

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA

Issue No. 215 – May 2026

Mohammed bin Rashid approves Dubai Metro's Gold Line



Vision

The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility.

Mission

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

Gold Line... A Connected City



“Our landmark projects to position Dubai as the world’s best city to live in are on track.

Our future endeavours will not stop; rather, they will accelerate.

Our plan is to build a better future for millions of people. We stand by our words and deliver on them.”

These were the words of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai. Guided by His Highness’s vision, Dubai continues to consolidate its development model, built on infrastructure investment as a key pillar of economic competitiveness and quality of life. Last month, His Highness approved the emirate’s largest transport project, Dubai Metro Gold Line. Extending 42 km and reaching depths of up to 40 metres below ground, the line will pass through 15 strategic locations, support more than 55 development projects, and benefit around 1.5 million people.

The approval of the Dubai Metro Gold Line project marks a significant addition to the mass transit network and a strategic step that reflects the vision of the wise leadership to build a connected, integrated city capable of anticipating future needs. Extending 42 km and comprising 18 stations, with an estimated investment of AED 34 billion, the project represents a structural shift in the concept of urban mobility in the emirate.

Dubai Metro Gold Line is significant for its pivotal role in strengthening connectivity across Dubai. It will serve as a vital artery linking economic and residential hubs, extending from historic districts to modern urban communities and covering key residential and development areas. In doing so, it will help create an integrated mobility network that supports Dubai’s rapid urban expansion and redistributes population and economic densities in a more balanced and efficient manner.

The Gold Line will also enhance operational integration with Dubai Metro Red and Green Lines, as well as connectivity with Etihad Rail, reinforcing the concept of multimodal transport and offering users a smoother and more flexible mobility experience. This integration will improve the efficiency of the existing network and ease pressure on key corridors. The project

is expected to reduce congestion on certain sections of the Red Line by up to 23%, while reducing the number of vehicle trips by more than 40 million annually, positively impacting traffic flow across Dubai and improving quality-of-life indicators.

The project will further strengthen Dubai Metro’s position as the backbone of the mass transit system. Dubai Metro Gold Line is expected to serve more than 1.5 million people by 2040, with daily ridership projected to reach 305,000 passengers upon opening in 2032, rising to 465,000 passengers per day in 2040.

The Gold Line will also extend the total length of the metro network to 162 km, a 35% increase that reflects carefully planned expansion aligned with the emirate’s population and economic growth.

From a technical perspective, Dubai Metro Gold Line represents an advanced engineering achievement as Dubai’s first fully underground metro route. Its tunnels will be twice the length of the existing metro tunnels, and the project will deploy the latest tunnelling technologies to ensure high-efficiency delivery in a timeframe 30% shorter than previous projects. This underscores Dubai’s commitment to adopting global best practices in infrastructure development, ensuring the highest standards of quality and safety without disrupting residents’ daily lives.

Economically, the project stands out as one of the key drivers of Dubai Economic Agenda D33. It is expected to deliver cumulative economic returns of up to 430% over 20 years of operation, driven by savings in time and costs, reduced carbon emissions, and enhanced environmental sustainability. It will also increase the market value of properties near metro stations by up to 20%, enhancing investment appeal and stimulating economic activity in the areas it serves.

Dubai Metro Gold Line goes beyond a transport project to become an integrated development enabler that reflects Dubai’s vision for a connected, sustainable urban system. It embodies a philosophy that views infrastructure not merely as a response to present needs, but as a long-term investment in a more efficient, resilient and prosperous future, consolidating Dubai’s position among the world’s best cities to live, work and invest in.

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

GENERAL SUPERVISOR
Meera Alshaikh

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Maryam Al Blooshi

EDITORIAL ADVISOR
AlMoatasem Belah

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 2903608
Fax: +971 4 2903933
almasar@rta.ae
www.rta.ae

To browse Al Masar magazine





Cover Story

- 06** Sheikh Mohammed Approves Dubai Metro Gold Line Project
- 14** Hamdan bin Mohammed Inspects Progress on First Air Taxi Station
- 22** Commercial Operations of Autonomous Taxi Service Begin



14



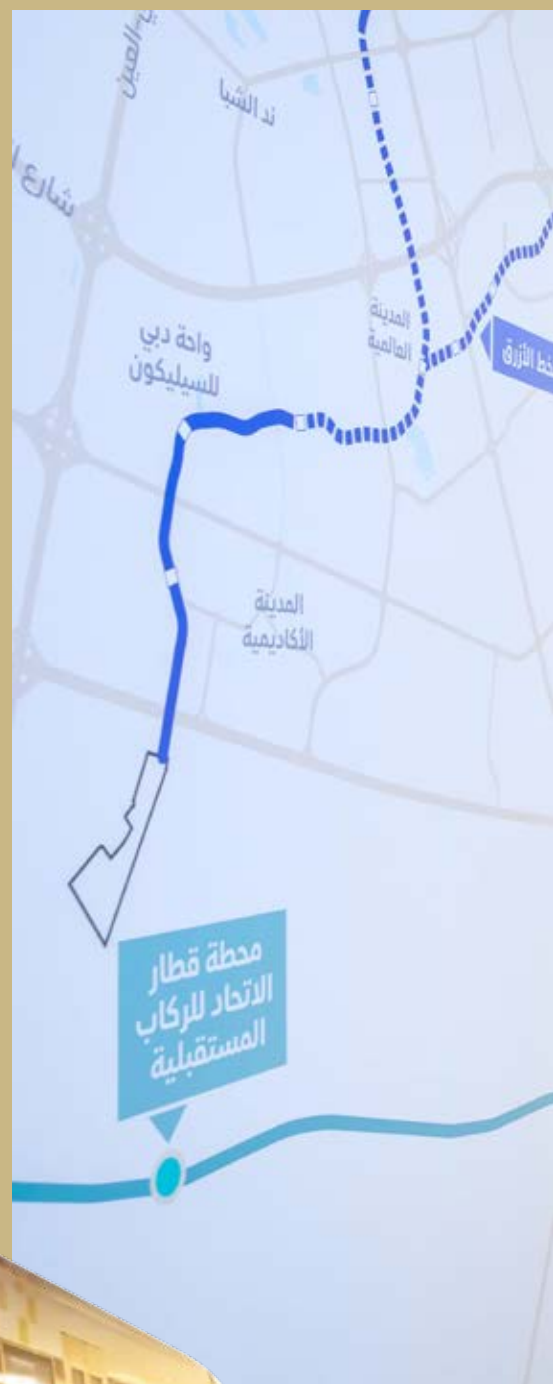
22

Mohammed bin Rashid approves Dubai Metro's Gold Line spanning 42 km and 18 stations

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, approved the Dubai Metro Gold Line, the emirate's largest sustainable transport project.

Involving an investment of around AED34 billion, the new metro line will extend over 42 kilometres and 18 stations, marking Dubai's first fully underground metro line.

The Gold Line connects to both the Red and Green Lines, while integrating with Etihad Rail, effectively linking Dubai to the UAE's comprehensive national transportation network.





Dubai Metro Gold Line Project

15
development
project

55
development
project

Beneficiaries More than **1.5**
million residents by 2040

465,000
Daily Ridership passengers
beyond 2040



Mohammed bin Rashid:

- Supporting mobility across 55 mega development projects currently under construction
- Our major projects to build the world's best city to live in are ongoing

Mattar Al Tayer:

- Expected to serve 1.5 million people by 2040
- Reflects the wise leadership's vision for developing integrated and sustainable infrastructure.

A new metro line intersecting with the Red and Green Lines and enhancing integration with Etihad Rail passenger stations in Meydan and Jumeirah Golf Estates

Opening Date **9/9/2032**

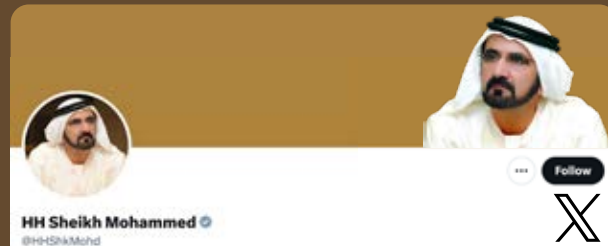
New Mobility Experience in Dubai Through LOOPS

The approval of the project came in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE, and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai; His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the UAE; His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Second Deputy Ruler of Dubai; His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group; His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, President of the UAE Olympic Committee; Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairperson of the Dubai Culture and Arts Authority; and His Highness Sheikh Majid bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed's approval of the landmark project marks a strategic milestone, reflecting the robustness of Dubai's economy and its accelerating pace of development as the Government of Dubai continues to deliver ambitious infrastructure projects that boost economic growth and enhance quality of life, further elevating the emirate's global competitiveness.

Speedy project delivery

Sheikh Mohammed directed the immediate commencement of the project, with the inauguration scheduled for 9 September 2032 – reflecting a delivery timeframe that is 30% faster than Dubai Metro's Blue Line. His Highness stated: "Dear brothers and sisters, today we announce Dubai's largest transport project; a new Dubai Metro line spanning 42 kilometres, at a depth of 40 metres underground. This new route will connect 15 strategic locations in



- "Dear brothers and sisters, today we announce Dubai's largest transport project; a new Dubai Metro line spanning 42 kilometres, at a depth of 40 metres underground. This new route will connect 15 strategic locations in Dubai, serving 1.5 million people and supporting mobility across 55 mega development projects currently under construction."
- "The AED 34 billion Gold Line project will expand the Dubai Metro network by 35%, with completion scheduled for 9 September 2032."
- "Our major projects to build the world's best city to live in are ongoing. Our future projects will not stop; rather, they will gather pace. Our mission is to build a better future for millions—for we are a people who say what we do and do what we say."



Investments **34**
billion AED

Cumulative Return **430%**
within 20 years of operation



Dubai, serving 1.5 million people and supporting mobility across 55 mega development projects currently under construction.” His Highness Sheikh Mohammed added: “The AED 34 billion Gold Line project will expand the Dubai Metro network by 35%, with completion scheduled for 9 September 2032.” His Highness concluded: “Our major projects to build the world’s best city to live in are ongoing. Our future projects will not stop; rather, they will gather pace. Our mission is to

build a better future for millions—for we are a people who say what we do and do what we say.”

Also present during the approval of the project were His Excellency Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Gergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Chairman of The Executive Office of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; and His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA).





Urban integration

Serving as a comprehensive urban artery, the Gold Line seamlessly bridges Dubai's historic centre with its dynamic future districts. The route spans 15 strategic locations, originating in Al Ghubaiba and crossing several landmark developments, including Mina Rashid, City Walk, Business Bay, Mohammed Bin Rashid City, Nad Al Sheba, Mohammed bin Rashid Gardens, Meydan, Al Barsha South, Jumeirah Village Circle (JVC), and culminating at Jumeirah Golf Estates. The Gold Line significantly enhances urban integration and streamlines mobility across the emirate's vital economic and residential centres.

The Gold Line will connect with the Red Line at two locations; Business Bay and Jumeirah Golf Estates, and to the Green Line at Al Ghubaiba. It also links with Etihad Rail at Meydan and Jumeirah Golf Estates.

Enabling big expansion in traffic, network

The new route will serve over 55 development projects and is projected to benefit over 1.5 million people by 2040. With daily passenger numbers expected to reach 465,000 people beyond 2040, the Gold Line is set to solidify Dubai Metro's role as the backbone of the emirate's mobility ecosystem and the preferred choice for both residents and visitors.

The Gold Line will expand the Dubai Metro network from the current 120 kilometres, factoring in the Blue Line, to 162

kilometres, a 35% increase. The number of stations will increase from 67 (including the Blue Line) to a total of 85 stations.

Led by Emirati Talent

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) stated: "The Dubai Metro Gold Line marks a strategic milestone in the evolution of Dubai's public transport network, reflecting the leadership's vision to develop integrated, sustainable infrastructure that fuels economic growth and enhances quality of life. The project facilitates integration of multi-modal transportation, links Dubai's key urban hubs and addresses the demands of urban and demographic expansion in line with the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan."

His Excellency Al Tayer added: "The Gold Line embodies RTA's commitment to adopting international best practices in executing major projects. Led by national talent, the project reaffirms the leadership's confidence in Emirati Personnel and their pivotal role in driving development by delivering landmark achievements that mirror Dubai's future aspirations."

Cumulative economic returns

His Excellency Al Tayer noted that the AED34 billion Gold Line represents a strategic investment projected to achieve a 430% cumulative economic return over 20 years of operation,



Key phases

- The project is scheduled for tender issuance in 2026, with the contract award to follow in 2027. Construction will subsequently begin, leading to its inauguration on 9 September 2032. This comprehensive timeline underscores Dubai's commitment to executing strategic projects with maximum efficiency and the highest global standards of quality and excellence.

driven by savings in time and fuel, as well as reductions in road accident fatality rates and carbon emissions.

His Excellency added that such benefits underscore the critical role of infrastructure projects in fulfilling the goals of the Dubai Economic Agenda, D33, by stimulating the economy, driving sustainable growth, and boosting the

value of property and real estate near metro stations by up to 20%, further enhancing the appeal of areas it serves.

“By connecting with the Red Line in two locations and with the Green Line in one, the Gold Line is set to drive the integration and sustainability of Dubai's public transport system, further improving the efficiency of the current network and facilitating mobility across the emirate for both residents and visitors,” he said.

Promoting seamless mobility

His Excellency Al Tayer stated that the Gold Line will alleviate congestion on the Red Line between Burjuman and ONPASSIVE stations by 23% and will strengthen Dubai's connectivity with the other emirates by integrating with Etihad Rail at two locations, further advancing the concept of multimodal transportation.

The Gold Line will introduce loops, enhancing the seamless mobility across short and long distances in key areas, and

The first fully integrated
underground metro line

42 KM

18 Stations



Route



From Dubai's historic
centre - Al Ghubaiba
(north)

to Jumeirah
Golf Estates



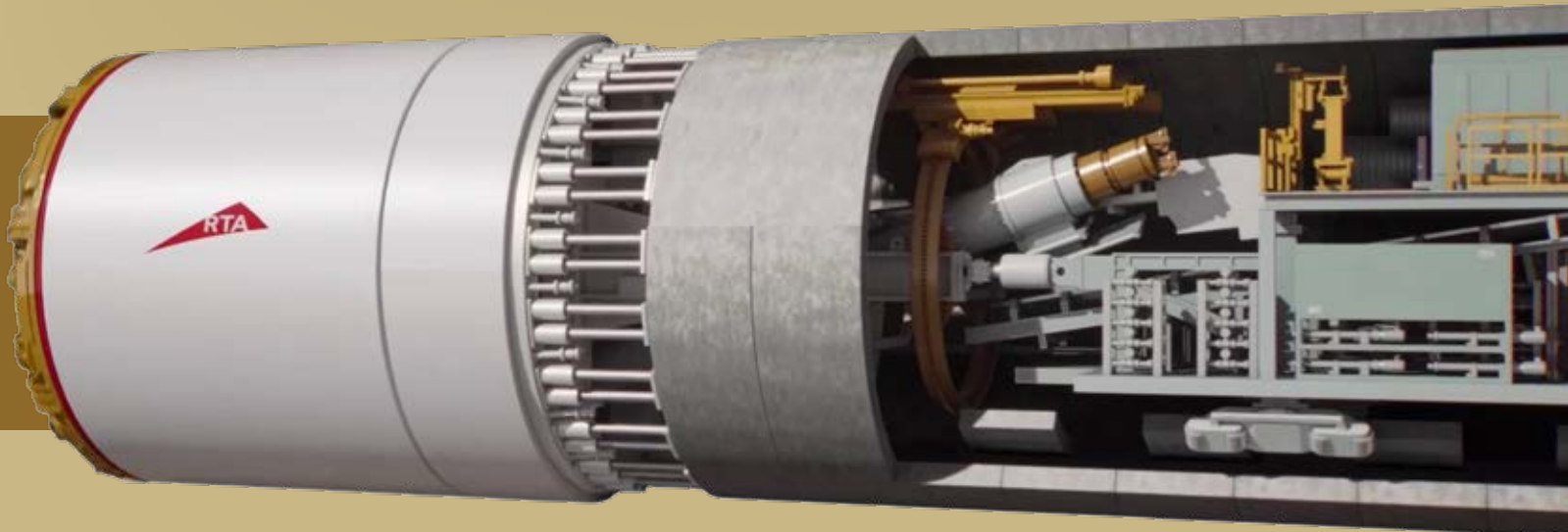
will further strengthen the integration and sustainability of the mass transit network.

He further noted that the Gold Line will significantly ease congestion across major roads, by bringing about a reduction of over 40 million journeys annually, which will improve traffic flow, enhance quality of life and advance environmental sustainability. Advanced tunnel boring technology His Excellency Al Tayer highlighted the Gold Line as an advanced engineering milestone, utilising the latest tunnel boring machine technology for an entirely underground execution, ensuring minimal disruption to residents and existing urban developments. His Excellency added that the project adheres to the highest international standards of quality and

safety, as well as speed of delivery – with plans to complete the Gold Line 30% faster than the Blue Line, reaffirming Dubai’s leadership in executing large-scale projects.

Global status

The Dubai Metro continues to set global benchmarks with a network currently spanning 120 kilometres including the Red Line (52 km), the Green Line (23 km), Route 2020 (15 km) and the Blue Line (30 km, currently under construction). The network includes 67 stations in all, with the Red Line featuring 28 stations, the Green Line (18 stations), Route 2020 (7 stations) and the Blue Line (14 stations). The addition of the Gold Line will extend the Dubai Metro network to 162 kilometres and 85 stations.





Hamdan bin Mohammed reviews newly completed Air Taxi Station nearby (DXB)

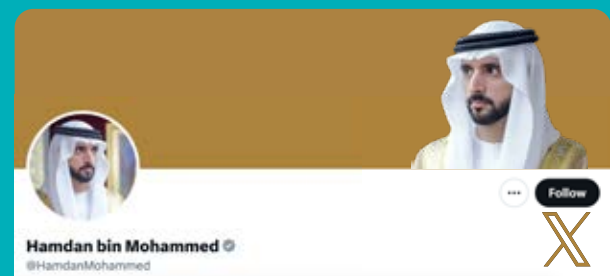
His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai, affirmed that the completion of the first Air Taxi station in Dubai is a strategic leap in the emirate's journey towards leading the future of urban mobility, embodying the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to reinforce Dubai's position as a global hub for innovation and future-ready solutions.



His Highness said: “As we mark the first edition of World Public Transport Day on 17th April, Dubai continues to strengthen its position as a leading global model for integrated and sustainable mobility. This progress is driven by innovation and the seamless integration of transport modes, enhancing quality of life and improving urban efficiency. Today, we take another step forward with the completion of the first Air Taxi Station, reaffirming our commitment to shaping the future of mobility. Expanding transport options, from the metro and buses to smart and air mobility, remains central to building a global city that puts people first.”

“We remain committed to developing an integrated, multi-level transport ecosystem based on advanced technologies, while expanding options for residents and visitors across the emirate in ways that enhance quality of life and improve overall efficiency. The launch of the Air Taxi infrastructure marks an important step in adopting new, sustainable modes of transport and strengthening Dubai’s readiness for the decades ahead.”

His Highness added: “We are moving forward in translating vision into practical reality, further strengthening Dubai’s position as a global testbed for innovation and the deployment of advanced solutions, enhancing its competitiveness and reinforcing its role in shaping the cities of the future.”



- “Today, I reviewed the progress of Dubai’s air taxi station, the first of its kind in the world, located near Dubai International Airport. The station is ready and forms part of a wider network including Downtown, Palm Jumeirah, and Dubai Marina, which will be completed by the end of this year.
- “The first station is expected to serve around 170,000 passengers annually, and I directed that the service be launched for public use this year, meeting the highest international standards. This project is a key milestone in Dubai’s urban mobility journey, reducing travel time and bringing the city closer. We thank the Roads and Transport Authority team and our local and international partners for delivering this landmark project, aligned with World Public Transport Day on 17 April.
- “In Dubai, we turn ambition into reality.”



His Highness made these remarks while reviewing progress at the first purpose-built electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) Air Taxi Station in Dubai, located near the Dubai International Airport (DXB). The first of its kind globally, the station serves as the main hub for Air Taxi operations in the city. The project is being delivered by Skyports Infrastructure, a company specialised in developing infrastructure for advanced air mobility. Accompanying His Highness on the visit was His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group.

Upon arrival at the station site, His Highness was received by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), His Excellency Mohammed Abdulla Lengawi, Director General of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Duncan Walker, CEO of Skyports Infrastructure, and Anthony El-Khoury, General Manager of Joby Aviation. .

Hamdan bin Mohammed:

- This project is a key milestone in Dubai's urban mobility journey
- Future Mobility Begins in Dubai
- Building a Global City That Puts People First
- We Remain Committed to Developing an Integrated, Multi-Level Transport Ecosystem
- Downtown, Palm Jumeirah and Dubai Marina Stations to Be Completed by End of This Year
- We Thank RTA Team and Local and International Partners for Delivering This Landmark Project

Advanced facility

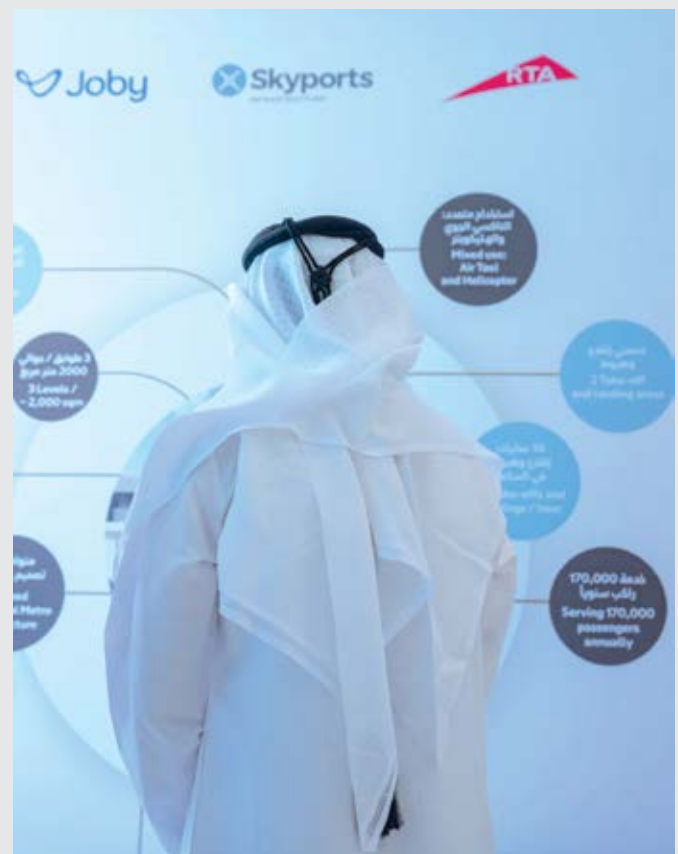
The Station comprises a four-storey building spanning 3,100 square metres, a two-level car park, two Air Taxi take-off and landing pads, dedicated charging infrastructure for Air Taxi vehicles, and climate-controlled passenger facilities with a capacity to serve up to 170,000 passengers annually. The station has been developed in line with high international



safety standards. Skyports Infrastructure is responsible for the design, development, and operation of the station infrastructure, while Joby Aviation, developer of the electric Air Taxi, oversees aircraft manufacturing and operations, including passenger management. RTA oversees governance of operations and ensures integration with the wider transport network.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer said the completion of the station, coinciding with the RTA's participation in World Public Transport Day, marks an important step towards the launch of Air Taxi services. He noted that it reflects Dubai's advanced infrastructure and regulatory readiness, as well as its ability to integrate future air mobility technologies. He added that this milestone reflects the leadership's vision to position Dubai among the world's best cities for quality of life and one of the most prepared for the future of smart and sustainable mobility.

His Excellency added: "The delivery of the Air Taxi Station by Skyports Infrastructure near Dubai International Airport reflects the progress made by RTA in advancing a smart and sustainable mobility ecosystem, built on the integration of various transport modes and aligned with global





transformations in urban mobility. This step paves the way for expanding the development of Air Taxi stations across the emirate, facilitating the delivery of advanced air mobility services to residents and visitors, while enhancing connectivity between key areas, business centres, and tourist destinations. “The Air Taxi represents a strategic addition to Dubai’s mobility ecosystem, offering a fast and safe transport option while enhancing connectivity between key hubs across the emirate. It also supports RTA’s direction towards adopting innovative mobility solutions driven by clean technologies and artificial intelligence. RTA is committed to developing the Station’s infrastructure in line with the highest international standards to ensure readiness for commercial operations and seamless integration with the public transport network, including the metro, buses, and shared mobility modes. This will enhance the user experience and improve traffic flow across the emirate.”

Journey time

Al Tayer noted that RTA is progressing steadily towards the commercial launch of the Air Taxi service by the end of this year, further reinforcing Dubai’s position as a city of the future and a global hub for innovative and sustainable urban mobility solutions that combine advanced infrastructure with a high quality of life. He added: “The Air Taxi will provide a distinctive new mobility option for residents and visitors seeking fast, seamless, and safe travel between key destinations across Dubai. The journey from Dubai International Airport to Palm Jumeirah is expected to take approximately 10 minutes, compared to around 45 minutes by car. The service will also support integration with the public transport network, as well as individual mobility modes such as electric scooters and bicycles, facilitating multimodal journeys, enhancing connectivity across the city, and delivering a seamless passenger experience.”



“The completion of this station by our partners marks a major milestone in bringing the Air Taxi service to Dubai,” said Anthony El-Khoury, General Manager, UAE, Joby Aviation. “Together with the RTA, we’re proud to celebrate this important step and the progress it represents toward launching operations. We look forward to beginning commercial flights and to delivering fast, quiet, and sustainable air travel for Dubai’s residents and visitors.”

“With the world’s first commercial station now being in a technical position to take eVTOL flights, we are seeing aviation history in the making,” said Duncan Walker, CEO, Skyports Infrastructure. “After years of planning and in-depth design, this new class of infrastructure brings together the latest technologies and innovations that will fundamentally change how people move around their cities.”

Joby Air Taxi

The Joby Air Taxi features vertical take-off and landing capability and operates as a fully electric, environmentally friendly aircraft with zero operational emissions. It is designed to deliver high standards of safety, comfort, and speed, incorporating the latest global advancements in advanced air mobility technologies. The aircraft features an acoustic profile that blends into the ambient noise of an urban environment and is up to 100 times quieter than a conventional helicopter.

Test flights

The completion of Air Taxi Station follows a year of rapid operational scaling for Joby. In November 2025, Joby completed the nation’s first piloted point-to-point Air Taxi flight, a 17-minute journey from its Margham test facility to Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC).

Air Taxi Stations in (2026)

Dubai International Airport

Downtown Dubai

Palm Jumeirah

Dubai Marina



Mixed use: Air Taxi and Helicopter

4 -Storey Building

170,000
passengers annually

2 Take-off and landing areas

spanning **3,100**
square metres

326
Parking Spaces



This milestone was accompanied by a rigorous summer flight campaign, during which Joby conducted 21 piloted flights to validate aircraft performance in desert heat. These tests provided critical data on thermal management and flight dynamics in high-temperature, low-density air, directly supporting the finalisation of operating manuals and certification requirements for the region.

To ensure a seamless transition to passenger service, Joby is pursuing a dual certification and qualification strategy in the UAE. This framework employs a parallel regulatory approach, utilising Joby's FAA-validated data to support the launch of commercial services in Dubai, creating a clear pathway for commercial service while allowing the GCAA to remain engaged with the FAA during the final stages of the U.S. type certification.

Stations

Previously, RTA had announced additional stations to support Air Taxi operations in Downtown Dubai, Palm Jumeirah, and Dubai Marina. In 2026, this will bring the total number of planned stations to four, including the station near Dubai International Airport, forming the initial network for the electric Air Taxi service.



Air Taxi operations agreement

Under an agreement with the RTA, Joby holds the exclusive right to operate Air Taxi services in Dubai for six years. To support this long-term commitment, Joby has established a local operating entity and is focusing on building the local workforce required for commercial operations. The company plans to recruit most of its operational and pilot team from the UAE for its Dubai operations, further deepening its roots in the region.



Hamdan bin Mohammed Reviews Rapid Intervention Vehicle, Smart Bus Station and Soft Mobility Parking Facilities

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai, affirmed that ambitious development initiatives and pioneering projects undertaken by Dubai to enhance public wellbeing, with mass transit systems being notable, are testament to the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to advance Dubai's position among the world's leading cities in adopting innovative solutions and future technologies.

His Highness said: "The variety of futuristic mass transit projects we witness today is not the outcome of infrastructure development priorities alone, but a comprehensive redefinition of the concept of urban mobility in keeping with the highest international standards, reflecting Dubai's ambition to be the city that is quickest to anticipate the future and most capable of turning it into tangible reality. "We operate with a clear vision based on innovation as a

core principle and advanced technologies as a key tool for transforming lives and achieving leadership. We are committed to supporting and accelerating the adoption of smart and sustainable solutions, enhancing systemic efficiency, amplifying its developmental impact, and ensuring the highest quality of life for citizens, residents, and visitors," he added. His Highness affirmed: "We are also keen to ensure that Dubai remains a leading global model in designing



■ Three Initiatives Enhance Efficiency and Sustainability of Mobility System

■ His Highness was briefed by His Excellency Mattar AlTayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA, on the details of the three initiatives and their objectives in enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of the mobility system.

■ Based on best practices adopted in leading global cities, soft mobility parking facilities have been introduced at public transport stations and major destinations to ensure seamless integration with the public transport network and to enhance first and last-mile journeys.

future cities and a pioneering platform for testing and implementing the latest technologies advancing mobility solutions.”

“The initiatives implemented by the Roads and Transport Authority in Dubai reflect a firm commitment to enhancing the emirate’s future readiness and solidifying its position as a global capital of innovation and a premier destination for developing and implementing advanced solutions that serve humanity and support sustainable development,” he added. This came during His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum’s review of several specialised initiatives

and projects being implemented by Dubai’s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), including the rapid intervention vehicle, the smart bus station, and soft mobility parking facilities.

The visit reflects His Highness’s keenness to follow up on the progress of government work through direct field inspections while assessing the readiness of strategic projects and the progress in their implementation against operational targets and timelines. This supports faster project delivery, maximises the developmental impact of initiatives, and contributes to achieving the highest standards of quality of life for citizens, residents, and visitors.

Vehicle Features



4 pumps

Total pumping capacity of approximately 60,000 litres per minute

Equivalent to the efficiency of 10 conventional pumps or 25 water tankers

Operates in water depths of up to 1.8 metres



Backup generator

To ensure uninterrupted operation



Rescue boat

For evacuation operations



Thermal drone

For field monitoring and on-site assessment



Rapid Intervention Vehicle

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan, accompanied by His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, reviewed the rapid intervention vehicle developed by RTA to enhance readiness for emergencies and heavy rainfall, while ensuring uninterrupted traffic flow. The vehicle features advanced equipment, including four pumps with a combined capacity of approximately 60,000 litres per minute, equivalent to the operating efficiency of 10 conventional pumps or 25 water suction tankers. It can pump water at a rate of around 1,000 litres per second and operate in depths of up to 1.8 metres. The vehicle outperforms conventional equipment in deployment speed and operational readiness, enabling immediate intervention, unlike mobile

pumps that require prior preparation and water suction tankers that struggle to access areas with deep water accumulation. The vehicle is equipped with an integrated system comprising a main pump operated from within the vehicle through a hydraulic system, three pump engines, and four primary pumps, in addition to rainwater suction hoses, a hose reel trailer, a rescue boat for evacuation operations, and a thermal drone for field monitoring and on-site assessment. It is also fitted with a backup generator to ensure uninterrupted operation, along with a lighting tower to support field operations under various conditions. The vehicle delivers strategic value by reducing response times for water-related emergencies by more than 75%, enhancing safety and safeguarding lives and property, while ensuring uninterrupted traffic flow and minimising disruption. It also reinforces Dubai's leadership in developing smart solutions for emergency management and climate resilience.



Reduces response time for water-related emergencies by more than 75%



Ensures uninterrupted traffic flow and minimises disruption



Enhances safety and protects lives and property



Reinforces Dubai's leadership in smart solutions for emergency management and climate resilience





Smart Bus Station

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan also reviewed the smart bus station, which forms part of RTA's broader drive towards digital transformation and sustainability. RTA has completed 90% of the project, with full completion expected by the end of the current month. Located on Sheikh Zayed Road in Al Barsha 2, near Mall of the Emirates, the bus station features the full conversion of customer services into contactless, paperless digital services, integrated with the nol card and S'hail app to deliver a seamless mobility experience for passengers. It is also equipped with solar panels to reduce energy consumption, cameras powered by artificial intelligence for crowd management and violation detection, and smart sensors to monitor air quality. The bus station also meets Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum standards (LEED Platinum), ensuring a comfortable, safe, and sustainable experience for customers.

Project
Completion
Rate



Completion
Date: 30th
April 2026



Conversion of
all customer
services to fully
digital services



Implementation of
Leadership in Energy
and Environmental
Design standards
(LEED Platinum)



Deployment
of smart air-
quality sensors

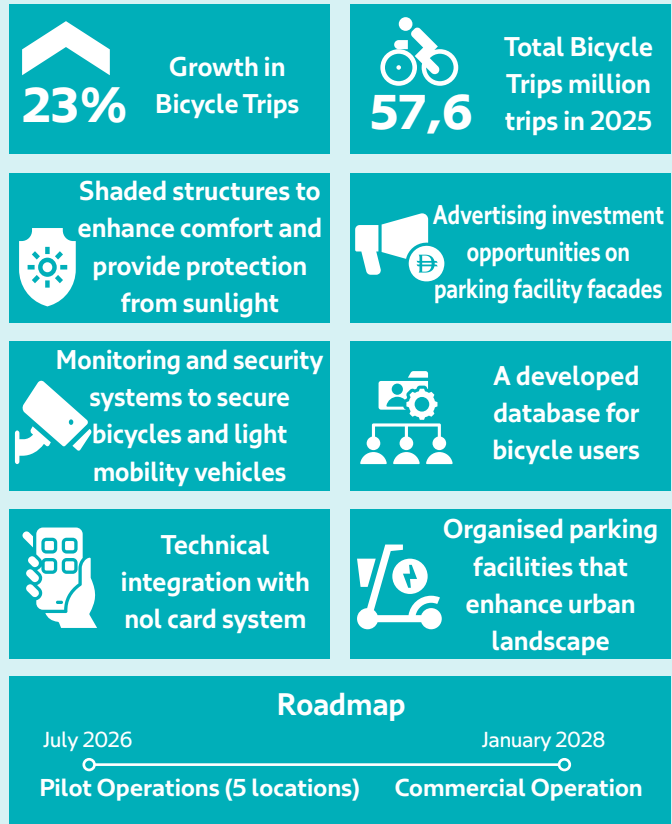


Installation of
solar panels to
reduce energy
consumption



Installation of AI-powered cameras for
crowd management and violation detection





Soft Mobility Parking Facilities

As part of efforts to support sustainable mobility, Sheikh Hamdan reviewed the soft mobility parking facilities project, which aims to streamline the use of bicycles and electric scooters. The facilities feature modern designs that provide shade and protection from sunlight, scooter-charging capability, and smart systems for monitoring usage, while also creating advertising investment opportunities.

The project comes against a backdrop of notable growth in bicycle usage, which rose by 23%, bringing the total number of trips to 57.6 million in 2025. A phased expansion plan has been developed, beginning with pilot operations at five locations in

July 2026 and progressing to permanent operation in 2028. His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer said all the initiatives reflect RTA's commitment to keeping pace with the latest global developments and harnessing advanced technologies to deliver an integrated and sustainable transport system that enhances quality of life, promotes the well-being of residents and visitors, and reinforces Dubai's position as a leading global model in smart mobility. He added that RTA continues to develop specialised solutions that strengthen the emirate's readiness to address future challenges and further consolidate its leadership in sustainability and advanced technologies.

