هيئة الطرق والمواصلات
ROADS & TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
RTA

المسار
almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai`s RTA
Issue No. 205 – July 2025

Foundation Stone Laid for Dubai Metro Blue Line

Vision

The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility.

Mission

We provide seemless and safe travel with innovative, sustainable mobility solutions and services to make every journey in Dubai a world-class experience.

Foundation Stone

The 9th of June 2025 marked the commencement of construction works on one of the most significant infrastructure projects in the advancement of Dubai's public transport system.

On this day, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, graciously laid the foundation stone for the Dubai Metro Blue Line. Spanning 30 kilometres and comprising 14 stations, the line will serve nine vital districts with a projected population of one million residents, in line with the Dubai 2040 Urban Plan.

His Highness also approved the distinctive design of the iconic Emaar Properties Station, set to become the world's highest elevated metro station, standing at 74 metres, with a design inspired by the concept of a crossing Gateway.

The launch of the Blue Line reaffirms Dubai Government's commitment to infrastructure development. It reflects the leadership's firm belief that investment in infrastructure is a key driver of comprehensive development.

As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum stated:

"Investing in infrastructure projects is a strategic choice aligned with a comprehensive development approach that Dubai adopts and continues to pursue its objectives through innovative solutions designed to meet current needs while ensuring the highest levels of future readiness."

Blue Line is the fifth major strategic public transport project, following the Red and Green Lines of the Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, and Route 2020. It ranks among the largest transport infrastructure projects planned for the coming period. Upon completion, it will link the Red and Green Lines across nine vital districts, enabling direct journeys between residential and development areas and Dubai International Airport in less than 20 minutes.

The project plays a pivotal role in advancing the objectives of the Dubai 2040 Urban Plan, which aspires to make Dubai "the world's best city to live in." By connecting one-fifth of the city's urban areas to the Metro network, it reinforces key principles such as the "20-Minute City" concept, ensuring that over 80% of essential services are accessible within 20 minutes of travel.

The Blue Line will also support the targets of Dubai's Economic Agenda (D33) and is expected to reduce traffic congestion by 20% along the corridors it serves.

Several defining features set the Blue Line apart within Dubai's transport landscape. It will include the first Dubai Metro bridge to span Dubai Creek, extending 1,300 metres, as well as the iconic Emaar Properties Station located in Dubai Creek Harbour. Designed by the internationally renowned firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM), the station stands out for its bold and visionary architecture.

The project also features the largest underground interchange station in the Dubai Metro network, covering more than 44,000 square metres and designed to accommodate up to 350,000 passengers per day. Notably, the Blue Line is the first transport project in Dubai to fully comply with green building standards, earning a prestigious Platinum Rating.

In conclusion, we at Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority, remain committed to delivering Dubai Metro Blue Line within the timeline set by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in 2029, marking the 20th anniversary of the inauguration of the Dubai Metro.

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

المسار
almasar

Al Masar Magazine Strategy

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.

GENERAL SUPERVISOR
Fatma Alkhumiri

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Maryam Al Blooshi

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Mohammed Al Munji

EDITING MANAGER
Nashwan Mahmood

PHOTOGRAPHY
Sahir Babu

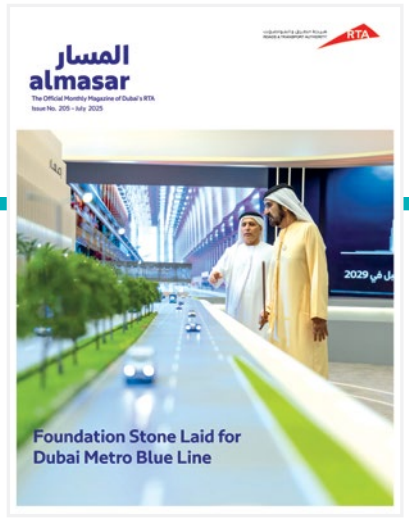
DESIGN & MARKETING
SLA SPOTLIGHT Advertising
www.spotlightuae.net

ART DIRECTOR
Said Mansour

Printed by
Al Nisr Publishing LLC

CONTACT US
P.O.Box: 118899 Dubai,U.A.E
Tel : +971 4 2902638
Fax: +971 4 2903933
almasar@rta.ae
www.rta.ae

To browse Al Masar magazine



News

18 Flag Received for Hosting UITP Global Public Transport Summit 2026

28 MoU Signed to Launch Trial Operations of Autonomous Vehicles

30 Al Tayer Congratulates Deputy Commanders of Dubai Police

30 Innovative Mass Transit Solutions Discussed with Systra Group

31 Al Tayer Honours Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla upon Conclusion of Service

Cover Story

06 Mohammed bin Rashid: Continuing to Develop Dubai and Build the World's Best City to Live in
Foundation Stone Laid for Dubai Metro Blue Line

Projects

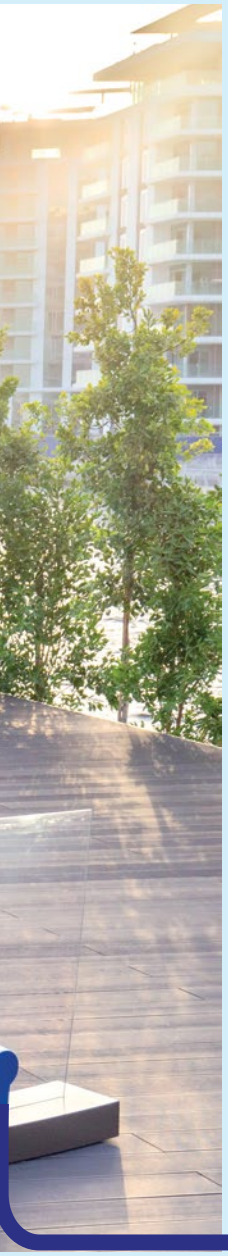
34 Urban Project to Develop Umm Suqeim Street
36 Integrated Project to Upgrade Al Wasl Street over 15 km
40 Development of Al Safa Street from Sheikh Zayed Road to Al Wasl Street
42 New Entry and Exit for Al Warqa from Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road

28


32

Mohammed bin Rashid lays foundation stone for Dubai Metro Blue Line

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, attended the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Dubai Metro Blue Line, a key milestone in the expansion of the city's public transportation network. Spanning 30 km and comprising 14 stations, the new line is set to transform mobility across nine key districts, projected to be home to over one million residents, as outlined in the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan.



Mohammed bin Rashid:

"We Continue to Develop Dubai and Build the Best City to Live in the World"

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, stated through a post on his official account on platform (X), during the laying of the foundation stone for the first station of the Dubai Metro Blue Line, which brings total benefits of AED 56 billion:

"We continue to develop the city."

"We continue to build the best city to live in the world."

His Highness added:

"The station represents an architectural icon added to Dubai's civilisational landmarks and will be the first of the Blue Line stations, which will extend 30 km, bringing the total length of Dubai's rail network to 131 km and 78 stations.

"Dubai Metro has transported more than 2.5 billion passengers since its launch until the end of last year, with a daily average of 900,000 riders. The new route will be a major addition to the transport infrastructure in the emirate."

His Highness also approved the distinctive architectural design of the iconic Emaar Properties Station, the highest metro station in the world, standing at 74 metres. Inspired by the concept of a crossing gateway, the station was designed by the renowned American architectural firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM), one of the world's leading design studios. The firm's portfolio includes iconic landmarks such as the Burj Khalifa, the Olympic Tower in New York, and the Sears Tower in Chicago.

The station is designed to integrate harmoniously into the existing urban environment and embodies the vision of 'Dubai: A Gateway to the Future'. Covering an area of approximately 11,000 square metres, the station is designed to accommodate up to 160,000 passengers per day, with the number of daily users expected to exceed 70,000 by 2040. With the completion of the Blue Line project, Dubai's rail network will expand to a total of 131 km, comprising 78 stations and 168 trains.

Upon arriving at the venue of the ceremony, His Highness was welcomed by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority . At the start of the ceremony, His Highness viewed a historical gallery showcasing the dream of the late Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed

Al Maktoum for constructing a metro line connecting Dubai districts. It included a collection of photographs from His Highness's visits to several world capitals, as well as rare images of him using the railway network in the United Kingdom, where the idea of constructing a similar project in Dubai was conceived.

Exceptional growth

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid was briefed by Al Tayer on the expansion of metro services, including the growth in ridership, station design, number of stations, and train carriages. The Dubai Metro has transported over 2.527 billion passengers from its launch on 09/09/2009 through the end of 2024. The Metro recorded a daily average of 900,000 passengers in 2024.

Ridership has grown steadily over the years, from 38.887 million in 2010 to 69 million in 2011, reflecting a growth rate of 77%. It continued to rise to over 109 million passengers in 2012, before surpassing 200 million in 2017, jumping to 260 million in 2023 and hitting 275.4 million in 2024.

According to studies, the number of Dubai Metro passengers is expected to exceed 300 million in 2026 and reach 320 million by 2031. His Highness was also briefed on the expansion of metro stations. The service began in 2009 with 10 stations, reaching 26 stations in 2010 and growing to 46 stations in 2011. By 2014, the Dubai Tram started operations, and the number of metro and tram stations soared to 56. In 2021, the launch of the Metro's Route 2020 added seven more stations, raising the total to 64. The upcoming Blue Line will add 14 new stations to the network, which will bring the total number to 78.

His Highness was also briefed on the growth in the number of trains, which rose from 16 at the Metro's launch in 2009 to 44 in 2010. The figure reached 79 trains by 2011 and increased to 90 with the inauguration of the Dubai Tram in 2014, further expanding to 140 by 2021. With the Blue Line coming into operation, the total number of trains will increase to 168, comprising 157 Metro trains and 11 Tram trains.

His Highness also reviewed the evolution of both the interior and exterior designs of metro stations. The exterior design of the elevated stations was inspired by the shape

of a seashell, alongside the distinctive iconic architecture of Expo and Emaar Properties stations. The interior design of the stations reflects seven thematic models: Heritage, Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, in addition to unique design elements developed specifically for Expo and Emaar Properties stations.

One million people

His Highness received a further briefing from Al Tayer on the Dubai Metro Blue Line, which links the Green Line at Creek Station, and the Red Line at Centrepoint Station. The line serves residential and academic zones, as well as key development projects, with an estimated population of one million by 2040. It also connects to the Dubai Silicon Oasis – one of the urban centres outlined in the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan – a hub for innovation and knowledge that supports the growth of the technology-driven economy and attracts skilled and creative talent.

Al Tayer stated: "The Blue Line comprises two main routes. The first runs from Creek Interchange Station on the Green Line, located in Al Jaddaf, passing through Dubai Festival City, Dubai Creek Harbour, and Ras Al Khor, before reaching International City 1, which includes an underground interchange station. The route continues towards International City 2 and 3, extending to Dubai Silicon Oasis and up to Academic City. This section spans 21 km and connects 10 stations."

"The second route of the Blue Line starts from Centrepoint Interchange Station on the Red Line in Al Rashidiya. It passes through Mirdif and Al Warqa, concluding at International City 1 Interchange Station. This route measures 9 km in length and links four stations. The project also includes the construction of a metro depot at Al Ruwayah 3," said Al Tayer.

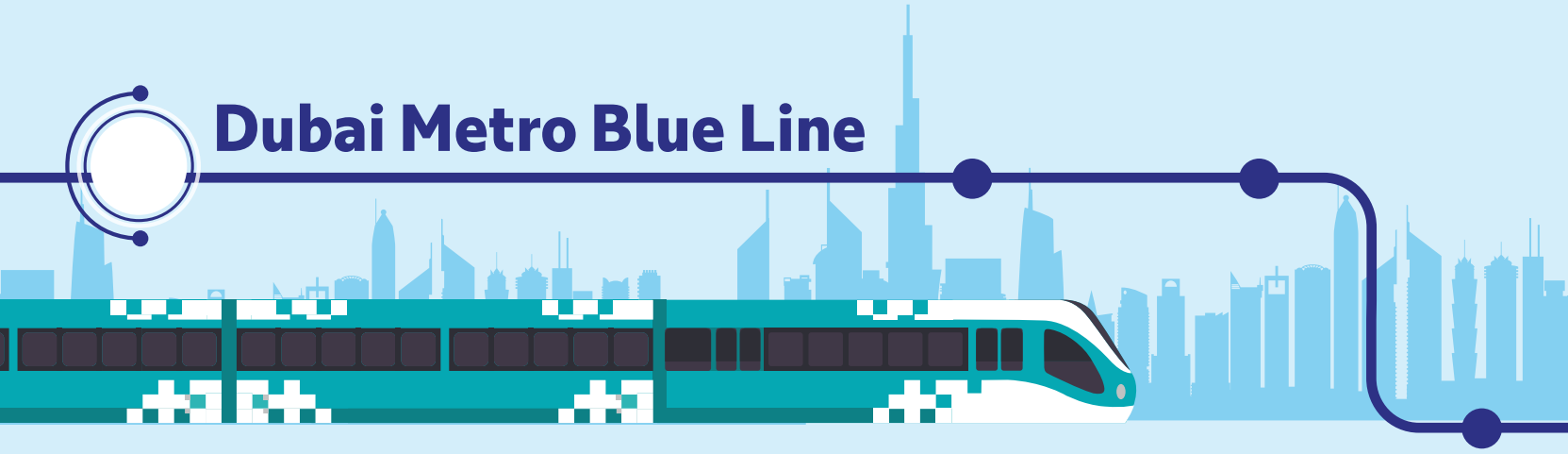
His Highness watched a film highlighting the Dubai Metro Blue Line project, which links the red and green lines of the Dubai Metro and serves economic, academic, tourism, and residential areas expected to house one million people by 2040. It connects these areas with direct journeys to Dubai International Airport in just 20 minutes. It also supports the goals of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan by extending metro services to the fifth urban centre and contributing to a 20% reduction in traffic congestion along the roads served by the Blue Line.

Iconic station

His Highness paused at the imposing large-scale model of the iconic Emaar Properties Station, where he was briefed by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer on the highest metro station in the world, with a height of 74 metres. A new urban landmark, the new station complements Dubai's iconic infrastructure and embodies the emirate's vision to serve as a gateway to the future. It forms a striking visual presence that harmonises with the surrounding urban landscape, elevating the concept of placemaking and positioning the station as a primary destination for Blue Line users. The station also offers integrated commercial and investment opportunities.

Spanning an area of 11,000 square metres, the station is designed to handle up to 160,000 passengers, with more than 70,000 expected to use it daily once operational. It will serve the estimated 40,000 residents of Dubai Creek Harbour, in addition to visitors

Upon arrival, passengers are greeted by a majestic architectural structure standing 74 metres tall and 38 metres wide, offering an immersive spatial experience from the moment they enter or disembark. The station's exterior features a towering facade that harmonises with the area's architectural identity. A central gateway allows natural light to flood down to the platform level, creating a bright and welcoming space during the day. Sunlight



reflects off the stone surfaces, underscoring the station's timeless elegance. By night, it transforms into a radiant beacon that guides travellers, with a carefully planned lighting strategy that enhances its architectural character and reaffirms its role as a gateway to Dubai's bright future.

Interior design

The interior design of the station is curated to create a sense of luxury. Towering walls rise elegantly, finished in natural textures and warm, earthy tones that strengthen the connection to the land, reflect the spirit of place, and embody the community's resilience and cohesion. The overall architectural language creates a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for all visitors.

The material palette features premium, durable finishes such as Jura limestone and bronze metal wall panels at the platform level, complemented by robust granite flooring. At both the lobby and platform levels, glass ceiling panels allow natural light to permeate the space, enhancing the feeling of openness and elevating the overall passenger experience

The combination of natural stone and polished metal creates a balance between elegance and sophistication, giving the station a distinctive character that unites tradition with modernity.

The station's construction materials were meticulously chosen to reflect a blend of heritage and modernity, incorporating stone, glass, and bronze, forming a symbol of Dubai's continuous pursuit of progress. Its dynamic form and architectural scale create a distinctive visual presence. Sustainability, longevity, and resilience to operational and climatic conditions were central to the selection process, supporting the station's ambition to meet the highest standards of environmental efficiency.

Length
30
KM

Stations
14
Stations

Areas Served
9
Areas

Beneficiaries
one million
people according to Dubai **2040** Urban master plan

Naming rights

During the ceremony, it was announced that Emaar had secured the naming rights for the iconic Emaar Properties Station for ten years, starting from its official inauguration in 2029. The next phase will include announcements regarding naming rights for other stations along the Blue Line. At the conclusion of the event, His Highness joined the team overseeing the Blue Line project for a commemorative photo. The team included RTA staff members, the contractor consortium, and project consultants.

The world's best city

The Blue Line consists of 14 stations, including three interchange stations at Al Jaddaf, Al Rashidiya and International City 1, as well as an iconic station in Dubai Creek Harbour. By 2040, daily ridership on the Blue Line is projected to reach 320,000 passengers. It marks the first Dubai Metro line to cross Dubai Creek on a 1,300-metre-long viaduct.

The Blue Line connects and integrates the existing red and green lines, supporting the goals of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 and the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, aimed at transforming Dubai into the world's best city to live in by offering sustainable and soft mass transit solutions. These solutions are designed to facilitate the mobility of both residents and visitors, promoting well-being and enhancing

The first metro line project to cross Dubai Creek on a **1.3** Km viaduct

3 interchange station at (al jaddaf - al rashidiya - international city 1)

The largest underground interchange metro station Area **44.000** square metres

Dubai's global competitiveness as a leading destination for hosting international events. Additionally, they align with the aspirations of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, which aims to create a '20-minute city.' This innovative concept ensures that more than 80% of essential services are within a 20-minute travel time for residents, fostering a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) approach.

The new line offers direct connectivity between Dubai International Airport and nine key areas, including Mirdif, Al Warqa, International City 1 and 2, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Academic City, Ras Al Khor Industrial Area, Dubai Creek Harbour, and Dubai Festival City. Travel time along the route is expected to range between 10 and 25 minutes.

Key elements of the Blue Line

The Dubai Metro Blue Line features 14 stations, including three interchange stations: Creek Station at Al Jaddaf on the Green Line, Centrepoint Station at Al Rashidiya on the Red Line, and International City 1 Station on the Blue Line, in addition to the iconic station located in Dubai Creek Harbour. The line includes nine elevated stations and five underground stations.

The line has all the features of an integrated transport system, including public bus bays, taxi stands, dedicated areas for bike and electric scooter racks, and parking spaces for People of Determination

The maximum capacity of the Dubai Metro Blue Line exceeds 850,000 passengers per day, based on the scale of the stations included within the project scope. Passenger numbers are expected to reach 200,000 per day by 2030, rising to 320,000 per day by 2040.

Fifth strategic project

Dubai Metro Blue Line represents the fifth strategic public transport project, joining the ranks of the existing red and green lines of the Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram and Dubai Metro Route 2020. It is one of the largest upcoming strategic transport projects.

Upon the completion of the Blue Line, Dubai's total railway network will extend from 101 km to 131 km. This includes 120 km for the Dubai Metro and 11 km for Dubai Tram. The number of metro and tram stations will increase from 64 to 78, encompassing 67 stations for the Dubai Metro and 11 stations for the Dubai Tram.

Additionally, the fleet will expand from 140 to 168 trains, including 157 for the Dubai Metro and 11 for the Dubai Tram.

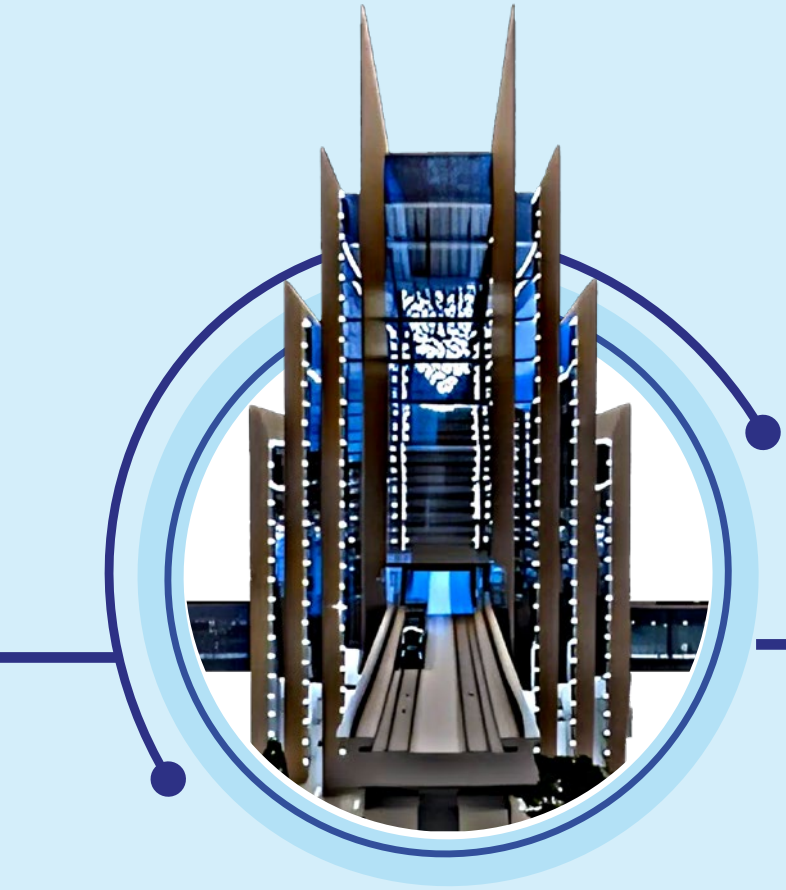
Setting new benchmarks

The Dubai Metro Blue Line offers a range of distinctive

First transport project
(compliant with green builiding standards - platinum category)

Overall benefits of project AED 56.5 billion

features. In addition to the iconic Emaar Properties Station, it includes the first Dubai Metro bridge crossing Dubai Creek, stretching 1,300 metres. The line is also home to the largest underground interchange station in the network, spanning over 44,000 square metres with a projected capacity of 350,000 passengers per day. Notably, the Blue Line is the first transport project in Dubai to fully comply with green building standards, achieving Platinum Category certification.



50,000 university students

The Dubai Metro Blue Line was meticulously planned with

This landmark station reflects Dubai's vision of being a gateway to the future

sustainability in mind, ensuring it connects existing and future high population densities, estimated to reach around one million residents by 2040. Key areas served by the Blue Line include Dubai Creek Harbour and Dubai Festival City, noted for their immense development potential, as well as International City, home to Dragon Mart and large residential complexes visited by over 200,000 residents and visitors. It also serves residential neighbourhoods like Al Rashidiya, Al Warqaa, and Mirdif. It also extends to Dubai Silicon Oasis, recognised as one of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan's Urban Centres, and Academic City, which is projected to accommodate over 50,000 university students by 2029.

The construction of the Blue Line project will utilise cutting-edge international technologies in rail systems. Station designs have been planned to maximise space efficiency, thereby reducing construction, operation and maintenance costs. Additionally, these designs aim for seamless integration with various transportation modes, including public buses and taxis.

Economic return

Initial studies by RTA indicate that infrastructure investment is a key driver of economic growth in cities worldwide. The Dubai Metro Blue Line project aligns with the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33, offering economic, social and environmental returns. By 2040, the project is projected to yield a benefit-cost ratio of 2.60 (AED2.60 in benefits for every AED1 spent). The total anticipated benefits will exceed AED56.5 billion by 2040. These benefits include substantial savings in time and fuel, reduced accident-related fatalities, and lower carbon emissions.

The Blue Line is also expected to decrease traffic congestion on its served routes by 20% and appreciate the value of land and properties near stations by up to 25%. The Blue Line also provides a direct connection between Dubai International Airport and nine key areas situated along its route. It connects with the fifth urban centre, Dubai Silicon Oasis Centre, ensuring that all major urban centres in Dubai are seamlessly connected by metro lines.

Backbone of transportation system

Operational Date
2029-9-9

Height
74
metres

Width
38
metres

Area
11,000
square metres

The endorsement of the Dubai Metro Blue Line signifies a major milestone, building upon the huge success the Dubai Metro has achieved since its inauguration on 09/09/2009. The Metro has emerged as the backbone of Dubai's transportation network, becoming the preferred mode of travel for both residents and visitors. It represents nearly 60% of total usage across all public transportation modes in Dubai, which include buses, the Dubai Tram, and marine transport.

From the start of operations until the end of 2024, the Dubai Metro has transported 2.527 billion passengers. In 2024, the Metro averaged over 900,000 passengers daily. The Dubai Metro has also recorded great success in upholding the highest international safety standards and operational efficiency, boasting a 99.7% punctuality rate.

The Dubai Metro played a pivotal role in boosting Dubai's competitiveness for hosting major international events, including the hosting of Expo 2020 Dubai. This event coincided with the launch of the Dubai Metro Route 2020, a 15 km extension featuring seven new stations. It has also contributed to stimulating economic growth, boosting tourism, and appreciating the value of properties located near metro stations.

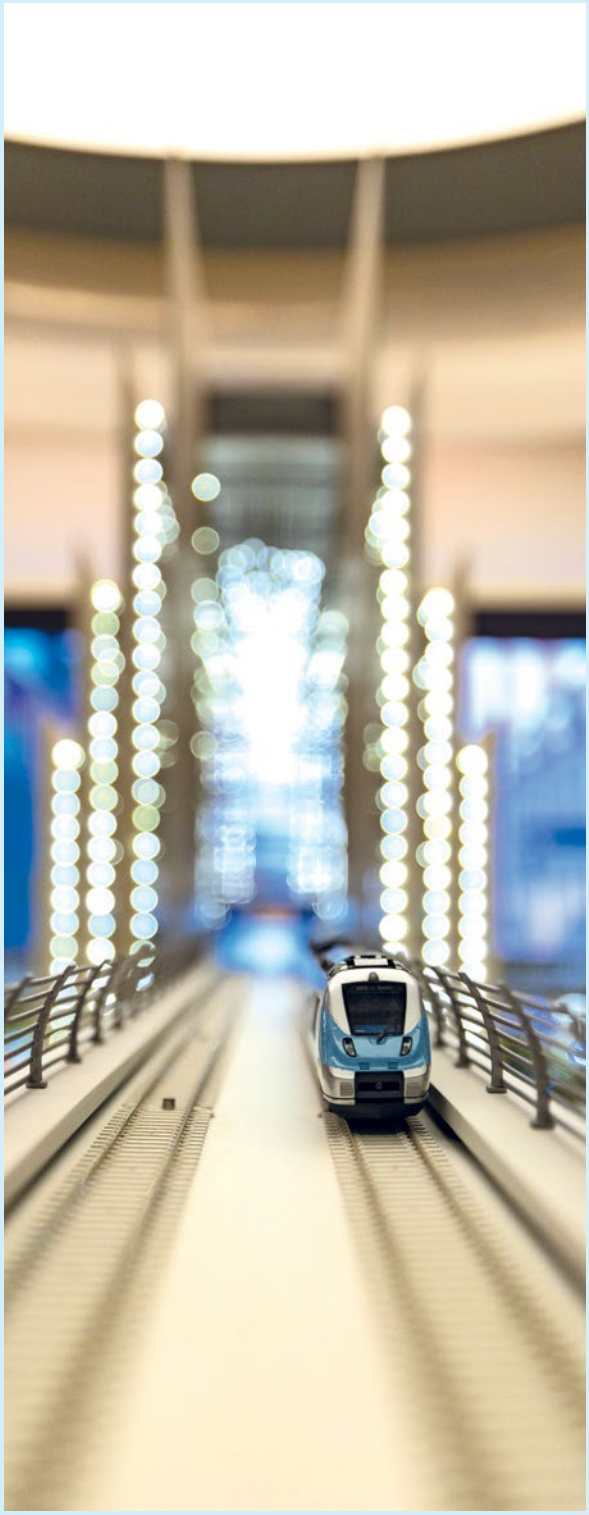
Global standing

The network comprises 53 stations, with 29 on the Red Line, 18 on the Green Line, and seven on Route 2020, including an interchange station. Additionally, the fleet consists of 129 trains. The facilities and services offered at the Dubai Metro stations are recognised as some of the best globally.

Emaar Properties has secured the naming rights to the station for a period of 10 years, starting from its official inauguration in 2029

Location Dubai Creek Harbour

The station presents a wide range of business and investment opportunities



Dubai Metro maintains its global position with a current total **length** of **90** km. This network includes around **52** km for the **Red Line**, **23** km for the **Green Line**, and **15** km for **Route 2020**.

The train comprises **five fully air-conditioned** carriages with a total capacity of approximately **650** passengers and **operates autonomously**.

From the inauguration in September **2009** until the end of **2024**, Dubai Metro transported over **2.5** billion passengers.

The **designed capacity** of the Dubai Metro network reaches around **26,000** passengers per hour per direction on **both the Red and Green Lines.**

Dubai Metro features **three** multi-storey parking facilities, offering a combined capacity of more than **8,000** parking spaces.

The **interior design** of Dubai Metro stations across the **Red** and **Green** Lines, **Route 2020**, and the **Blue** Line incorporates seven distinctive themes:

Heritage: Reflecting the rich culture and history of the United Arab Emirates.
Earth: Representing stability and the grounding elements of nature.
Air: Symbolising the breath of life and its continuous flow.
Fire: Indicating energy and power.
Water: The source of life and a wellspring of inspiration.
Dubai Future Design: Showcased in the iconic Expo Station.
Gateway Design: Featured in the "Emaar Properties" Station.

Passenger Capacity

160,000 pardoners per day by **2040**

RTA Receives Flag to Host UITP Global Public Transport Summit 2026 at Hamburg

Signs AED 1.1 billion agreement to supply 637 environmentally friendly buses

(RTA) has received the official flag to host the Global Public Transport Summit 2026 during its participation in the summit held in Hamburg, Germany. Organised by the International Association of Public Transport (UITP), the event will mark the second time Dubai has been selected as host, having previously organised the 59th UITP World Congress and Exhibition in 2011.

The RTA also signed an agreement to procure 637 buses equipped with Euro 6 engines, at a total value of AED 1.1 billion. The buses are scheduled for delivery in 2025 and 2026.

This announcement was made during the participation of the RTA delegation, led by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, in the UITP Global Public Transport Summit 2025, held in Hamburg, Germany. The summit brought together 1,900 members from over 100 countries, featured 300 speakers, and hosted 80 discussion panels exploring the latest ideas and developments in urban and sustainable mobility.

On the sidelines of the summit, a public transport exhibition was held, featuring 400 specialised companies and

attracting over 10,000 visitors. RTA showcased its latest projects and initiatives in sustainable public transport, autonomous mobility, and digital customer services.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer attended the opening ceremony of the summit, which was inaugurated in the presence of His Excellency Patrick Schneider, Federal Minister for Transport of the Federal Republic of Germany; His Excellency Dr Anjes Tjarks, Senator of Hamburg's Ministry of Transport and Mobility Transition; Her Excellency Renée Amilcar, President of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP); and His Excellency Mohamed Mezghani, Secretary General of the UITP.

During the summit, speakers highlighted emerging trends in the public transport sector, including its role in facilitating the mobility of residents and visitors, the future of metro systems, the integration of multiple public transport modes, and the rise of individual mobility means such as bicycles and autonomous public transport systems.

Renée Amilcar, who was re-elected as President of the UITP, affirmed that mass transit is not merely about systems and schedules, but rather a societal structure centred around people.

Meanwhile, Dr. Anjes Tjarks, Senator of Hamburg's Ministry of Transport and Mobility Transition of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, stated that the public transport system serves as the backbone of both infrastructure and the economy, acting as a catalyst for digital transformation and innovation.

Author Benita Matofska discussed strategies for driving positive change towards sustainability, stating: "The most important skill is the ability to adapt. Optimism and positive motivation empower people to feel they can make a difference."

The Global Summit focused on a range of strategic themes that reflect the future of public transport and the challenges facing cities and operators around the world. These included sustainable mobility and carbon neutrality, innovation and smart technologies, transit-oriented urban planning, and the financing and operational sustainability of public transport systems. The summit also addressed critical areas such as inclusivity in public transport, safety and cybersecurity, international cooperation, and the development of strategic partnerships.

Strategic Partnership

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer said: "Dubai's selection to host the UITP Global Public Transport Summit reflects the confidence that international organisations and institutions

place in the emirate's leading global position and strong reputation. It also highlights the quality and efficiency of Dubai's integrated infrastructure, particularly its advanced public transport and mass transit systems."

He added: "Dubai's proven ability to host world-class events and deliver them to the highest international standards reinforces its status as a preferred destination for major global gatherings."

Al Tayer emphasised RTA's commitment to participating in the summit, saying: "This summit is a global platform for transport professionals, bringing together heads of authorities, policymakers, developers, operators, and manufacturers to explore future solutions for public transport and showcase the latest advancements in infrastructure technologies."

He added: "Our participation is part of a long-standing strategic partnership with the UITP, a relationship that began with the founding of the RTA and was marked by Dubai's hosting of the UITP World Congress and Exhibition in 2011, the first to be held in the Middle East and North Africa."

"This partnership was further reinforced with the establishment of the MENA Centre for Transport Excellence and the successful organisation of five editions of the UITP MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition," he noted

Al Tayer added: "Dubai's public transport system has undergone a remarkable transformation, with the development of an advanced and diverse infrastructure that now serves as the backbone of mobility for both residents and visitors across the emirate. Thanks to these efforts, the share of journeys made using public transport and shared mobility has increased from 6% in 2006 to 21.6% in 2024.


RTA
Dubai's first autonomous robotaxi service will launch soon, and UITP 2026 delegates will experience it firsthand.
The world's first certified aerial taxi network is expected to begin service in early 2026
UITP
SUMMIT
HAMBURG - 2025

"The newly procured buses will support the geographic expansion of bus services across all areas of Dubai and will play a key role in our transition towards a 100% electric and hydrogen-powered public bus fleet by 2050."

Bus Supply Agreements

On the sidelines of RTA's participation in the UITP Global Public Transport Summit, Al Tayer witnessed the signing of four major agreements to supply 637 buses of various types. These vehicles comply with the European "Euro 6" low-emission standards and include 40 electric buses, marking the UAE's largest and first-of-their-kind order. Deliveries are scheduled for 2025 and 2026.

The signing ceremony was also attended by Mr Dan Peterson, Vice President International at Volvo Buses; Mr Barbaros Oktay, Senior Vice President and Head of the Bus Business Unit at MAN; Mr Zhou Yong Hou, General Manager of Zhongtong Bus; and Mr Murat Dedeoglu, International Sales Director at Anadolu Isuzu.

The RTA also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chinese company BYD to pilot the operation of an electric bus equipped with the latest technologies and battery systems offered by the company. The trial will take place in Dubai over a period that includes the summer season.

The agreements were signed on behalf of the RTA by Mr Ahmed Bahrozyan, CEO of Public Transport Agency. Signing on behalf of Al-Futtaim Automotive, the authorised dealer of Volvo, was Mr Paul Willis, President of Al-Futtaim Automotive. Representing United Motors and Heavy Equipment Co., the authorised dealer of MAN, was Mr Khalifa Saif Darwish, General Manager of the company. The two agreements on behalf of Saeed Juma Al Naboodah Group, the authorised dealer of Zhongtong Bus and Anadolu Isuzu, were signed by Mr Medhat Shoukry, Chief Executive Officer of the group.

Bus Specifications

The agreements include the supply of 40 electric buses


RTA
MAN
Mr. Khalifa Saif Darwish
Managing Director
United Motors & Heavy Equipment
Mr. Ahmed Bahrozyan
CEO, Public Transport Agency
Roads and Transport Authority


RTA
ZHONGTONG
Al Naboodah
Mr. Medhat Shoukry
Group CEO
Saeed Juma Al Naboodah Group
Mr. Ahmed Bahrozyan
CEO, Public Transport Agency
Roads and Transport Authority


RTA
Al-Futtaim
automotive
VOLVO
Mr. Paul Willis
President
Al Futtaim Automotive
Mr. Ahmed Bahrozyan
CEO, Public Transport Agency
Roads and Transport Authority

40 electric buses
(zero-emission) from Zhongtong

- accommodates 72 passengers
- length 12 metres

451 city service buses

51 Zhongtong buses
- length 12 metres
- capacity 72 passengers

400 MAN buses
- length 12 metres
- capacity 86 passengers

76 double-decker
Volvo buses

- capacity 98 passengers
- length 13 metres

70 articulated buses
from Isuzu Anadolu

- capacity 111 passengers
- length 18 metres

(zero-emission) from Zhongtong, equipped with GCC specifications and previously tested in the region. Each bus measures 12 metres in length and accommodates 72 passengers.

Additionally, the agreements cover the supply of 451 city service buses, comprising 400 MAN buses, each 12 metres long with a capacity of 86 passengers, and 51 Zhongtong buses of the same length, each accommodating 72 passengers. These buses are equipped with high standards of safety, comfort, and quality, and are powered by environmentally friendly Euro 6 engines. They are classified under the United Nations vehicle classification as Class II, allowing for flexible operation on both urban routes and inter-urban highways.

The agreement also includes the supply of 76 double-decker Volvo buses, each 13 metres long with a capacity of 98 passengers, as well as 70 articulated buses from Isuzu Anadolu, each 18 metres long with a capacity of 111 passengers. These articulated buses are designed to serve high-density urban areas and newly developed districts, ensuring broader geographical coverage in Dubai and improving occupancy rates.

Most of the buses will be equipped with the Raqeeb system (Driver Behaviour Monitoring System), which monitors and improves driver conduct using innovative technologies to enhance safety standards across the fleet. They will also be fitted with the Rasid electronic system (Automated

Passenger Counting), which records actual passenger numbers and cross-references them with the automated fare collection system, aiming to reduce fare evasion.

An electronic Driver Identity Authentication system will also be installed to verify the driver's identity inside the bus and integrate it with the operational system.

The buses will feature comfortable seating, high safety standards, and adjustable seat belts in family-designated areas to accommodate all age groups. Additionally, they will have a streamlined design that reflects Dubai's modern and forward-looking image.

The new buses have been designed in line with the latest international specifications, with particular attention to inclusivity and passenger comfort. They feature low-floor entry points to facilitate boarding and alighting for People of Determination, designated spaces for bicycles, and special seating for children.

The buses are also equipped with Wi-Fi service, mobile phone charging ports, and smart systems to enhance the overall experience for public transport users. These features are complemented by high-quality interior finishes and spacious seating to provide a superior level of comfort.

RTA Stand

The RTA participated in the global event with a delegation comprising several CEOs and Directors. It also had a dedicated stand showcasing a range of strategic initiatives, ambitious plans, and future projects.

Among the highlights was a model of the Dubai Walk project, which outlines the master plan to transform Dubai into a pedestrian-friendly city year-round. The project includes the development of more than 6,500 km of pedestrian pathways across 160 areas.

The first phase of the project involves the construction of two loops, one in the Al Ras area and the other in the Museum of the Future district, totalling 17 km. The Future Loop features an iconic, architecturally designed bridge tailored to the character of the area, stretching 2 km in length and ranging from 6 to 15 metres in width. The bridge connects 10 key destinations and includes a climate-controlled level spanning 30,000 square metres to allow year-round walking, along with 1,000 square metres of open spaces featuring shaded areas and greenery.

The RTA also showcased the Dubai Metro Blue Line project, which spans 30 km, half of which is underground, and includes 14 stations. The line is designed to serve nine residential and development areas with an estimated combined population of around one million by 2040.

In addition, the Authority presented the RAILBUS project, a futuristic, self-driving, and sustainable mass transit system powered by solar energy. It represents one of RTA's innovative solutions for delivering environmentally friendly transport.

The RTA also highlighted the Aerial Taxi project, developed in collaboration with Skyports and Joby Aviation, which is

expected to be operational by 2026.

The stand further featured a model of the world's first electric abra manufactured using 3D printing technology in collaboration with the private sector. The abra accommodates 20 passengers.

Additionally, the stand showcased a new Dubai Metro fare payment system using palm print biometrics, allowing passengers to travel without the need for a nol card.

Inspection Tour

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, along with the accompanying delegation, toured the exhibition held alongside the summit. He reviewed the latest innovations in public transport buses and smart mobility technologies.

The tour included visits to the stand of the host city, Hamburg; the stand of BYD, the electric vehicle and bus manufacturer; and the MAN platform, where he was briefed on the latest advancements in bus manufacturing.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, reviewed Volkswagen's latest advancements in autonomous mobility technologies. He was briefed on the trial operation of the MOIA self-driving Vehicle in Hamburg, which is being integrated into the city's public transport network as part of Germany's government-supported autonomous driving initiatives.

His Excellency attended a detailed presentation by Christian Senger, Member of the Board of Management at Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, responsible for Autonomous Driving (formerly CEO of Volkswagen ADMT), who outlined the Group's global strategy and ongoing projects in the autonomous mobility sector.

The visit included a live demonstration of the fully electric ID. Buzz AD, a vehicle developed for SAE Level 4 autonomous operation and currently undergoing pilot testing in Hamburg.

Discussions also covered potential avenues for future collaboration, including the prospect of deploying the MOIA autonomous shuttle in Dubai, in line with RTA's strategic vision for smart and sustainable mobility.


حكومة دبي
GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI
هيئة الطرق والمواصلات
ROADS & TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
RTA
Make.
Move.
Transform.
Make.
Move.
Transform.
RAIL BUS


SUMMIT
THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
SECTOR MEETS HERE
P

RTA Signs MoU with Uber Technologies and WeRide to Launch Pilot Operations of Autonomous Vehicles

(RTA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Uber Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: UBER), the world's leading technology platform for mobility and delivery, and WeRide (NASDAQ: WRD), a global leader in autonomous driving technology. Under the agreement, pilot operations of autonomous vehicles will commence later this year via Uber app in Dubai. In the initial phase, the vehicles will operate with a safety driver on board, paving the way for the full-scale commercial rollout of driverless services in 2026.

Field preparations for the pilot phase are already underway, led by Uber and WeRide, with strategic support and supervision from RTA.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), along with Mr. Madhu Kannan, Chief Business Officer at Uber, and Mr. Ryan Zhan, Regional General Manager of Middle East and Africa at WeRide attended the MoU signing ceremony. The agreement was signed for RTA by Mr. Ahmed Hashim Bahrozyan, CEO of the Public Transport Agency, RTA; for Uber by Mr. Frans Hiemstra, Regional General Manager for the Middle East and Africa at Uber; and for WeRide by Mr. Eric Dong, Director of Capital Markets and Corporate Development at WeRide, in the presence of senior officials from all parties.

Global Platform

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer expressed his pleasure at signing the Memorandum of Understanding with Uber Technologies and WeRide, praising both companies for choosing Dubai as the global hub for expanding autonomous vehicle operations.

Al Tayer stated: "The introduction of autonomous vehicles in Dubai represents a significant leap towards a smart and sustainable future for mobility, in line with the vision of our leadership to transform Dubai into the world's smartest city. It also supports the objectives of Dubai Smart Self-Driving Transport Strategy, which seeks to convert 25% of all mobility journeys in the emirate into autonomous trips across various transport modes by 2030. This MoU reinforces Dubai's global leadership in adopting advanced

and sustainable transport solutions, embracing state-of-the-art technologies, and fostering innovative mobility initiatives."

Dubai's Global Leadership

Al Tayer added: "Autonomous vehicles mark a major leap towards a more sustainable and safer future in transportation. The RTA is expanding its global partnerships to deploy a wide range of autonomous mobility solutions, including self-driving vehicles, air taxis, marine transport modes, and autonomous taxis. This drive reinforces Dubai's global leadership in autonomous mobility and elevates its position as a preferred destination for investment in smart mobility and artificial intelligence. The introduction of self-driving taxis will enhance quality of life for residents and visitors, boost road safety, and promote seamless integration across the public transport network by facilitating access to final destinations in line with the specialised First and Last-Mile Strategy."

"Autonomous mobility is no longer a futuristic concept– it is a reality. Global companies are accelerating efforts to develop the technologies and software required for autonomous vehicles, while governments, through their respective authorities, are advancing infrastructure development and formulating the regulatory frameworks and legislation needed to enable the operation of self-driving vehicles," Al Tayer noted.

Strategic Collaboration

Frans Hiemstra, Regional General Manager, MEA at Uber said: "At Uber, we are building the future of transportation, one we see as autonomous, electric, and shared. Today we're thrilled to ink our partnership with RTA to expand our autonomous vehicles operations in the UAE by launching in Dubai in 2025, starting with WeRide as our first technology partner. This strategic collaboration anchors our commitment to make autonomous vehicles more accessible to people around the world and we're excited to bring this experience to thousands of riders in Dubai later this year."

Jennifer Li, CFO and Head of International at WeRide, said: "We are accelerating our international expansion, with the Middle East as a strategic priority. Last month, we expanded our partnership with Uber to roll out Robotaxis in 15 additional cities over the next five years, with cities in the Middle East under consideration, and now, formalised our collaboration with Uber and the RTA to bring autonomous vehicles to Dubai through this MoU. We are fully aligned with Dubai Government's ambitious vision to make 25% of all transportation trips autonomous by 2030 and are proud to support this goal with our advanced technology and global experience."

Al Tayer Congratulates Major Generals Al Shamsi and Al Muhairi on Appointment as Deputy Commanders of Dubai Police

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), received His Excellency Major General Hareb Muhammed Saeed Al Shamsi, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police for Criminal Affairs, and His Excellency Major General Dr Ahmad Zaal bin Krishan Al Muhairi, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police for Finance and Administration.

Al Tayer extended his congratulations to both officers on earning the esteemed confidence of the leadership following their appointment. He expressed his sincere wishes for their continued success in their new roles and his aspiration to further reinforce the strategic partnership between RTA and the General Command of Dubai Police.

This collaboration aims to advance the strategic goals of traffic safety, promote joint initiatives, enhance quality of life in Dubai, and achieve shared objectives of strengthening security and safety to foster reassurance and happiness among citizens, residents, and visitors across the UAE.

Several senior RTA officials attended the meeting

Al Tayer Explores Innovative Public Transport Solutions with SYSTRA Group

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), met with Mr Jean-Charles Vollery, Chief Executive Officer of SYSTRA Group, the leading French engineering and consultancy firm specialising in public transport and infrastructure.

The meeting focused on exploring areas of cooperation in developing innovative public transport solutions, advancing digital transformation to support smart mobility, and enhancing the overall management of transport systems and traffic operations.

Al Tayer reaffirmed RTA's commitment to strengthening cooperation, building strategic partnerships, and exchanging expertise with international entities. He

Al Tayer Honours Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla on Conclusion of His Tenure at RTA After 40 + Years of Service

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), honoured Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla, Member of the Board of Executive Directors at RTA, on the occasion of the conclusion of his tenure at the Authority.

During the ceremony, which was attended by several CEOs and directors at RTA, Al Tayer paid tribute to Al Mulla's dedicated efforts spanning more than four decades of service in the Government of Dubai, and his substantial contributions to the advancement of administrative and organisational roles in the taxi and public transport sectors.

Al Tayer extended his sincere thanks and appreciation to Al Mulla for his longstanding dedication and valuable contributions throughout his tenure in public service, as well as for his active role in the milestones achieved by RTA since its inception.

In turn, Al Mulla expressed his gratitude for the thoughtful gesture, which he said reflects RTA's commitment to recognising the contributions of its personnel who have supported and shaped its journey of achievements. He extended his best wishes to the team for continued success in advancing RTA's distinguished efforts to realise the vision of the leadership.

noted that particular focus is placed on technology, smart mobility, and advanced public transport means, namely Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, public buses, taxis, and marine transport services.

Several senior officials from RTA and SYSTRA Group attended the meeting.

Completing 70% of Umm Suqeim Street Improvement Project

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), announced the completion of 70% of Umm Suqeim Street Improvement Project, extending from the intersection with Al Khail Road to the intersection with Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road. The project is part of a master development plan for Umm Suqeim–Al Qudra corridor, which runs from Jumeirah Street to Emirates Road, spanning 16 km in total. It serves several residential and development areas with a population exceeding one million residents.

Al Tayer made these remarks during a site tour to inspect progress on the project, which is being implemented in line with the leadership's directives to enhance road infrastructure, and support Dubai's ongoing urban expansion and population growth, ultimately aiming to improve traffic flow and mobility across the city.

During the tour, Al Tayer was briefed on the completed phases of Umm Suqeim Street Improvement Project, which spans 4.6 km from the intersection with Al Khail Road to the intersection with Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road. The works include the development of Umm Suqeim–Al Barsha South intersection, near Kings' School, featuring the construction of an 800-metre tunnel with four lanes in each direction along Umm Suqeim Street, in addition to a signalised surface-level intersection.

Al Tayer added: "Umm Suqeim–Al Qudra Corridor Improvement Project is one of RTA's key strategic transverse (east-west) traffic corridors, designed to enhance integration with vertical (north-south) road corridors. The project complements RTA's efforts to improve connectivity between four major arterial roads in Dubai: Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Khail Road, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road, and Emirates Road. It is designed to increase the corridor's capacity to 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions, improve traffic flow, and reduce travel time between Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road and Al Khail Road by 61% from 9.7 minutes to just 3.8 minutes. The corridor serves several major residential and development zones, including Al Barsha South 1, 2, and 3, Dubai Hills, Arjan, and Dubai Science Park, with a total population exceeding one million residents."

Smart Technology

Al Tayer was also briefed on the deployment of smart technologies for monitoring road projects across the emirate. Drones are being utilised to capture and analyse project progress data, with artificial intelligence employed to track construction milestones and performance indicators. This integrated approach has enhanced operational efficiency on-site, accelerated decision-making processes, and enabled the provision of real-time, high-precision data. The adoption of these technologies has also resulted in 100% increase in field presence and 60% reduction in the time required for site surveys. In parallel, time-lapse imaging systems are being used to continuously monitor construction activities, contributing to 40% improvement in overall project monitoring efficiency.

Completed Projects

In 2013, RTA completed Phase I of Umm Suqeim Street Improvement Project, which covered the section between Sheikh Zayed Road and Al Khail Road. The works included the construction of two bridges, each featuring three lanes in both directions, the first crossing the eastern street parallel to Al Asayel Street, and the second crossing the western street parallel to First Al Khail Street. The project also included two signalised intersections at Umm Suqeim Street's junctions with Al Asayel Street and First Al Khail Street, along with three pedestrian bridges to facilitate safe crossing between Al Quoz and Al Barsha.

In 2020, as part of the bridges and roads development project for Dubai Hills Mall, RTA opened a main bridge along Umm Suqeim Street at the intersection with the entrance to Dubai Hills and Al Barsha South. The 500-metre bridge has four lanes in each direction and a capacity of 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

Enhances Connectivity Across Four Strategic Corridors – Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Khail Road, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road, and Emirates Road

Includes an **800** -metre Tunnel with Four Lanes in Each Direction

Increases **Umm Suqeim Street** Capacity to **16,000 Vehicles** per Hour in Both Directions

Reduces Travel Time by **61%** from **9.7** to **3.8** Minutes Between **Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road** and **Al Khail Road**

Serves Residential and Development Areas Home to Over **One Million** Residents

Using AI Technology in Road Project Oversight Improves Efficiency by 40% and Doubles Field Presence

Announcing Integrated Urban Project to Upgrade Umm Suqeim Street from its Intersection with Jumeirah Street to Al Khail Road

In line with the directives of the leadership to accelerate the development of road infrastructure and expand traffic capacity across Dubai, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced an integrated urban project to upgrade Umm Suqeim Street, from its intersection with Jumeirah Street to Al Khail Road.

The project is designed to enhance traffic flow in support of the emirate's comprehensive development, address the demands of urban expansion and population growth, and to improve the overall quality of life for both residents and visitors. It complements works currently underway to upgrade Umm Suqeim Street from its intersection with Al Khail Road to Emirates Road, ultimately enabling uninterrupted traffic flow from Jumeirah to Al Qudra Road over a total distance of 20 kilometres.

The project goes beyond traditional road widening and development by integrating creative and aesthetic enhancements into the surrounding urban landscape. It features upgraded pedestrian walkways, a dedicated cycling track, and complete streets (boulevards), alongside vibrant urban spaces designed to foster community interaction and create inclusive, dynamic environments.

It also establishes a direct link between Mall of the Emirates Metro Station and nearby residential communities through targeted improvements that ensure smooth, integrated, and seamless access between these areas and the metro.

The project forms part of a master plan developed by RTA to upgrade the road network in the area, including enhancements to Jumeirah Street, Al Wasl Street , and Al Safa Street, details of which will be announced in due course.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA, stated: "The upgrade of Umm Suqeim Street, from its intersection with Jumeirah Street to Al Khail Road, forms part of a master plan to develop the Umm Suqeim–Al Qudra corridor. This strategic route extends from its intersections with Jumeirah Street throughout to its intersections with Emirates Road

to Al Qudra Road, serving key residential and development zones with a combined population exceeding two million."

"The project enhances connectivity across four strategic transport corridors in Dubai–Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Khail Road, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, and Emirates Road. It will increase Umm Suqeim Street's capacity to 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions, significantly improve traffic flow, and reduce travel time between Jumeirah Street and Al Khail Road from 20 minutes to just six. The upgraded corridor will directly serve vital residential and development areas, including Jumeirah, Umm Suqeim, Al Manara, Al Sufouh, Umm Al Sheif, Al Barsha, and Al Quoz; home to more than two million residents."

Development of Six Key Intersections

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer noted: "The project entails the upgrade of six key intersections along Umm Suqeim Street, specifically those with Jumeirah Street, Al Wasl Street, Sheikh Zayed Road, First Al Khail Street, Al Asayel Street, and Al Khail Road. The scope includes the construction of four bridges and three tunnels, with a total combined length of 4,100 metres."

"At the intersection with Jumeirah Street, a tunnel with two lanes in each direction will be constructed, complemented by a signalised surface-level junction. A second tunnel, comprising two lanes, will be constructed at the intersection with Al Wasl Street to facilitate traffic flow from Sheikh Zayed Road towards Jumeirah Street, while maintaining uninterrupted surface traffic in the direction of Sheikh Zayed Road."

"At its intersection with Sheikh Zayed Road, two bridges will be constructed to eliminate traffic overlap and enhance movement efficiency. A tunnel will also be developed at the intersection with First Al Khail Street to accommodate traffic coming from Al Barsha towards Sheikh Zayed Road, along with associated surface-level improvements."

"Additional enhancements include widening the stretch between First Al Khail Street and Al Asayel Street by adding one lane in each direction, increasing capacity to four lanes per direction. At Al Khail Road, the works involve the construction and widening of two flyovers–one connecting Al Khail Road with Al Quoz Industrial Area, and the other facilitating traffic from Umm Suqeim Street to Al Khail Road heading towards Deira."

As Part of a plan that includes the development of Jumeirah, Al Wasl,and Al Safa Streets

- Enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors of the area
- Upgrading infrastructure efficiency
- Achieving smoother traffic flow

covers the devlopment of complete streets (Boulevard)

Development areas home to **2.000.000** people

Development of **6** intersections

3 tunnels, **4** bridges includind the construction

Length **4100** meters

The New Project

Reducing travel time from **20** minutes to **6** minutes

Additional capacity in both directions **16.000** Vehicles / hour

Construction begins in Q3 of this year

Introduces creative and aesthetic enhancements, including pedestrian walkways, dedicated cycling tracks, boulevards, and vibrant urban spaces

Enables free-flowing traffic over a 20 km stretch from Jumeirah to Al Qudra Road

Strengthens connectivity across four strategic corridors

- Sheikh Zayed Road
- Al Khail Road
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road
- Emirates Road

Extends 6 km with improvements of intersection at Jumeirah Street, Al Wasl Street , Sheikh Zayed Road, First Al Khail Street, Al Asayel Street, and Al Khail Road

Announcing Integrated Project for Development of Al Wasl Road Spanning 15 km

In line with the directives of the wise leadership to accelerate the development of infrastructure projects and enhance the capacity of Dubai's road network, thereby improving traffic flow and keeping pace with the emirate's comprehensive development, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced an integrated project to upgrade Al Wasl Road. The initiative also aims to address urban expansion, accommodate population growth, and enhance the quality of life for both residents and visitors.

The development spans 15 km, from the intersection with Umm Suqeim Street to the junction with 2nd December Street. It includes the upgrade of six intersections, comprising enhancements to one junction and the construction of five tunnels totalling 3,850 metres. The street will be widened from two to three lanes in each direction. The project is expected to reduce travel times along Al Wasl Road by 50% and increase capacity from 8,000 to 12,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, stated: "Al Wasl Road Development Project forms part of a master plan developed by the RTA to upgrade the road network in the area, which also includes enhancements to Umm Suqeim and Al Safa Streets. These projects are designed with a focus on creative and aesthetic elements, incorporating dedicated pedestrian walkways, cycling tracks, boulevards, and vibrant urban public spaces that promote community interaction. The plan also features decorative landscaping and the creation of dynamic urban environments. The project serves a vital district that offers a broad array of modern tourism and lifestyle destinations, including beaches, luxury hotels, fine dining venues, and residential neighbourhoods, home to over one million residents."

Develop Al Wasl Road

Al Thanya intersection

Al Manara intersection

Umm Al Sheif intersection

Project extends from The intersection of Al Wasl Road With Umm Squeim Street to 2nd December Street

Widening Al Wasl Road from 2 lanes to 3 lanes i n each direction

5 Tunnels

Total length 15 km

The project increases capacity from 8000 to 12000 vehicles per hour in both directions

Six Intersections and Five Tunnels

Al Tayer added: "The project involves the development of Al Wasl Road from its intersection with Umm Suqeim Street to its junction with 2nd December Street, spanning a total length of 15 km. The street will be widened from two to three lanes in each direction. It also includes the upgrade of six intersections along Al Wasl Road, specifically at Al Thanya, Al Manara, Umm Al Sheif, Umm Amara, Al Orouba, and Al Safa Streets. This will be achieved through the construction of five tunnels with a total length of 3,850 metres."

He continued: "The intersection with Al Thanya Street will undergo improvements, while a unidirectional tunnel will be constructed at the intersection with Al Manara Street. This tunnel will consist of three lanes and branch into two separate routes: two lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road to Jumeirah Street, and two lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road to Umm Suqeim Street, with a total capacity of 4,500 vehicles per hour."

He explained: "The project also includes a tunnel on Umm Al Sheif Street, comprising two lanes in the direction from Sheikh Zayed Road to Jumeirah Street. This tunnel will

Umm Amara intersection

Al Urouba intersection

Al Safa intersection

be 750 metres long and will accommodate up to 3,200 vehicles per hour. In addition, a tunnel will be constructed at the intersection of Al Wasl Road with Umm Amara Street, featuring two lanes in each direction, with a total length of 700 metres and a combined capacity of 6,400 vehicles per hour."

His Excellency further explained: "The project includes the construction of a unidirectional tunnel at the intersection of Al Wasl Road with Al Orouba Street, heading towards Jumeirah Street. The tunnel will be 625 metres long, with two lanes

Pedestrian Walkways

Cycling Tracks

Complete Streets (Boulevard)

Urban spaces

and a capacity of 1,400 vehicles per hour. It also entails the construction of a tunnel at the intersection of Al Wasl Road with Al Safa Street, measuring 750 metres in length and featuring two lanes in each direction, with an estimated total capacity of 6,400 vehicles per hour." He added: "The project will also convert the Al Satwa roundabout into a signalised junction and implement surface-level enhancements at five intersections along Jumeirah Street, including upgrades to the traffic signal control system."

Includes the upgrade of six key intersections, through the construction of five tunnels extending over 3,850 metres, and the widening of Al Wasl Road from two to three lanes in each direction.

Adds creative and aesthetic enhancements, such as pedestrian walkways, dedicated cycling tracks, boulevards, and vibrant urban spaces to enrich the area's environment.

Improves mobility for residents and visitors alike, enhances overall quality of life, and elevates traffic safety standards.

Boosts the street's capacity to 12,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

Reduces travel times along the corridor by 50%

Serves a vital district that accommodates more than one million residents and features an array of modern destinations including beaches, luxury hotels, fine dining venues, and upscale residential communities.

Improving Al Safa Street Sheikh Zayed Roadto Al Wasl Street Intersections

In line with the directives of the leadership to accelerate the construction of infrastructure projects and enhance the road capacity to ensure smoother traffic flow across the Emirate, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announces Al Safa Street Improvement Project. The scope of this project extends from the junction of Al Safa Street with Sheikh Zayed Road to the junction with Al Wasl Street, spanning 1,500 metres. It is designed to keep pace with Dubai's comprehensive urban growth, accommodate the increasing population and urban expansion, and elevate the quality of life for both residents and visitors.

The project involves the construction of two bridges and two tunnels with a combined length of 3,120 metres, along with the widening of surface roads and upgrades to intersections and traffic signal systems. Once complete, the travel time on Al Safa Street will reduce from 12 minutes to just 3 minutes, and the street's capacity will double from 6,000 to 12,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

"The project serves a vital district renowned for hosting numerous tourism, cultural, and sporting events, and is home to key landmarks such as City Walk, Coca-Cola Arena, educational institutions, residential and commercial areas, luxury hotels, and high-end restaurants. It also enhances connectivity with Downtown Dubai and nearby developments along Financial Centre Street, an area inhabited by over one million residents."

Two Bridges and Two Tunnels

Al Tayer added: "The project covers the development of Al Safa Street from its intersection with Sheikh Zayed Road to its intersection with Al Wasl Street and includes the construction of two bridges."

"The first bridge will serve traffic coming from Al Wasl

Al Safa Street Development Project

Street towards Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street. It will comprise four lanes and span 1,005 metres, with an estimated capacity of 6,400 vehicles per hour.»

"The second bridge will accommodate traffic coming from Al Satwa Road towards Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street. It will feature two lanes and extend 360 metres, with a capacity of 2,800 vehicles per hour."

He revealed: "The project also includes the construction of two tunnels. The first tunnel will serve traffic coming from Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street towards Al Wasl Street. It will span 1,005 metres, comprise two lanes, and offer a capacity of 3,200 vehicles per hour."

"The second tunnel will be located at the intersection of Al Wasl Street and Al Safa Street, extending 750 metres. It will feature two lanes in each direction, with a total capacity of approximately 6,400 vehicles per hour."

Al Tayer further explained: "The project also involves widening Al Safa Street from three signalised lanes in each direction to four lanes–two providing free-flowing movement and two managed by traffic signals."

"Upon completion, the project will enhance traffic flow from the Upper Deck of Financial Centre Street and Sheikh Zayed Road towards Al Safa Street and Al Wasl Street, and vice versa. It will also strengthen connectivity across key arterial corridors in the area and elevate overall traffic safety standards."

Master Plan

Al Tayer continued: "Al Safa Street Improvement Project is part of RTA's broader master plan to upgrade the road network in the area. This includes the development of Al Wasl Street from its intersection with Umm Suqeim Street to its intersection with 2nd December Street, covering 15 km in length, as well as the development of Umm Suqeim Street from the junction with Jumeirah Street to the intersection with Al Khail Road, spanning 6 km."

Development Project Total Length: **1500** meters

New bridges and tunnels featuring creative and aesthetic enhancements to the street

- Upgrading of intersections and traffic signals
- Expansion of surface roads
- The construction of two bridges and two tunnels total length of **3120** meters

The project serves key vibrant and touristic areas such as:

- Coca-Cola Arena
- City Walk

Doubles traffic capacity from 12 minutes to 3 minutes

Doubles traffic capacity from 6000 - 12.000 vehicles per hour in both directions

Opening New Entry and Exit Point to Al Warqa from Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road Next Week

(RTA) has opened a new entry and exit point to Al Warqa directly from Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Road , aiming to facilitate smoother access to and from the neighbourhood. Once complete, the project will increase road capacity by 5,000 vehicles per hour, reduce travel time by 80%–from 20 minutes to just 3.5 minutes–and cut trip distances from 5.7 km to 1.5 km.

RTA has also completed traffic improvement works on Street 13 in Al Warqa 1 to serve residents and schoolgoers. These enhancements form part of a broader internal road development project spanning approximately 8 km, designed to improve traffic flow and enhance the efficiency of the local road network, ultimately boosting daily mobility and residents' quality of life.

RTA reaffirms its commitment to developing an integrated infrastructure network–encompassing roads, lighting, and stormwater drainage systems–within residential areas, in line with Dubai's urban and population growth objectives. This reflects RTA's dedication to meeting residents' aspirations for a modern urban environment that enhances quality of life, supports sustainable mobility solutions, and ensures the highest standards of comfort and well-being.

These efforts align with Dubai's vision of becoming a smart, prosperous city that meets the evolving needs of its residents while ensuring their happiness and stability.

Development projects in Al Warqa also include upgrades to the internal road networks in Al Warqa 3 and 4. These works involve road paving, the construction of pedestrian walkways, pavements, and parking spaces, along with the implementation of cycling tracks exceeding 23 km in total length. The goal is to enhance connectivity with neighbouring cycle tracks and promote alternative, sustainable modes of transport.

The next phase will include capacity enhancements in Al Warqa 1, involving the conversion of existing roundabouts into signalised junctions with smart traffic lights. This is expected to improve traffic flow by up to 30%. These

improvements are scheduled for completion by the end of this year, as per the project timeline.

Recently, RTA carried out a series of internal road development works in Al Warqa, including traffic enhancements around the School of Research Science in Al Warqa 4 and near GEMS Royal Dubai School. This included the construction of 150 additional parking spaces and the provision of secured entry and exit points for the new parking areas. These measures have contributed to easing congestion and reducing delay times in the school zone by approximately 35% to 50%.

RTA also completed internal roads supporting the Mohammed Bin Rashid Housing Establishment project in Al Warqa 4, which comprises 136 residential villas. The works included pedestrian walkways, pavements, vehicle access points, and a fully integrated lighting system, all aimed at enhancing road safety and improving mobility for residents. In support of sustainable transport, a 7.4 km cycling track was also constructed to encourage cycling for both recreation and as a viable first-and-last-mile transport option.

Earlier, RTA held an interactive session with residents and frequent visitors of Al Warqa to highlight key initiatives and development projects in the district. The session also served as a platform for the public to share feedback and observations on infrastructure and the road network. This approach demonstrates RTA's commitment to listening to community voices, addressing their suggestions, and transforming them into practical solutions.

The customer engagement session with Al Warqa residents was a key milestone that helped shape a series of development initiatives and projects. These were translated into tangible improvements on the ground, directly enhancing traffic flow and addressing both current and future community needs.