

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA

Issue No. 216 – June 2026

Mohammed bin Rashid Launches Tunnelling Works for Dubai Metro Blue 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.

Dubai Metro.. the Future of Urban Mobility

“We say what we do, and we do what we say.”

Guided by the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, the emirate continues to advance a development model grounded in innovation and foresight – one that transforms ambitious plans into tangible projects that reshape the future and reinforce Dubai’s position as a leading global hub for living, business, investment and sustainable mobility. For Dubai, infrastructure is a strategic driver of economic growth and a cornerstone of urban competitiveness, quality of life and long-term sustainable development. The expansion of Dubai Metro network stands as one of the most powerful and visible embodiments of this approach. As one of the emirate’s largest strategic infrastructure programmes, it is designed to keep pace with accelerating urban, population and economic growth, enhance the efficiency of the mass transit network, and deepen connectivity across Dubai’s diverse districts. These projects further facilitate mobility for residents and visitors and support quality of life directly in alignment with the objectives of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan. Marking accelerated progress in Dubai Metro projects, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum inaugurated the main tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line, signalling the start of a major construction phase and reaffirming that work is progressing according to the approved timeline for completion on 9.9.2029. The inauguration reflects the wise leadership’s direct oversight of strategic infrastructure projects and its unwavering commitment to accelerating delivery in line with Dubai’s comprehensive development journey.



The Dubai Metro Blue Line spans 30 km (15.5 km underground and 14.5 km above ground) and includes 14 stations (10 above-ground and 4 underground). It will serve key districts and major development projects, connecting major economic, residential and academic hubs across the emirate, further integrating the mass transit network and enhancing mobility efficiency across Dubai.

The project reflects Dubai’s forward-looking vision to make mass transit the preferred mobility choice for residents and visitors, while strengthening integration between transport modes and reducing traffic congestion. The Blue Line is expected to serve around one million people and improve access to key centres, new residential communities, airports and economic and educational destinations – supporting smoother daily mobility and reducing journey times for hundreds of thousands of users.

The continued delivery of strategic infrastructure projects reflects the wise leadership’s firm belief in investing in road and transport networks as a fundamental pillar of comprehensive development and a key driver of Dubai’s global competitiveness. These are long-term investments that support the economy, stimulate urban growth, enhance mobility efficiency, and help create a more sustainable and attractive urban environment.

As the Dubai Metro Blue Line moves ahead, Dubai once again affirms that it does not wait for the future – it shapes it. The emirate’s sustainable development is built on advanced infrastructure that matches its global ambitions and reinforces its position as a progressive urban model, uniting quality of life, mobility efficiency and sustainable economic growth.

H.E. Mattar Al Tayer

Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors

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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.

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Dubai Metro Blue Line

Project Benefits and Features

25% increase in property value around stations





Mohammed bin Rashid launches tunnelling works for Dubai Metro Blue Line

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai launched the primary tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line project, which involves an investment of over AED20.5 billion. The 30-km route comprises a 15.5-km underground section and 14.5-km stretch above ground. It features 14 stations including three interchange stations, seven elevated stations and four underground stations. It will serve nine key districts with a projected population of around one million under the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan.

Total Network Length

131 km



78 stations



168 trains



20% reduction in congestion





His Highness also reviewed interior designs of the upcoming metro stations and was briefed on the project’s progress. His Highness affirmed that investing in the transport sector is an investment in the future and a key pillar of enhancing Dubai’s global competitiveness. He noted that the Dubai Metro Blue Line represents an extension of an integrated vision aimed at building a more connected, efficient and sustainable city. His Highness added: “Our projects in Dubai are delivered to

meet the highest international standards, guided by clear plans, precise timelines, and national talent capable of turning vision into tangible achievements in practice. Their delivery is overseen by 180 railway experts and engineers. The ceremony marking the formal inauguration of the tunnelling works was attended by His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister

**Dubai Festival
City Station**

+10,000
Workers

180
Rail Specialists

+25 Years
Average Experience of Rail
Engineering Team



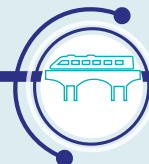


**Creek
Interchange
Station**

20%
Project Completion Rate

13 Million
Work Hours

June 2026
First Metro Bridge Over
Dubai Creek to Take Shape





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, Chairman of the UAE Olympic Committee, and many senior officials.

Key milestone

The launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line from the largest underground interchange station in the metro network, spanning more than 44,000 square metres, reflects Dubai's commitment to providing a smart mobility system that enhances quality of life, supports the movement of people and growth of businesses, and connects communities within an integrated urban framework, consolidating its position as the best city in the world to live, work and visit.

Anticipating the future

Dubai continues to consolidate a development model based on anticipating the future by developing advanced infrastructure that keeps pace with its economic and urban ambitions and strengthens the emirate's readiness for new phases of growth. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed was received at the International City 1 Station site by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, along with several top executives of MAPA, LIMAK and CRRC Hong Kong, the heads of the consultancy and contracting firms delivering the project, and several CEOs at the RTA. At the start of the visit, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed was briefed by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer on the project's progression, from His Highness's approval of the Dubai Metro Blue Line route in November 2023, followed by the awarding of the project contract in December 2024, and His Highness's laying of the foundation stone to mark the start of



implementation in June 2025. The project currently stands at 20% completion, with more than 10,000 workers deployed on the project and more than 500 engineers and experts overseeing delivery under Emirati leadership.

Accelerated execution

The consortium has completed more than 13 million work hours without recording any lost-time injuries. Construction works at the stations are progressing at an accelerated pace and have exceeded planned completion rates, reflecting the efficiency of execution. Bridge works are also ongoing, with foundations and piers being installed. The consortium delivering the project has begun constructing the piers of the bridge crossing Dubai Creek, the first metro bridge to span the Creek, extending 1.3 km. The bridge structures are expected to begin taking shape next June.

In line with the project schedule, completion is expected to reach 30% by the end of 2026, with the project set to open

on 9/9 / 2029.

His Excellency Al Tayer explained during the briefing that the combined Dubai Metro and Tram network extends 101 km and comprises 140 trains. Since the launch of Dubai Metro in September 2009 through to the end of 2025, the network has served nearly 2.8 billion commuters, including 295 million last year, marking a 7% increase over 2024. Average daily metro ridership is estimated at around 1 million, with Dubai Metro accounting for 40% of total public transport ridership in the emirate.

Station designs showcased

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed reviewed the architectural designs of the entrances to the interchange station at Dubai International City 1, the largest underground interchange station in the metro network. The station spans more than 44,000 square metres and has an estimated capacity of around 350,000 riders a day.



Tallest station

His Highness also reviewed the interior designs of the metro stations, including a distinctive design for the iconic Emaar Properties Station, which extends across 11,000 square metres and, at 74 metres, will be the world's tallest metro station. The design focuses on open spaces and the use of light as a core element, creating a unique visual experience. The station has been designed to evoke a sense of luxury, with soaring walls rising elegantly upwards, finished in natural textures and warm earthy tones that reinforce a sense of rootedness and evoke the spirit of the place. The design also highlights the strength and unity of the community, in an architectural setting that warmly welcomes each visitor and provides a sense of belonging while reinforcing its status as a gateway to Dubai's bright future.

Inspired by nature

The interior designs of the remaining stations adopt a contemporary character, with fluid lines inspired by the four elements of nature: air, water, earth and fire. Three stations have been designed around the theme of air, symbolising ambition and ascent, with a focus on open spaces and light that creates a sense of freedom and elevation.

Two stations have been designed around the theme of water, reflecting the city's rich maritime history through flowing forms and calm colours that reflect constant movement. The spaces take shape as a series of interconnected areas, with lighting that enhances the sense of calm and flow, creating a comfortable and balanced journey.

Four stations have been designed around the theme of earth, symbolising nature through interior spaces in earthy

Al Wugeisha

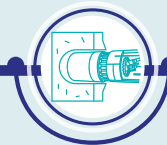
(Al Wugeisha) long
163 metres



weighs
+2000 tonnes



advance rate ranges
from **13** to **17**
metres per day





tones that reflect Dubai's authenticity. These spaces are characterised by calm and balance, with rich designs that reinforce a sense of stability and belonging.

Two stations have been designed around the theme of fire, symbolising Dubai's dynamic energy through vibrant colour gradations filled with vitality and strength. Their interiors are defined by movement, with lighting that conveys a sense of speed and activity.

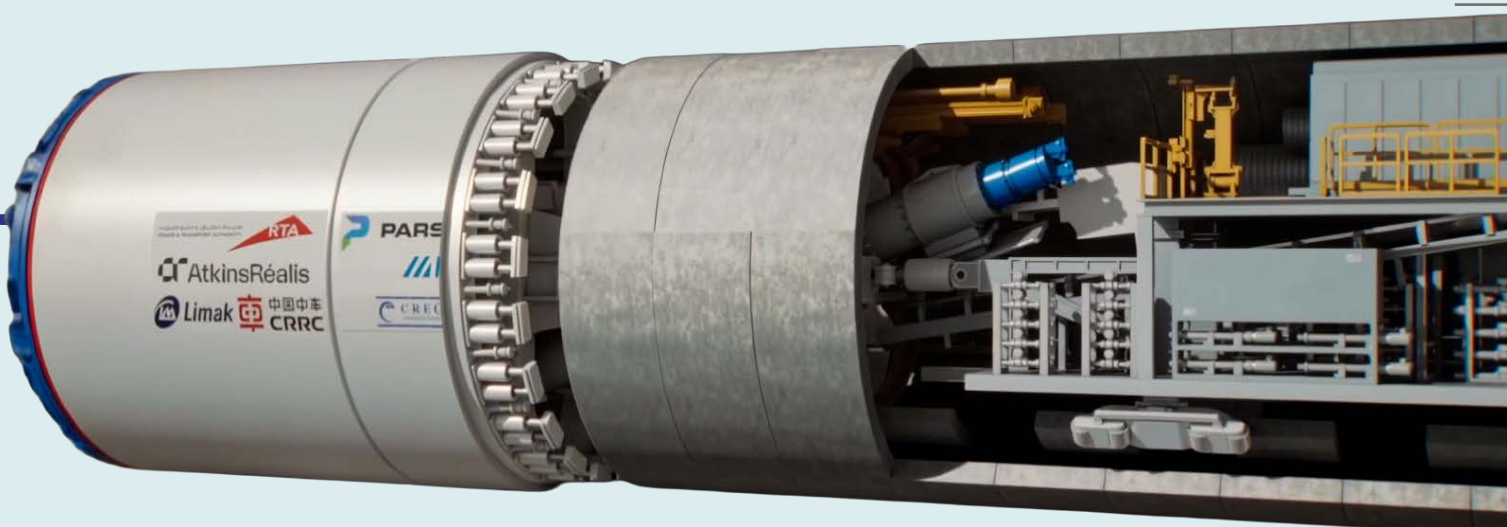
Three-pronged tunnelling works

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed gave the signal to start operating the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM), which RTA

has named 'Al Wugeisha,' marking the launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line. Tunnelling works will proceed in 3 directions from International City 1 Station, with the first TBM heading towards Mirdif, the second towards the Auto Market, and the third towards Al Warsan (International City 2).

Al Wugeisha tunnel boring machine is 163 metres long, weighs more than 2,000 tonnes, and operates around the clock. Its average excavation advance rate ranges from 13 to 17 metres per day.

The machine is equipped with advanced technologies, including high-precision digital guidance systems, sophisticated





monitoring and control systems, and an integrated logistics system for transporting excavated material.

It is designed to break through rock formations, bore through sandy strata, and deal with any other objects that may be encountered during excavation. The machine incorporates a massive metal shield supported by a mechanical tail section. At the front is a cutterhead, followed by a chamber whose configuration varies according to the excavation method, the geological strata being bored, and the soil conditions in which works are being carried out. Behind the chamber are hydraulic jacks that generate the thrust needed to propel the machine forward during tunnelling operations.

Al Wugeisha also includes a spoil removal system, slurry discharge pipelines, a control cabin, and other essential high-technology components and advanced capabilities that help accelerate and complete tunnelling works.

Environmentally friendly machine

Al Wugeisha is also an environmentally friendly machine that does not have any adverse impact on the ground layers adjacent to the excavation zone. In addition, it bores tunnels with consistent profiles, facilitating subsequent construction works and reducing tunnel wall installation costs.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, a commemorative photograph was taken of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed with the team overseeing the construction of the Blue Line from RTA, the consortium, and the consultant.

The Dubai Metro Blue Line will connect with the Green Line at Creek Station and the Red Line at Centrepont Station. It will serve residential communities, academic zones and major development areas expected to be home to around one million people by 2040.

Boost for knowledge and tech economy

The line will also serve one of the key urban centres identified in the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan – Dubai Silicon Oasis, a hub for innovation and knowledge that supports the growth of the knowledge and technology economy and attracts talent and innovators. It will provide direct journeys from these areas to Dubai International Airport in just 20 minutes and is expected to reduce traffic congestion by 20% along the corridors it serves.

The Blue Line extends in two directions. The first starts from Creek Interchange Station on the Green Line in Al Jaddaf and passes through Dubai Festival City, Dubai Creek Harbour and Ras Al Khor Industrial Area before reaching



International City 1, which includes an underground interchange station. It then continues to International City 2 and 3, Dubai Silicon Oasis and Dubai Academic City. This section is 21 km long and includes 10 stations.

The second extends from Centrepont Interchange Station on the Red Line in Al Rashidiya, passing through Mirdif and Al Warqa'a to the interchange station at International City 1. This section is 9 km long and includes four stations. The project also involves the construction of a depot and maintenance facility for trains in Al Ruwayyah 3.

Iconic design

The iconic Emaar Properties Station will be the world's highest metro station, rising 74 metres. Inspired by the concept of a gateway, it has been designed by the globally renowned American firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, one of the world's largest architectural practices and the designer of the Burj Khalifa, the Olympic Tower in New York, and Sears Tower in Chicago.

The station features a distinctive urban design that complements the character of the surrounding area and embodies Dubai's vision as a gateway to the future. It covers an area of approximately 11,000 square metres and has an

estimated capacity of around 160,000 riders per day. Daily ridership is expected to exceed 70,000 passengers by 2040. The station will serve residents of Dubai Creek Harbour with an estimated population of 40,000, in addition to visitors to the area.

Proactive planning

Dubai Metro Blue Line is the first rail project undertaken by RTA to include two ready-mix concrete batching plants and two precast concrete storage sites in Al Ruwayyah 3 and International City. This proactive approach by RTA in delivering major projects has helped strengthen quality control and improve the efficiency of construction materials, while enabling full control over manufacturing and supply chains. It also has a positive impact on reducing implementation timelines and improving logistics efficiency. The ready-mix concrete batching plant in Al Ruwayyah has a production capacity of 200 cubic metres of ready-mix concrete, while the precast viaduct factory produces 10 to 12 viaduct segments per day.

The International City plant produces 120 cubic metres of ready-mix concrete, while the precast tunnel ring factory produces 12 rings per day.

Al Tayer: AI drives the next generation of RTA digital operation services

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) stated that RTA is advancing the digital and technological ecosystem in line with the directives of the leadership to reinforce Dubai's standing as the world's smartest city. He noted that RTA continues to adopt the latest digital technologies and artificial intelligence applications to enhance operational efficiency and improve the readiness of systems and services, keeping pace with Dubai's future ambitions and strengthening its global leadership in smart mobility and digital transformation. Al Tayer added that investment in advanced technology infrastructure is a key pillar in ensuring service sustainability, improving quality of life, and delivering the best customer experience.

Al Tayer made the remarks during a visit to the Technology Operation Control Centre (TOCC), an integrated hub for managing and monitoring RTA's technical services and systems. The centre is designed to ensure business continuity and enhance operational efficiency around the clock through a unified operating framework built on technical support and continuous monitoring of systems and digital infrastructure, in line with the highest standards of availability, quality and technical readiness.

His Excellency said: "Digital transformation has become an integrated ecosystem driven by intelligent data analysis, proactive anticipation of operational challenges, and improved response and decision-making efficiency. This ensures business continuity and strengthens operational

resilience across RTA's sectors and services. RTA continues to develop advanced technology infrastructure that supports Dubai's direction towards building a smart, sustainable city that uses modern technologies and artificial intelligence to manage services and infrastructure."

Al Tayer reviewed the centre's operations and mechanisms for monitoring technical systems and services around the clock, as well as the smart solutions used to manage digital infrastructure, applications and databases. These are aligned with the highest standards of readiness, cybersecurity and operational efficiency, ensuring business continuity and efficient 24/7 operations. He was also briefed on the centre's operational units, including the IT Support Centre and the Operations Monitoring Centre, as





well as specialised technical support teams responsible for managing and operating systems and ensuring the integration of the technology infrastructure.

Integrated Operating Model

The centre operates through an integrated model that ensures the secure and reliable management of technical infrastructure, applications and databases, while maintaining their full integration. It strengthens the sustainability of digital services and enables faster response to diverse operational requirements, while supporting digital transformation and the expanded use of smart solutions and artificial intelligence in managing technical operations.

The centre comprises several specialised operational units, including the IT Support Centre, which provides integrated technical support 24/7 to ensure service continuity, and the Operations Monitoring Centre, which proactively monitors system performance and detects faults and operational

challenges at an early stage. It also includes technical systems operations teams responsible for managing and operating systems and ensuring their continuous readiness and integration. The centre is supported by advanced technology infrastructure that enables the operation and monitoring of more than 200 server-hosting units across data centres, and the handling of more than 500 support requests daily. This is delivered through a 24/7 operations and monitoring framework that enhances the reliability of digital systems, improves operational performance, and strengthens business continuity across RTA's sectors.

The centre has also undergone comprehensive upgrades that modernised its operating environment and enhanced the efficiency of its facilities and technical equipment, in line with international best practices in data centre management and operations. These efforts culminated in the centre attaining the international Tier III classification, one of the leading global standards for assessing data centre readiness, reliability and service continuity.



Al Tayer Reviews Transport and Rail Infrastructure Cooperation with SYSTRA Group

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), received Jean-Charles Vallery, CEO of SYSTRA Group, the French engineering and consulting group specialising in public transport and mobility solutions. The meeting reviewed areas of cooperation between the two sides in transport and rail infrastructure projects.

The meeting also discussed SYSTRA's plans to enhance delivery efficiency and support RTA's strategic project objectives, in line with Dubai's direction to develop an advanced and sustainable transport system and strengthen partnerships with leading global companies in the transport sector.

Al Tayer reaffirmed RTA's commitment to establishing

frameworks for joint cooperation, strengthening partnerships, and exchanging expertise with specialised international entities, particularly in technology, smart mobility and advanced technologies.

Several officials from RTA and SYSTRA Group attended the meeting.

...And Chairs First Dubai Metro Gold Line Forum Meeting

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), chaired the first meeting of the Dubai Metro Gold Line Forum, in the presence of Hamed Zaghw, Chief Executive of AECOM's Middle East and Africa region, along with a host of CEOs and directors at the RTA.

The meeting reviewed the implementation steps and timeline for the design and construction of the Gold Line. Extending 42 km and comprising 18 stations, the line will be Dubai's first fully underground metro route, connecting with the Red and

Green Lines of Dubai Metro as well as Etihad Rail.

The Forum meets regularly as part of RTA's strategy to monitor progress and take the necessary decisions to ensure the project remains on schedule.





... And Discusses Ways to Strengthen Cooperation with Keolis in Mass Transit Operation and Management

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority, received Frederic Van Heems, Chairman of the Keolis Group Executive Board. The meeting discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in the operation and management of mass transit systems.

The meeting included an exchange of expertise on enhancing the operational efficiency of metro and tram networks, supporting RTA's efforts to advance the public transport ecosystem and strengthen its sustainability in line with international best practices.

The discussions also align with Dubai's vision to provide smart, integrated mobility services that enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Several officials from RTA, Keolis Group and Keolis MHI attended the meeting.



Awarding Contract for Umm Suqeim, Al Wasl and Al Safa Streets Development Project

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has awarded the contract for the development of Umm Suqeim Street, Al Wasl Road, Al Safa Street, and 7 intersections along Jumeirah Street, in implementation of the directives of the wise leadership to accelerate road infrastructure development, expand network capacity and enhance traffic flow across Dubai. The project includes the construction of bridges and tunnels extending approximately 11,000 metres in total, along with at-grade road widening works. The project supports Dubai's comprehensive development, accommodates urban expansion and population growth, and contributes to enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors.

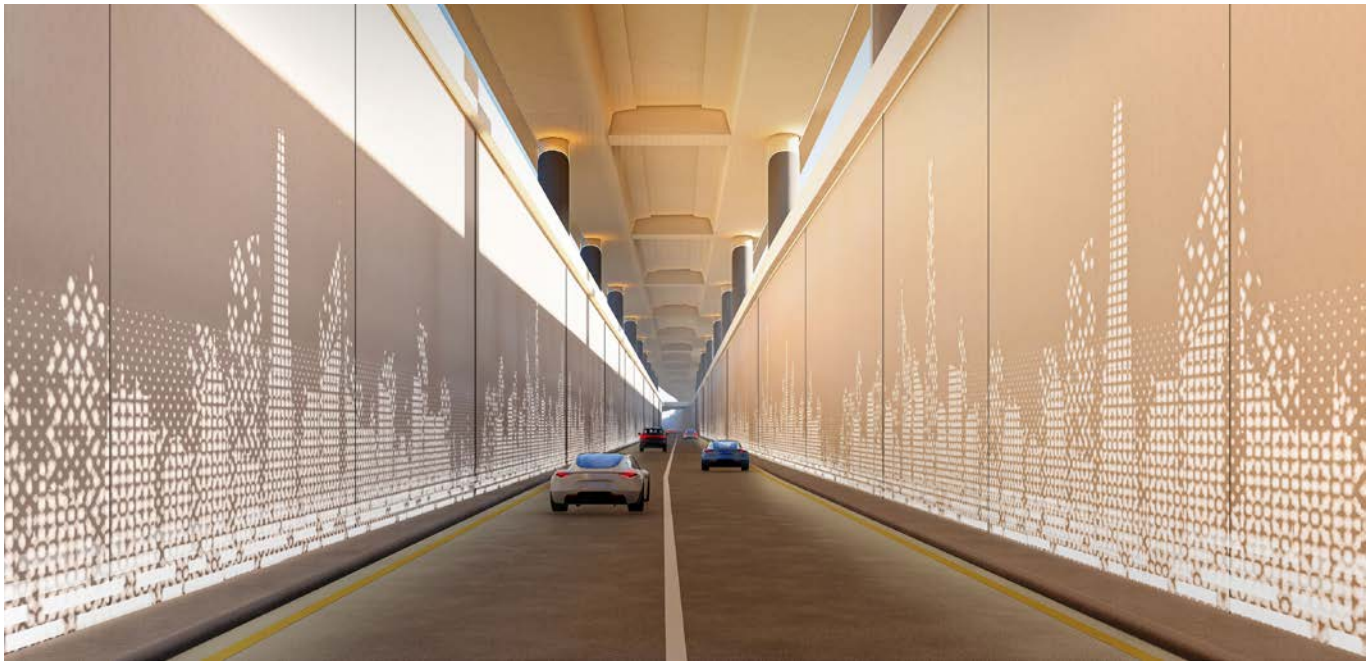
The project covers upgrading Umm Suqeim Street from its intersection with Jumeirah Street to Al Khail Road; Al Wasl Road from its intersection with Umm Suqeim Street to its intersection with 2nd December Street; Al Safa Street from its intersection with Sheikh Zayed Road to Al Wasl Road; and 7 intersections along Jumeirah Street. Upon completion, the project will increase the capacity of Umm Suqeim Street to 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions and raise the capacity of Al Wasl and Al Safa Streets to 12,000 vehicles per

hour in both directions for each street.

The project goes beyond widening and upgrading roads to introduce creative and aesthetic elements across the area. It includes enhanced pedestrian walkways and a cycling track to provide safer, more accessible routes for all, alongside public boulevard plazas and urban spaces that promote community interaction and create vibrant, inclusive urban environments.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, of the Roads and Transport





Authority, said the project forms part of an integrated plan developed by RTA to upgrade roads across the area, covering Jumeirah, Umm Suqeim, Al Wasl and Al Safa streets. He noted that the project serves vital areas featuring a wide range of modern tourism facilities, including beaches, hotels, fine-dining restaurants, residential areas, educational institutions, centres for tourism, arts and sports activities and events, as well as residential and commercial districts, with an estimated population of more than 2 million.

He added: “Developing roads and transport infrastructure is a key driver of the economy and a fundamental pillar supporting urban growth, while further strengthening Dubai’s appeal as a destination for investment and business. The development of vital corridors enhances the efficiency of the traffic network, reduces journey times and improves traffic flow, with a positive impact on individual productivity and the efficiency of various economic sectors.”

He further said: “Achieving smooth traffic flow across the emirate requires the continuous and integrated development of the road network, alongside the expansion of public transport and the adoption of smart solutions. RTA is moving ahead with a comprehensive plan to upgrade several vital corridors across the area, keeping pace with population growth and urban expansion, enhancing daily mobility for Dubai’s residents and visitors, and reinforcing the emirate’s global leadership in infrastructure.”

RTA Awards Contract for Umm Suqeim, Al Wasl, and Al Safa Streets Development Project

The project includes the construction of bridges and tunnels extending **11.000** metres

Umm Suqeim Street Development Project

Upgrading **6** intersections **2** tunnels **4** bridges length **4100** metres

 **16000** vehicles per hour in both directions

Umm Suqeim Street

Al Tayar added: “Umm Suqeim Street Development Project, which extends from the intersection with Jumeirah Street to Al Khail Road, forms part of the comprehensive plan to develop Umm Suqeim–Al Qudra corridor. The corridor extends from Jumeirah Street to Emirates Road and onwards to Al Qudra Street, serving several vital residential and development areas. “The project will enhance connectivity across 4 strategic corridors in Dubai, namely Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Khail Road, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road and Emirates Road. It will also increase the street’s capacity to 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions, improve traffic flow, and reduce journey time on the section between Jumeirah Street and Al Khail Road from 20 minutes to 6 minutes. The project serves several residential



and development areas, most notably Jumeirah, Umm Suqeim, Al Manara, Al Sufouh, Umm Al Sheif, Al Barsha and Al Quoz, with an estimated population of more than 2 million.”

6 Intersections

The project includes the development of 6 intersections along Umm Suqeim Street with Jumeirah Street, Al Wasl Road, Sheikh Zayed Road and Al Khail Road. It also includes the construction of 4 bridges and 2 tunnels extending 4,100 metres in total. A tunnel will be constructed at the intersection of Umm Suqeim Street and Jumeirah Street, with 2 lanes in each direction, along with a signalised at-grade junction. Another tunnel will be constructed at the intersection of Umm Suqeim Street and Al Wasl Road, providing 2 lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road towards Jumeirah Street, while ensuring free and direct at-grade traffic flow towards Sheikh Zayed Road.

The project also includes the construction of 2 bridges at the intersection of Umm Suqeim Street and Sheikh Zayed Road to eliminate traffic overlapping at the existing junction. It will also add 1 lane on Umm Suqeim Street from its intersection with First Al Khail Street to Al Asayel Street, increasing the number of lanes to 5 in each direction. The development of the intersection of Umm Suqeim Street and Al Khail Road includes the construction

Al Wasl Street Development Project

Upgrade of **7** intersections **5** tunnels length: **3850** metres

Expansion of Al Wasl Street to 3 lanes in each direction



12000 vehicles per hour in both directions

and widening of 2 elevated links: the first connecting Al Khail Road to Al Quoz Industrial Area, and the second serving traffic from Umm Suqeim Street to Al Khail Road towards Deira.

Al Wasl Road

Al Wasl Road Development extends 15 km from its intersection with Umm Suqeim Street to 2nd December Street. It includes widening the street from 2 to 3 lanes in each direction and upgrading 7 intersections along Al Wasl Road with Al Thanya Street, Al Manara Street, Umm Al Sheif Street, Umm Amara Street, Al Urouba Street, Al Hudaiba Street and 2nd December Street.

The development covers at-grade improvements at these intersections, in addition to the construction of 5 tunnels extending 3,850 metres. It will cut journey time along Al Wasl Road by 50% and increase capacity from 8,000 to 12,000



vehicles per hour in both directions.

The project includes improvements to the intersection of Al Wasl Street and Al Thanya Street, as well as the construction of a unidirectional tunnel at the intersection of Al Wasl Road and Al Manara Street. The tunnel will have 3 lanes and branch into 2 routes: 2 lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road towards Jumeirah Street, and 2 lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road towards Umm Sugeim Street, with a capacity of 4,800 vehicles per hour.

The project also includes a 650-metre tunnel on Umm Al Sheif Street, with 2 lanes from Sheikh Zayed Road towards Jumeirah Street and a capacity of 3,200 vehicles per hour. In addition, a 605-metre unidirectional tunnel will be constructed at the intersection of Al Wasl Road and Umm Amara Street towards 2nd December Street, with 2 lanes and a capacity of 3,200 vehicles per hour.

The project further includes a 565-metre unidirectional tunnel at the intersection of Al Wasl Road and Al Urouba Street towards Jumeirah Street, with 2 lanes and a capacity of 1,400 vehicles per hour.

Al Safa Street

Al Safa Street Development Project extends 1,500 metres from Sheikh Zayed Road to its intersection with Al Wasl Road. It includes the construction of 2 bridges and 2 tunnels extending 3,120 metres in total, along with at-grade road widening, junction improvements and traffic signal upgrades. The project will cut journey time on Al Safa Street from 12 minutes to 3 minutes and increase capacity from 6,000 to 12,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

The project includes 2 bridges. The first will serve traffic from Al Wasl Road towards Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street. It will feature 4 lanes, extend 1,005 metres, with an estimated capacity of 6,400 vehicles per hour. The second bridge will serve traffic from Al Satwa Street towards Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street. It will feature 2 lanes, extend 360 metres with a capacity of 2,800 vehicles per hour. The project also includes 2 tunnels. The first will serve traffic from Sheikh Zayed Road and Financial Centre Street towards Al Wasl Road. It will feature 2 lanes, extend 1,005 metres and have a capacity of 3,200 vehicles per hour. The second tunnel will be located at the intersection of Al Wasl Road and Al Safa Street. It will extend 750 metres, feature 2 lanes in each direction and have an estimated capacity of 6,400 vehicles per hour in both directions.

It also includes widening the street from 3 signal-controlled lanes to 4 lanes in each direction, as well as upgrading dedicated

Al Safa Street Development Project

Construction
of

**2 bridges
and 2 tunnels**

length: **3120**
metres



12000 vehicles per hour in both directions



pedestrian and cycling paths, urban spaces and landscaping. Upon completion, the project will improve traffic flow from the upper deck of Financial Centre Street and Sheikh Zayed Road towards Al Safa Street and onward to Al Wasl Road, and vice versa. It will also strengthen connectivity between several key road corridors in the area and enhance road safety.

Jumeirah Street

The project also includes the improvement of 7 intersections along Jumeirah Street at Al Thanya Street, Al Manara Street, Umm Al Sheif Street, Al Urouba Street, 39B Street, Al Hudaiba Street and 2nd December Street. The works include a package of at-grade improvements aimed at increasing capacity, improving traffic flow along the corridor and reducing congestion at intersections.

The project includes the development of **7** intersections on Jumeirah Street and a set of At-grade intersections improvements

It also incorporates creative and urban design elements, including:

Pedestrian walkways Cycling tracks
Boulevards Urban plazas

The project will serve development and residential areas with a population exceeding

+2,000,000 residents



Opening 500-Metre Bridge Serving Traffic from Al Bada' towards Sheikh Rashid and Al Mustaqbal Streets

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has opened a new 500-metre bridge under the World Trade Centre Roundabout Development Project, as part of its ongoing efforts to advance road infrastructure and enhance the efficiency of Dubai's road network.

The bridge is aimed to facilitate outbound traffic from Al Bada' towards 2nd December Street, with onward access to Sheikh Rashid Road and Al Mustaqbal Street. It will help accommodate growing traffic volumes in the area, in line with the vision of the wise leadership to make Dubai the best city to live in and move around.

This step further reflects RTA's commitment to developing infrastructure and enhancing the efficiency of Dubai's road network to meet the demands of population growth and urban expansion across the emirate, particularly in the Trade Centre area. The area holds strategic importance due to its vital location near Sheikh Zayed Road, one of Dubai's main traffic corridors. The project improves connectivity with this key arterial route, distributes traffic more efficiently, and reduces congestion in surrounding areas.

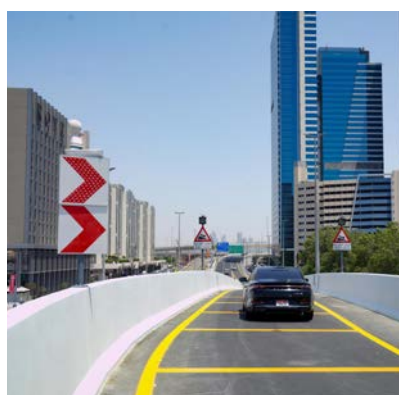
Extending approximately 500 metres, the new bridge adds to three bridges already opened under the World Trade Centre Roundabout Development Project. This single-lane bridge has a capacity of up to 1,200 vehicles per hour. It reduces journey time from 8 minutes to 2 minutes, improving traffic flow for motorists travelling from Al Bada' towards Sheikh Rashid and Al Mustaqbal Streets.

The project also involves converting the signalised

intersection on 2nd December Street, serving traffic towards Sheikh Rashid and Al Mustaqbal Streets, into a free-flow intersection. This will further improve traffic movement and enhance mobility efficiency across the surrounding area.

The World Trade Centre Roundabout Development Project includes the construction of six bridges with a total length of 5,000 metres, enabling free-flow traffic movement in multiple directions. RTA previously opened a bridge linking Sheikh Zayed Road with Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Street in February 2026. It also opened two bridges in December 2025, serving traffic from 2nd December Street towards Sheikh Rashid Road and Al Majlis Street, leading to Al Mustaqbal Street. The two bridges have a combined length of 2,000 metres and an estimated capacity of around 6,000 vehicles per hour.

The project also includes the construction of two bridges with two lanes in each direction, extending from Al Majlis Street and Sheikh Rashid Road towards 2nd December Street, to link Al Mustaqbal Street with 2nd December Street. The two bridges have a combined length of 2,000 metres and an estimated capacity of around 6,000 vehicles per hour. The project also covers converting the existing World Trade Centre Roundabout into a signalised at-grade intersection.



Completing 80% of Al Khaleej Street Tunnel Project,

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed 80% of Al Khaleej Street Tunnel Project, which extends 1,650 metres from the end of Infinity Bridge ramp in Deira to the intersection of Al Khaleej Street and Al Wuheida Street. It features three lanes in each direction and has a capacity of up to 12,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

The project is being implemented in line with the directives of leadership, to complete the phases of Al Shindagha Corridor Improvement Project, keep pace with ongoing development along the corridor, and meet the needs of population growth.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said: "The construction of Al Khaleej Street Tunnel forms part of Al Shindagha Corridor Improvement Project, one of the largest projects currently being undertaken by RTA. The corridor extends 13 km along Sheikh Rashid Street, Al Mina Street, Al Khaleej Street and Cairo Street, and includes the development of 15 intersections. It serves several key residential communities and development projects, most notably Dubai Islands, Waterfront Market, Dubai Maritime City and Port Rashid. The project is estimated to serve one million people and reduce journey time from 104 minutes to 16 minutes by 2030."

Al Tayer added: "The project includes the construction of a 1,650-metre tunnel with three lanes in each direction, providing free-flow traffic movement between Infinity Bridge and Deira, and vice-versa. It also includes converting roundabouts on Cairo Street and Al Wuheida Street into signalised intersections, carrying out improvements on Cairo Street, and connecting the ramp from Dubai Islands to the new tunnel on Al Khaleej Street towards Al Mamzar. The project serves Abu Hail, Al Wuheida and Al Mamzar, in addition to development projects including Dubai Islands, Waterfront Market and Al Hamriya Port."

Works Completed

To accelerate progress and complete the project in line with the approved schedule in the fourth quarter of this year, 14 teams are currently working around the clock on excavation support works. These include the construction





of retaining walls using secant piles for deep excavations, as well as sheet piles for medium-depth excavations. Four additional teams are continuing tunnel excavation works around the clock, achieving a daily output of 5,000 to 6,000 cubic metres, which is set to rise to 8,500 cubic metres per day in the next phase. The project contractor has completed the first phase of structural works for the tunnel structure over a length of 890 metres, representing 65% of total works. Work is continuing on the second phase, which extends 760 metres. Tunnel wall cladding has also begun, in parallel with road paving and widening works, the installation of lighting and traffic signal systems, rainwater drainage and irrigation networks, and utility diversion and protection works within the project area.

The project has achieved a major milestone, completing nearly 8 million work hours since its launch while maintaining the highest occupational safety standards, with no lost-time injuries recorded. This reflects the accelerated pace of delivery and the efficiency of operations management in line with the approved schedule, supported by 1,591 engineers, technicians and workers and 221 machinery and equipment deployed across work sites.

1.650 Consists of: **3** lanes in each direction
1591 Capacity: **12.000** vehicles per hour

Has recorded **8.000.000**
 work hours in line with the highest
 occupational safety standards

Team
 engineers, technicians and workers **221** machinery and equipment at construction sites

Smooth traffic flow for vehicles travelling from
 Infinity Bridge towards Deira and vice-versa.

Served areas

Abu Hail ,Al Wuheida ,Al Mamzar ,Dubai Islands,Waterfront Market,Al Hamriya Port

As part of the "Dubai Tunnels" initiative, the tunnel will be transformed into an artistic landmark that enhances Dubai's urban landscape, featuring creative works by Emirati artist Maryam Al Hathboor.



Artistic Spaces

As part of the Dubai Tunnels initiative, Al Khaleej Street Tunnel will be transformed into a cohesive artwork that enhances Dubai's aesthetic and urban landscape and reinforces the presence of art across the emirate's vital facilities and infrastructure, reflecting the city's modern character and visual identity.

Created by Emirati artist Maryam Hathboor, the design draws on a style inspired by banknote illustrations, portraying Dubai's skyline through fine lines and rich detail. It reflects the commercial value of the area surrounding the tunnel and Dubai's architectural identity, while also highlighting the emirate's economic and development standing. The artwork will extend across the tunnel mural, showcasing prominent new additions to Dubai's skyline, including Infinity Bridge. Its details will gradually unfold as users move through the tunnel, offering a dynamic and interactive visual experience that expresses Dubai's progress and innovation, while reflecting the city's ability to integrate art into urban spaces in a creative way. The tunnel mural will be created in mosaic, a technique selected for

its efficient installation, durability and longevity, helping preserve the quality and sustainability of the artwork over the long term.



Underway

RTA completed Al Shindagha Corridor works in Bur Dubai in 2025 and is currently undertaking a project to provide direct entry and exit points for Dubai Islands from the Bur Dubai side. The project includes the construction of a bridge across Dubai Creek in the area between Infinity Bridge and the Port Rashid development project area. The bridge extends approximately 1,425 metres, with four lanes in each direction and a total capacity of around 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions.

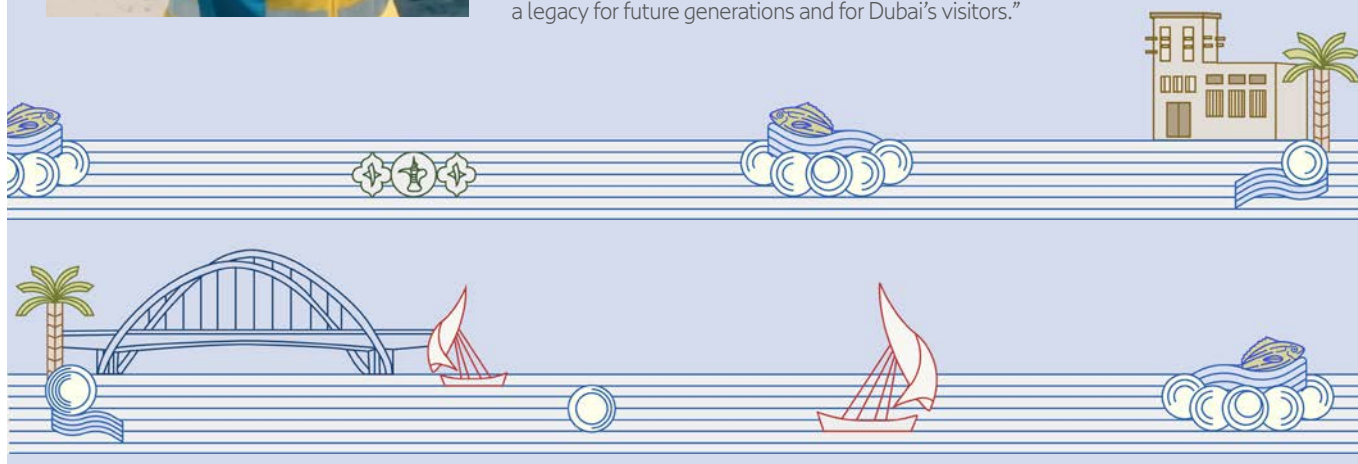
The bridge rises 18.5 metres above the water level of Dubai Creek and features a 75-metre-wide navigational channel, allowing various types of vessels to pass through the Creek. The project also includes a dedicated pedestrian and cycling track connecting both ends of the bridge, equipped with two lifts to facilitate the movement of its users. It also covers the construction of at-grade roads extending approximately 2,000 metres to provide connectivity with the existing road network on both Dubai Islands and Bur Dubai sides.

Maryam Al Hathboor Transforms Al Khaleej Street Tunnel into Vibrant Visual Art Journey



Emirati artist and designer Maryam Al Hathboor has created a striking artwork at Al Khaleej Street Tunnel, inspired by the spirit of the place and the city's memory. The work takes road users on a visual journey that connects Dubai's maritime and trading heritage with its renewed present.

The artwork forms part of the Dubai Tunnels Initiative, delivered in collaboration between Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) and Dubai Culture and Arts Authority. It continues a series of initiatives that transform the road network into a wider space for local creativity and an urban canvas celebrating Dubai's beauty and stories for residents and visitors alike. Maryam Al Hathboor said: "As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said, 'We may not live for hundreds of years, but we can create something that lasts for hundreds of years.' "The artwork was inspired by the location of Al Khaleej Street, which extends across Dubai Creek, Al Shindagha and Deira. Drawing on Dubai's maritime and trading memory, the piece reflects the emirate's heritage and its connection with the renewed present, offering road users a visual journey that mirrors the movement of the Creek itself." She added: "Through flowing artistic lines that evoke the movement of water in the Creek, the artwork carries viewers from past to present, incorporating elements such as boom dhows, pearls, fish and old coins. "It is a truly wonderful feeling to design an artwork that becomes part of Dubai's infrastructure. I hope this work remains a legacy for future generations and for Dubai's visitors."



Obtaining Three ISO Certifications in Benchmarking, Climate Change Adaptation and Circular Economy

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has obtained three ISO certifications from the British Standards Institution (BSI) in recognition of its efforts to benchmark processes and develop an integrated management system based on data and comparative analysis to support decision-making. BSI awarded RTA the Management Specification (PAS 7070) certification through the Innovation and Pioneering Department.

The second certification is ISO 14090:2019, the international standard for climate change adaptation, reflecting RTA's commitment to adopting international best practices in building climate adaptation capacity and managing climate-related risks. This certification was awarded in recognition of the efforts of the Safety, Risk, Regulation and Planning Department.

The third is recognition of alignment with ISO 59004:2024, the international standard for circular economy vocabulary, principles and guidance for implementation, in appreciation of RTA's efforts to align its operations with the terminology, principles and international guidance for circular economy through the Assets Management Department.

Leadership in Benchmarking

RTA obtained the benchmarking leadership certification in recognition of its efforts to strengthen its standing as a leading authority and reference point in navigating change, and to develop management systems in line with international best practices in benchmarking. This includes developing an integrated management system based on data and comparative analysis to support decision-making.

RTA is also among the first entities in the public transport sector across the Middle East and Africa to obtain this specification. The certification supports RTA's efforts to enhance competitiveness by benchmarking its performance

Winning 'Distinguished Public Sector Organisation' Award from Global Innovation Institute

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has won the 2025 'Distinguished Public Sector Organization' award from the Global Innovation Institute (GInI), in recognition of its efforts to advance the maturity of its innovation ecosystem and achieve sustainable corporate impact through the adoption of global best practices.

This recognition reaffirms RTA's approach to aligning innovation with strategic priorities in a way that creates sustainable added value and strengthens Dubai's position among the world's leading cities in government innovation. The Global Innovation Institute awards rank among the leading specialised international recognitions, honouring entities that demonstrate global leadership in building integrated innovation ecosystems and

delivering tangible, high-impact, and sustainable outcomes.

This achievement reflects the accelerating pace of development of RTA's innovation ecosystem and its consolidation as a corporate approach that enhances performance efficiency and strengthens future readiness, in line with Dubai's direction towards global leadership in government innovation.

Muna Al Osaimi, CEO of Strategy and Corporate Governance

against leading global entities, while fostering innovation and continuous improvement by leveraging benchmarking outcomes to develop services.

Climate Change Adaptation

RTA obtained ISO 14090:2019 certification in climate change adaptation, becoming the first entity in the Middle East and North Africa to receive this international certification. This achievement reflects RTA's firm corporate commitment to adopting international best practices in building climate adaptation capacity and managing climate-related risks.

The certification is the outcome of an integrated programme of strategic initiatives led by RTA in climate action, covering both adaptation to climate change and emissions reduction, which is also a key priority under its Zero Emission Public Transport Strategy 2050. It further strengthens RTA's role as a key partner in achieving Dubai's sustainable development goals.

International Standard for Circular Economy

RTA has been recognised for aligning its operations with ISO 59004:2024, the international standard for circular economy vocabulary, principles and guidance for implementation,



becoming the first government entity across the Middle East and Africa to receive this recognition. This achievement advances RTA's strategic goals and objectives in support of the sustainability ecosystem, in line with Dubai's future directions for sustainable mobility and the circular economy.

During the preparatory phase for this recognition, RTA trained more than 100 employees, reflecting its awareness of the importance of this field and its position as a future direction within RTA's strategic plan. RTA has also begun measuring the maturity of its circular economy framework and developing a roadmap, with outcomes monitored through performance indicators. This is supported by a policy and process for managing circular economy practices at RTA, which define the roles of circular economy coordinators across all RTA agencies and sectors.

Sector at RTA, said that RTA continues to embed an integrated and sustainable corporate innovation ecosystem that supports the achievement of strategic objectives and reinforces its leadership in government innovation. She added that work is continuing to develop advanced operating models that support data-driven decision-making and enhance RTA's readiness to respond efficiently to rapidly evolving changes.

“This achievement also reflects the maturity of RTA's innovation ecosystem and its ability to translate innovation into sustainable results through the integration of corporate capabilities with innovation outputs. RTA has adopted agile operating models and strengthened high-value partnerships to accelerate the conversion of ideas into practical, high-impact applications that contribute to improving the efficiency of the transport system and enhancing quality of life,” she added.

This achievement is underpinned by an advanced set of innovation enablers, including an integrated innovation



portfolio management framework, alongside the pivotal role of the Transport Research and Innovation Pavilion (TRIP) and the Artificial Intelligence Centre in accelerating the translation of innovation into practical applications. It is also supported by an ideas management system that enhances the engagement of employees and partners in developing solutions.

Opening Mall of the Emirates Smart Bus Station with 24/7 Interactive Digital Services

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has opened Mall of the Emirates Smart Bus Station, Dubai's first smart bus station, marking a step change in RTA's drive to develop an integrated public transport network powered by digital technologies and smart solutions, enhancing customer service and cementing Dubai's standing as a global leader in sustainable mobility.

Featuring a modern, sustainable design aligned with RTA's corporate identity and future outlook, the station delivers all customer services through 24/7 interactive and proactive digital services. This helps reduce waiting time and deliver a seamless, comfortable customer journey. The station serves 11 bus routes and is directly connected to Mall of the Emirates Metro Station. The smart station establishes an advanced model for the future of public transport stations in Dubai, bringing together innovation, technology and sustainability. RTA will scale up this model in future to further integrate Dubai's public transport network and provide smart, sustainable mobility solutions that meet customers' aspirations and keep pace with future ambitions.

Integrating Advanced Technology

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, stated that opening the first smart bus

station marks a major step forward in RTA's strategy to create an integrated, attractive environment for public transport users and deliver advanced, safe and seamless mobility services driven by innovation and digital transformation. The project aligns with the vision of the leadership to make Dubai the best city to live, work and visit.

He noted that the project forms part of a series of development initiatives aimed at redefining everyday mobility by integrating advanced technology across infrastructure components. This will enhance quality of life and encourage residents and visitors to use public transport for their daily journeys, making it the preferred mobility choice across the Emirate of Dubai.

Al Tayer added: "At RTA, we are committed to enhancing customer service by harnessing the latest digital technologies and smart solutions to deliver the highest levels of comfort and efficiency for users, while





strengthening the appeal of the public transport network. Adopting this integrated digital model raises operational efficiency and delivers higher levels of customer satisfaction. The station also incorporates advanced systems for crowd management and violation detection through AI-powered cameras, further enhancing safety and ensuring a smoother user experience.”

Station Specifications

The smart station covers around 147 square metres and can accommodate up to 20 customers at a time. It also includes a dedicated rest area for drivers, creating

an integrated operational environment that addresses the needs of different user groups. The station’s design balances operational efficiency with user comfort, ensuring integrated services that combine flexibility and innovation. The station features a range of advanced digital systems and services, led by the primary real-time information display, which provides maps of station facilities and displays arrival times across different transport modes. The display is directly integrated with Dubai Metro to show train arrival times, and with taxi services to provide instant information on taxi stand locations and availability. It also highlights key local landmarks and routes to reach them,

The First Smart Bus Station

Features a modern, sustainable design aligned with RTA’s corporate identity and its design balances operational efficiency with user comfort

All customer services have been transformed into (24/7) digital and proactive services



while broadcasting awareness content for customers. This information system enables users to plan their journeys and make more efficient mobility decisions.

The station also includes a smart kiosk that provides digital customer services, including a virtual assistant for journey planning and responding to customer enquiries, as well as Lost and Found services and direct access to the Call Centre. This helps improve response times, provide immediate support to users, and enhance customer happiness.

The station is equipped with a dedicated display showing real-time bus arrival information, along with occupancy levels on upcoming buses, enabling users to make more efficient mobility decisions. This feature helps spread demand more effectively across services and reduce congestion.

The station is also fitted with modern devices for ticket purchases and digital top-ups, in addition to a smart vending machine that enables users to purchase beverages

and benefit from loyalty points programmes, enhancing user comfort and improving the overall station experience.

Real-Time Data

For safety and operations management, the station is equipped with advanced AI-powered cameras that enable accurate crowd monitoring and violation detection. These technologies help enhance operational discipline and ensure the optimal use of facilities, while supporting operations teams with real-time analytical data that strengthens management efficiency and supports decision-making.

The station has also been developed in line with the highest international sustainability standards. It is fitted with solar panels to generate power, along with smart sensors to monitor air quality, reflecting RTA's commitment to applying best environmental practices, supporting Dubai's

Area:
147
square metres

20
customers and
includes a dedicated
rest area for drivers

11 The station serves
bus routes
including **6** feeder
routes connected to
Dubai Metro stations.

Areas served by the station include:

Al Barsha	Sport City	Umm Suqeim
Jumeirah Village Circle	Motor City	Al Sufouh
Al Rawda	Arjan	Al Manara
Barsha Heights	Dubai Studio City	Downtown Dubai
Miracle Garden	Dubai Science Park	Al Quoz
Arabian Ranches the Sustainable City	Dubai Internet City	Al Ghubaiba
	Mudon	Global Village



sustainability goals, reducing the carbon footprint, and achieving greater efficiency in resource use.

11 Bus Routes

Mall of the Emirates Smart Bus Station is one of the key transport interchange points in Dubai's public transport network. It serves 11 bus routes, including 6 Dubai Metro feeder routes, 3 internal routes and 2 seasonal routes. The station connects multiple residential, commercial and tourist areas, most notably Al Barsha, Umm Suqeim, Al Sufouh, Al Manara, Al Quoz, Al Ghubaiba, The Greens, Jumeirah

Village Circle, Arabian Ranches, Dubai Science Park and Dubai Studio City, as well as major tourist destinations such as Dubai Miracle Garden and Global Village.

Together, these connections enhance the station's role as a major mobility hub serving a wide segment of residents and visitors. The station is also directly integrated with Dubai Metro through Mall of the Emirates Metro Station, enabling seamless and connected transfers across public transport modes, improving the efficiency of multimodal mobility, and reinforcing public transport as a preferred choice for mobility across the emirate.

Central real-time information screen
displaying transport schedules

Advanced AI-powered
cameras

Solar panels for energy
generation

Smart sensors to
monitor air quality

Enhancing POD Accessibility at Service Provider and Customer Happiness Centres, Public Transport Stations

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the completion of works required to implement the Dubai Universal Design Code for People of Determination (POD) across numerous service locations, including Customer Happiness Centres, service provider centres and public transport stations. The initiative forms part of RTA's ongoing efforts to enhance quality of life and promote inclusion and sustainability, ensuring that POD can access services and facilities efficiently, comfortably and independently.

Providing further details, said Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, CEO of RTA's Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector: "The upgrades included dedicated ramps for People of Determination, including those with mobility impairments and wheelchair users, along with tactile floor indicators to guide movement across service delivery channels and facilities, improving mobility and enhancing the customer experience. RTA also provided accessibility support systems, including Braille signage and assistive hearing

devices, enabling customers to easily identify facilities and key areas across service delivery channels."

Al Ali added: "The improvements also included the installation of automatic doors and the upgrading of entrances and external corridors with clear floor markings. Toilet facilities in several centres were also upgraded and equipped to meet the needs of People of Determination and comply with accessibility requirements."

As part of efforts to enhance the customer experience,

Updating Driver Training Curriculum to Align with Modern Vehicle Systems and Global Standards

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has updated the driver training curriculum for applicants seeking a light vehicle driving licence, in line with advancements in modern vehicle systems equipped with Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS).

The updated training curriculum covers forward collision warning, blind spot monitoring, lane departure warning, lane support systems, parking assist systems for designated spaces, night vision systems, Anti-lock Braking System (ABS), conventional and adaptive cruise control, and other advanced technologies featured in modern vehicles.

Sultan Al Akraf, Director of Drivers Licensing at RTA, stated that the updates to the driver training curriculum for light vehicle licence applicants align with

internationally recognised standards set by CIECA. He noted that the initiative aims to enhance road safety, guide and promote driver behaviour, and reduce traffic accidents. Al Akraf added: "These updates form part of RTA's commitment to implementing global best practices in modern driving methods for light vehicle drivers. The revised curriculum has been introduced in collaboration with driving institutes and integrated into the driver handbook, as well as the theoretical and practical training programmes and



RTA redesigned queue management systems at Customer Happiness Centres, with heights and spatial layouts tailored to the needs of People of Determination. RTA also provided alternative digital channels and accessible, easy-to-use smart services. Dedicated service counters have been allocated for People of Determination, with priority granted for completing transactions and accessing various services. To strengthen communication and community partnerships, RTA organised a series of dialogue sessions in 2025 in collaboration with Rashid Centre for People of Determination. These initiatives continued in 2026 in

cooperation with Dubai Club for People of Determination, with active participation from People of Determination, relevant entities, partners, training and rehabilitation centres, students and parents. The sessions aimed to raise awareness of the services and initiatives RTA provides for People of Determination, who remain a key priority within RTA's service and community strategy.

■ For more information about services and initiatives for People of Determination, please visit RTA's website: www.rta.ae.



awareness lectures provided to licence applicants.” The updates align with RTA's mission, strategic goals and objectives, future directions, and adoption of global best practices, particularly in enhancing road safety, enabling safe and flexible mobility, and developing innovative and sustainable services that elevate the customer experience to global standards. “The updated curriculum enables drivers to stay informed of the latest developments in Advanced Driver Assistance



Systems and international training programmes, within a continuous learning framework that keeps pace with the evolution of modern vehicle technologies.” “More than 250,000 trainees have benefited from the updated training curriculum in recent years. Workshops have also been organised for driving institutes across Dubai to ensure comprehensive coverage of advanced driving systems, tailored to the specifications of training vehicles.”

Adding 4 New Areas to Bus-On-Demand Network Following 136% Ridership Growth in 2025

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has added 4 key areas to its Bus-On-Demand service: Al Qusais, Jumeirah Village Circle, Al Warqa'a and Dubai Investments Park. The expansion reflects RTA's continued commitment to advancing an integrated smart public transport network that supports seamless and sustainable mobility.

The service delivered a remarkable performance in 2025, with ridership rising to 984,929 riders from 417,315 in 2024, an increase of 567,614 riders, representing a growth rate of around 136%. This rapid growth underlines customers' confidence in the efficiency of the service and its growing role as a reliable option for daily mobility.

The latest addition brings Bus-On-Demand coverage to 17 areas across Dubai, served by a fleet of 49 buses, underscoring the pace of expansion and RTA's responsiveness to population growth and rising demand for flexible mobility solutions.

Before this expansion, the service covered Al Barsha, Al Nahda, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Dubai Academic City, Al

Rigga, Port Saeed, Business Bay, Downtown Dubai, Oud Maitha, Al Karama, Barsha Heights, Al Mankhool and Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC).

The addition of four new areas forms part of RTA's strategy to strengthen first and last-mile connectivity by offering flexible mobility options that link residential communities with public transport stations. It also aligns with Dubai Government's directions to cement the emirate's global leadership in seamless and sustainable mobility.

The service is built on an innovative operating model that enables bookings through the Dubai Bus-On-Demand smart app. Customers can easily select their pick-up and drop-off points and access the service within a short

A Full-Day AED 25-Water Taxi Day Pass

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a full-day water taxi pass in the Dubai Marina area, as part of efforts to enhance the marine transport experience and introduce a new tourism and leisure option for residents and visitors to explore one of the Dubai's most vibrant destinations in a flexible and unique way.

The new ticket, priced at AED 25, allows users unlimited travel throughout the day between several marine stations across Dubai Marina, with the freedom to hop on and off at any station, enabling them to visit surrounding destinations and enjoy leisure and retail facilities along the waterfront.

The service includes six stations across two main

routes. The first route, "BM1," covers Marina Walk, Marina Terrace, Dubai Marina Mall North, and Marina Promenade. The second route connects Dubai Marina Mall South with Bluewaters Island, offering seamless connectivity between key tourist and leisure attractions in the area.

This initiative is part of RTA's ongoing efforts to enhance

time. Bus-On-Demand operates through minibuses that respond to real-time demand, without being restricted to fixed routes. This helps reduce waiting times, enhance operational efficiency, and improve the customer journey. The service reflects RTA's commitment to adopting the latest digital solutions and advancing smart transformation in the transport sector. It also helps improve traffic flow, reduce reliance on private vehicles, and support integration with the public transport network, including Dubai Metro and public buses.

The service plays a pivotal role in supporting first and last-mile connectivity by facilitating access to business centres and public transport stations, encouraging the use of public transport, and enhancing mobility efficiency across the emirate.

The service is offered at a flexible and affordable fare of AED 5 per trip and AED 4 for each additional rider, with shared trips available, enhancing operational efficiency and lowering the cost of travel for users. RTA is offering launch-phase promotions, including free trips for a limited period, to encourage the public to experience the service. The next phase will see a carefully planned expansion into



new areas, alongside further development of the operating model and fare structure. This will ensure a balance between service quality and financial sustainability, while strengthening the service's position as a core component of Dubai's smart transport ecosystem.



Dubai's marine transport network and provide innovative mobility solutions that support quality of life, offering diverse options that combine accessibility with an enjoyable experience.

RTA stated that tickets can be purchased directly from water taxi stations in Dubai Marina or through the official marine transport booking website, facilitating easy access to the service throughout the day.

Conducting Field Campaign to Verify Bus Shelter Readiness Ahead of Summer 2026

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a field campaign to verify the readiness of air-conditioned bus shelters and passenger waiting facilities for summer 2026. The network comprises 895 shelters across 621 locations throughout Dubai. RTA renews its commitment to ensuring the efficiency and continuity of all systems of air-conditioned bus shelters and providing the community with the highest standards of service.

Abdulrahman Al Janahi, Director of Buildings & Facilities, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA, said: "RTA is committed to ensuring the readiness of all service facilities used by the public and linked to public transport. The field campaign included inspections and proactive maintenance to verify the readiness of air-conditioned bus shelters ahead of summer 2026."

Al Janahi added: "RTA conducts regular field visits to bus shelters in line with its operational plan. Inspectors verify their readiness around the clock and take immediate corrective action whenever technical faults are detected. The campaign also included improvement measures aimed at enhancing the efficiency of air-conditioned bus shelter services and strengthening their operational readiness to receive users."

RTA Uses AI to Optimise Seasonal Marine Transport Network

The implementation will begin in July 2026

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has enhanced its Seasonal Network initiative for marine transport services by deploying flexible scientific and technical methods powered by artificial intelligence and predictive analytics. The initiative strengthens operational agility and enables the network to respond effectively to demand fluctuations during seasons, public holidays and major events across the emirate.

The initiative forms part of RTA's ongoing efforts to develop the marine public transport network and strengthen its integration with various transport modes across the emirate, keeping pace with rapid growth and meeting the aspirations of residents and visitors alike. The implementation of the summer season operating plan will begin in July, noting that the plan is built on an integrated big-data repository containing detailed information on passenger numbers, revenue and occupancy rates. The data will

enhance forecast accuracy and support more effective operational decision-making.

Khalaf Belghuzooz Al Zarooni, Director of Marine Transport at RTA's Public Transport Agency, said: "The Seasonal Network was developed using advanced in-house algorithms and AI-powered analytical and predictive tools capable of processing and analysing big data from multiple sources. These tools support flexible and dynamic operating plans for the marine transport network. They also help forecast future demand and



RTA has also launched social media awareness campaigns and installed awareness posters highlighting the role of users in preserving RTA's assets and maintaining their cleanliness. It has also provided approved communication channels for reporting any observations or suggestions related to air-conditioned bus shelters, including the Madinati service on RTA's app. These reports are handled by specialised teams to ensure customer happiness and satisfaction.



The shelters are environmentally friendly and feature a streamlined design that helps them withstand heat and wind. They also offer large advertising spaces and are among the leading urban models that support sustainability. The shelters comply with Dubai Universal Design Code requirements for People of Determination, with dedicated wheelchair spaces and information display screens showing Dubai's bus network.



apply season-specific operating models, striking a balance between meeting customers' needs and enhancing operational efficiency."

He stated that the network's development integrates the human element and customer needs alongside the technical dimension. Customer requirements are embedded in service design by capturing suggestions and requirements submitted through approved channels, ensuring alignment between the human and technical aspects.

Al Zarooni added: "The project methodology used predictive analytics to study marine transport usage patterns and assess the impact of different variables on operating schedules and service headways, in line with passenger numbers, occupancy rates and operational revenues, reflecting positively on service quality and sustainability.

"Big-data analytics and modern computing applications have enabled us to develop a flexible operating model capable of simulating customer behaviour patterns and forecasting demand for marine transport services. The model contributes to improving network efficiency and achieving optimal performance levels in line with precise schedules and international standards."

The Seasonal Network initiative is implemented independently for each season, ensuring that customer requirements are not affected while advancing the targets of the marine transport sector. The approach supports financial and operational sustainability and reinforces Dubai's position as a leading city in adopting smart and innovative solutions in the transport sector.

Al Tayer Honours Teams Behind Dubai Metro Gold Line Announcement and Blue Line Tunnelling Works Launch

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), honoured the teams involved in the Dubai Metro Gold Line Project announcement and the launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line. The recognition came in appreciation of their contributions, outstanding efforts and positive engagement in carrying out their duties.

Al Tayer encouraged the honourees to continue strengthening their leadership and professional capabilities, raising performance standards, and upholding the highest levels of dedication and excellence in their roles. He also emphasised the importance of effective communication in delivering outstanding achievements, enhancing customer happiness, and reinforcing RTA's position among leading government entities. He also thanked the teams that contributed to preparing the events for the launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line and the announcement of the Dubai Metro Gold Line. He said: "We were honoured by the presence and support of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and his sons during these visits. Their presence

reflected the direct support of the wise leadership for these strategic projects, in recognition of their importance in driving economic prosperity and enhancing the quality of life in Dubai. "We once again thank you for your efforts in overseeing the progress of these projects, and for the professionalism we have seen in preparing the events and planning their announcement and promotion. Such professionalism is what we always expect from our teams at RTA. In our journey, we draw inspiration from the words of His Highness the Ruler of Dubai: 'We say what we do, and we do what we say.'"

The honoured employees included 11 members of the team behind the Dubai Metro Gold Line Project announcement, and 44 employees from the team responsible for preparing the launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line.



Honourees:

The list of honourees included: Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, CEO of Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector; Abdul Muhsen Ibrahim Kalbat, CEO of Rail Agency; Moaza Saeed Al Marri, CEO of Executive Affairs Sector; Waleed Mahmoud Abdulla Al Amiri, Executive Director, Leadership Affairs; Malek Ramadan Mishmish, Director of Rail Planning and Project Development; Meera Ahmad Al Shaikh, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communication; Ali Hassan Lootah, Director of Infrastructure Affairs and Urban Planning; Moza Khamis Al Muhairbi, Maryam Hassan Abdulla Al Balooshi, Alia Sharif Falaknaz, Abdulla Ibrahim Al Ali, Abdulla Abdulmajeed Al Awadhi, Mohammed Saeed Al Munji, Fatima Ahmed Al Mandous, Shaikha Ahmad Al Shaikh, Saud Essa Al Dosari, Faisal Mohammed Abdul Karim,

Abdulla Yousef Al Muhaideb, Abubaker Ahmed Essa Al Shezawy, Obaid Saeed bin Ghabash Al Marri, Khalid Saad Zaher, Mohammed Abdulfattah Wahba, Maryam Marwan Al Falasi, Maha Khalid Al Zarooni, Samir Mounir Abdulwahab Mounir, Badria Rajab Al Balooshi, Shamma Ahmed Al Omari, Buthaina Khalfan Al Dhahli, May Ahmed Morsi, Mona Khalid Ghadban, Khalid Yousef Al Balooshi, Mohammed Ghuloom Ahmed, Mohammed Ahmed Obaid, Mattar Saif Al Shehhi, George Habib Sakr, Mohammed Saqib Amanullah, Manal Mahmoud Amiri, Mohammed Wareed, Ahmed Saeed Atawneh, Mohammed Abdulla Ayyad, Lina Al Hamawi, Khalid Sultan Al Humaidi, Fatima Ismail Al Shehhi, Ibrahim Mohammed Ibrahim, Sahir Puthen Veettil Babu, Sreejith Lal Kodiyil Arayathodi, Jobin Ignatius Ignatius, and Arshad Ali Karerat.



Abdulla Yousef Al Ali



Moaza Saeed Al Marri



Abdul Muhsen Ibrahim Kalbat



Waleed Mahmoud Abdulla Al Amiri



Ali Hassan Lootah



Meera Ahmed Al Shaikh



Malek Ramadan Mishmish



Alia Sharif Falaknaz



Maryam Hassan Abdulla Al Balooshi



Moza Khamis Al Muhairbi



Mohammed Saeed Al Munji



Abdulla Abdulmajeed Al Awadhi



Abdulla Ibrahim Nakhuda Al Ali



Saud Essa Al Dosari



Shaikha Ahmed Al Shaikh



Fatima Ahmed Al Mandous



Abubaker Ahmed Essa Al Shezawy



Abdulla Yousef Al Muhaideb



Faisal Mohammed Abdul karim



Mohammed Abdulfattah Wahba



Khalid Saad Zaher



Obaid Saeed bin Ghabash Al Marri



Samir Mounir Abdulwahab



Maha Khalid Al Zarooni



Maryam Marwan Al Falasi



Buthaina Khalfan Al Dhahli



Shamma Ahmed Al Omari



Badria Rajab Al Balooshi



Khalid Yousef Ibrahim Al Balooshi



Mattar Saif Al Shehhi



Mohammed Ahmed Obaid



Mohammed Ghuloom Ahmed



Manal Mahmoud Amiri



Ibrahim Mohammed Ibrahim



Mohammed Saqib Amanullah



Ahmed Saeed Atawneh



Mohammed Abdullah Ayad



Mohammed Wareed



Fatima Ismail Al Shehhi



Khalid Sultan Al Humaidi



Lina Al Hamawi



Mai Ahmed Morsi



Mona Khalid Ghadban



Sahir Puthen Veetil Babu



Sreejith Lal Kodiyl Arayathodi



Jobin Ignatius Ignatius



Arshad Ali Karerat



George Habib Saqr

Al Tayer Honours Engaged Customers and Top-Rated RTA Employees

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) honoured several customers and frontline employees during RTA's annual recognition ceremony. The event celebrates engaged customers and male and female employees who received the highest ratings from RTA customers across different segments of society, in appreciation of their contributions to enhancing service quality and promoting a culture of positive engagement and community partnership.

RTA places customer happiness, satisfaction and positivity among its highest priorities, in line with its strategic goals and commitment to customer-centricity.

The recognition covered the most engaged customers, including participants in Customer Councils, in appreciation of their exceptional efforts and positive engagement with RTA. It also included the most active participants in the "Madinati" initiative, which enables community members to quickly, easily and effectively report observations related to infrastructure and public facilities, along with honourees in the customer service excellence and field presence category. The ceremony also honoured centre and transport station managers who achieved the highest evaluation scores, "Service Stars" employees, and drivers recognised for their commitment to traffic rules and regulations and excellence

in customer service. The recognition reflects their role in delivering mobility and service experiences that meet community aspirations and reflect Dubai's refined civic image.

A total of 41 people were honoured, including 4 of the most engaged customers in Customer Councils, 10 from the "Madinati" category, 4 in the customer service excellence category, 6 from centres and transport stations that achieved the highest scores in the 2025 external mystery shopper study, 10 outstanding compliant drivers from Public Transport Agency, and 7 "Service Stars" recognised for outstanding performance and for receiving the highest number of thank-you messages and positive customer ratings through social media channels.

Al Tayer also joined members of the Higher Committee for Customer Happiness for a group photo during the ceremony.



Honourees:

Category of most engaged customers with RTA and participants in Customer Councils 2025, in recognition of their exceptional efforts and positive engagement with RTA. They are Rashid Essa Al Thani, Abdulla bin Kalban, Humaid Al Ketbi, and Rashid bin Ghadir.

Category of most active customers in Madinati Programme 2025, in order of ranking: Naji Abdullah Naji, Yousef Mohammed Al Balooshi, Ali Essa Ismaili, Ali Majed Ali Akaila, Hassan Murad Ali Abbas, and Saeed Mohammed Saeed.

Distinguished participants in the programme: Ameer Shahzad Aslam, Abdulla Ali Abdulla, Abdulrahim Abdulrahman Mohammed, and Muhannad Ibrahim Al Bashir.

Honouring RTA employees:*Excellence in Customer Service and Field Presence category: Arif Shakri, Director of Right-of-Way; Mohammed Ghuloom Al Janahi, Deputy Director of Traffic and Manager of Traffic Engineering Section; Khalid Al Ghaith, Manager of Commercial Transport Licensing Section at Commercial Transport Activities; and Saeed Al Heli, Manager of Licensing Operations Support Section at Vehicle Licensing.

Outstanding Service Centres and Stations category, which achieved a score of 98% or above in the 2025 Mystery Shopper Survey issued by the Executive Council of Dubai: Al Ghubaiba Bus Station, represented by Humaid Abdullah Al Hammadi; Customer Happiness Centre – Al

Tawar, represented by Jamal Khalid Al Jassmi; AG Cars Deira Vehicle Testing and Registration Centre, represented by Mohammed Al Zoubi; Al Jaddaf Marine Transport Station, represented by Malaz Mahmoud Al Zhili; Al Garhoud Metro Station, represented by Ann Wambugu; and Jumeirah Lakes Towers Tram Station, represented by Zeeshan Abdul Kader.

Top 10 Committed Drivers at Public Transport Agency category, in recognition of their outstanding performance over the past six years: Habib Shajian Habib, Lorenzo Ger Caguimbal Verano, Bassem Ahmed Abdulla Abu Nuqairah, Ikramuddin Hakam Din, Mohammed Hakeem Mohammed Ilyas, Mohammed Younis Mohammed, Shahid Gul Khyal Dar, Ajmal Khan Ghazi Khan, Bharat Sherpa, and Mohammed Zaman Mohammed.

Service Stars category, in recognition of their outstanding performance and for receiving the highest number of thank-you messages and positive ratings from customers through social media channels: Hanan Al Raisi, Customer Happiness Centre at Al Manara; Fatma Murad, Customer Happiness Centre at Al Kifaf; Abdulla Al Muhairi, Customer Happiness Centre at Umm Ramool; Najlaa bin Hendi, Customer Happiness Centre at Al Kifaf; Ahmed Asaad, Customer Happiness Centre, RTA Headquarters; Khadija Al Jassmi, Customer Happiness Centre at Umm Ramool; and Fatma Al Saffar, Customer Happiness Centre at Deira.



Rashid Essa Al Thani



Abdulla bin Kalban



Humaid Al Ketbi



Rashid bin Ghadeer



Naji Abdullah Naji



Ali Essa Ismaili



Ali Majed Ali Aqila



Hassan Murad Ali Abbas



Ameer Shahzad Aslam



Abdullah Ali Abdullah



Abdulrahim Abdulrahman Mohammed



Muhannad Ibrahim Al Bashir



Aref Shakri



Mohammed Ghuloom Al Janahi



Khalid Al Ghaith



Saeed Al Heli



Humaid Abdullah Al Hammadi



Jamal Khaled Al Jasmi



Mohammed Al Zoubi



Malaz Mohammed



Anna Wambui



Zeeshan Abdul Qadir



Lorenzo Ger Caguimbal Verano



Basem Ahmed Abdullah Abu Nuqaira



Mohammed Hakeem Mohammed Elias



Mohammed Younis Mohammed



Shahid Kul Khayal Dar



Ajmal Khan Ghazi Khan



Hanan Al Raisi



Fatma Murad



Abdullah Al Muhairi



Najla bin Hindi



Ahmed Asaad



Khadija Al Jasmi



Fatma Al Saffar