، وأصبحت لديهم إمكانيات، لم يكن من الممكن توفرها، لولا التحدي الذي واجهناه جميعاً، ونجحنا في استثماره، مشيراً إلى أن أبنائهم متحمسون بقوة للعودة إلى مقاعد الدراسة، في مقار مدارسهم، وليس عن بعد. أما الطالب عمر شواف فقد أعد نفسه للمواجهات اليومية مع أمه، التي لا ترضى له بغير المركز الأول.

وأشارت أمه ندى إلى أن ابنها عمر متفوق، ولكنها لا تستطيع تركه لنفسه، فهي بدأت من الآن في مساعدته على تنظيم وقته، وتقريب موعد النوم اليومي مساءً، وتجنب السهر، والابتعاد عن الجوال، مشيرة إلى أنها تنصح أبنائها بالتخلي عن الجوال، وجميع مواقع التواصل الاجتماعي، طوال فترة العام الدراسي حتى خلال الإجازات الأسبوعية.

وقالت عائشة محمد: ابنتي الصفري مريم ستلتحق بالجامعة هذا العام، وقد كانت متفوقة خلال دراستها في الثانوية العامة، ولكنني أشعر أنها طفلة صغيرة، وهي تحتاج إلي في هذه المرحلة، كما كانت تحتاج إلي في مرحلة الروضة، داعية أولياء الأمور، إلى منح أبنائهم وبناتهم الداهيين إلى الجامعات، المزيد من الاهتمام والرعاية والمتابعة

والدعم، وخير وسيلة لتحقيق التوازن بمساعدتهم وحمايتهم، هي مصادقتهم ومنحهم الأمان، ليفتحوا قلوبهم لذويهم.

وأشار ياسر الهزاع، إلى أنه سعيد بوعي ولده عمار، الذي يشعر بالمسؤولية، بالرغم من أنه لم يتجاوز الصف التاسع، فهو يؤكد لوالده دائماً، أنه حريص على الاجتهاد والنجاح، ليكون قرة عين لأبويه. وأضاف: يشعر ابني بالفرح، حين يذهب إلى المدرسة، وهذا الأمر يفرحني كثيراً أنا أيضاً، ويخفف مسؤولياتي تجاه نصحه وتوجيهه، فهو قدوة لغيره من الأبناء.

ولفت باسم عثمان الانتباه، إلى أهمية النظام الغذائي للأطفال، مؤكداً أن أبنائه ودراساتهم ومتابعتهم مسؤولية أهمهم، أما هو فمسؤوليته توفير متطلباتهم المدرسية، قبل الذهاب إلى المدرسة، وفي المدرسة، وبعد العودة إلى البيت، مشدداً على أن النظام الغذائي مهم جداً للطلبة والأطفال، لأن تغذيتهم تغذية سليمة، وتجنب الأطعمة الضارة، يساعدان على تمتعهم بصحة جيدة، وعقل سليم. ونبهت شيماء عبد الله، إلى أهمية مراعاة نفسية الطفل، خاصة في المراحل الأولى، وأن يكون متقبلاً للمدرسة، وجوها الاجتماعي والنفسي، مشيراً إلى أنها غيرت مدارس ابنتها ثلاث مرات، حتى استقرت على مدرسة، تطلب ابنتها الذهاب إليها بشوق، بعد أن كانت تنفر من المدرستين السابقتين، وتبكي عندما نريد أخذها إليهما كل يوم.

وهنأت شيماء بلال الخالد جميع الطلاب والطالبات، وأولياء أمورهم، والهيئات التدريسية في المدارس والجامعات والمعاهد والمؤسسات

التعليمية كافة، بمناسبة بداية العام الدراسي الجديد، داعية الجميع إلى رفع درجات الحيطة والحذر، أثناء القيادة قرب مواقع المدارس والمؤسسات التعليمية، حفاظاً على سلامة الطلاب، وتجنبهم الحوادث المرورية.

ونبهت إلى أن حالة الطريق في حالة وجود طلبة، تختلف عنها في الأوقات الأخرى، التي كان الطلبة في منازلهم خلالها، أثناء إجازة الصيف، خاصة خلال فترتي الدوام صباحاً، والانصراف ظهراً، حيث يخرج الطلبة أحياناً بصورة جماعية، ولا يقدرّون خطورة الطريق، مما يتطلب من السائقين الذين يعبرون الطرقات في ذلك الوقت، رفع درجات انتباههم، وقيادتهم مركباتهم بصورة أخلاقية.

ونبهت شبيخة محمد سائقي الحافلات وأولياء أمور الطلاب، إلى ضرورة التركيز أثناء القيادة خاصة في المناطق المدرسية، مشيرة إلى أن أبرز أسباب الحوادث المرورية في هذه المناطق، هي عدم تقدير مستخدمي الطريق، والإهمال وعدم الانتباه، والسوق بطيش وتهور. وحثت فاطمة محمد سائقي الحافلات المدرسية وأولياء الأمور، الذين يوصلون أبنائهم إلى المدارس، على الالتزام بالقواعد المرورية الصحيحة، وتجنب الوقوف في الأماكن الخاطئة، وعدم ترك الأطفال يعبرون الشارع وحدهم، مشددة على عدم السماح للطلاب بالنزول من الباب الأيسر للمركبة، ونصحت أولياء الأمور باستخدام قفل الأمان للأبواب الخلفية.

ودعت السائقين والطلاب إلى الالتزام بربط حزام الأمان، حتى في المسافات القصيرة، مشيرة إلى أن الكثير من الحوادث المرورية، تقع على بعد مسافة قصيرة من مكان العمل أو المنزل، بحسب بعض الإحصاءات العالمية.

