هيئة الطرق والمواصلات
ROADS & TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
RTA

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA
Issue No. 217 – July 2026

RTA Expands Strategic Partnerships with Leading Chinese Companies

Vision

The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility.

Mission

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

Global Partnerships: Gateway to the Future

The world is undergoing a profound transformation in transport, driven by the rapid advance of artificial intelligence, cloud computing, big data, advanced communications and autonomous systems.

Road networks, bridges and metro systems are no longer the sole measure of a city's progress. Today, the true measure of cities' readiness for the future lies in their ability to harness artificial intelligence, analyse data and deploy digital solutions.

Global experience shows that the most prosperous cities are those that succeed in attracting top expertise and building an integrated ecosystem of partnerships with research centres, authorities, institutions and leading companies. Through this ecosystem, ideas are turned into practical solutions and value-added projects that elevate quality of life and drive economic development.

Guided by this vision, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has continued to expand its international partnerships with leading companies and specialised institutions in artificial intelligence, future transport technologies and infrastructure projects, reflecting RTA's firm conviction that knowledge exchange, expertise transfer and joint innovation are among the key enablers of Dubai's future ambitions.

It is in this spirit that an RTA delegation visited China, engaging with one of the world's leading countries in artificial intelligence, railways, digital infrastructure and smart transport technologies. The visit sought to build lasting bridges of cooperation with the institutions and companies shaping this global transformation, explore new opportunities for knowledge transfer, and deepen ties with leading Chinese partners.

It also offered first-hand insight into the latest international practices in designing and delivering road, bridge and tunnel projects, operating metro and rail networks, managing intelligent control centres, applying artificial intelligence, and advancing future transport systems. These efforts will support RTA in delivering its current and future projects to the highest standards of efficiency, quality and sustainability.

The two Memoranda of Understanding signed by RTA with CASCO SIGNAL and Huawei embody this strategic direction. They open new horizons for cooperation in artificial intelligence, digital infrastructure and intelligent transport systems, and pave the way for a research and development centre and an advanced innovation laboratory linked to current and future metro projects. They also encompass the development of unified data platforms, the enhancement of intelligent control centres, and the application of artificial intelligence to strengthen decision-making, raise operational efficiency and improve customer service.

The pace of change unfolding across the world confirms that artificial intelligence has become integral to the entire planning, designing, delivering and operating ecosystem, from traffic management, asset maintenance and fault prediction to the operation of future transport modes with greater efficiency, safety and sustainability.

As future infrastructure projects are increasingly shaped by digital solutions, data analytics and integrated systems, expanding partnerships with specialised global institutions has become a strategic choice that keeps pace with Dubai's ambitions and strengthens its capacity to deliver major projects to the highest international standards.

At Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority, we will continue to strengthen our relationships with strategic partners, attract global expertise, adopt the latest technologies, and translate them into tangible projects and achievements.

Guided by the vision of our wise leadership, which has made innovation an approach, collaboration a culture and global leadership a constant goal, we remain committed to reinforcing Dubai's position as the best city for life and the most future-ready city in the world.

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

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RTA Expands Strategic Partnerships with Leading Chinese Companies in AI, Future Transport Technologies and Infrastructure Projects

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has expanded its strategic partnerships with leading Chinese companies and institutions to draw on their advanced expertise in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, modern transport technologies, and advanced methodologies for designing and constructing bridge and tunnel networks. The move supports the delivery of RTA's current and future projects and enhances the readiness of Dubai's transport system to keep pace with the emirate's rapid urban and economic growth.

This came during RTA's official delegation visit to the People's Republic of China, headed by His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA). The visit was organised in coordination with the support of Dubai International Chamber representative office in Shanghai. The delegation included several CEOs, directors and young engineers from across RTA's agencies and sectors.

During the visit, RTA signed two Memoranda of Understanding with CASCO SIGNAL LTD. and Huawei Technologies to strengthen cooperation in advanced technologies, artificial intelligence, smart transport systems and rail, while reviewing leading Chinese best practices and successful experiences in developing transport infrastructure and deploying modern technologies to manage and operate mobility systems.

R&D Centre and Innovation Laboratory

The MoU signed with CASCO SIGNAL LTD., a company specialising in signalling, communications and control systems for metro and rail networks, provides for the establishment of an advanced R&D centre and innovation laboratory in Dubai, linked to the Dubai Metro Blue Line project and future metro projects.

The centre will provide an integrated environment for system testing, functional verification and training, while supporting the integration of signalling, communications, control and operations systems. It will enable technical testing in an environment that simulates actual operating conditions, improving the project's readiness ahead of service entry.

The laboratory will also serve as an advanced platform in Dubai for local acceptance testing and technical verification, while supporting the development and modernisation of existing and future metro lines. It will conduct specialised research and studies in smart operation and maintenance, as along with AI-driven operational scheduling, to sustain assets and improve the metro network's operational efficiency.

The establishment of the centre marks a strategic step towards strengthening Dubai's position as a regional hub for innovation in rail and public transport. It will also support the development and testing of future metro technologies, facilitate the transfer of knowledge, and build of specialised capabilities in this vital sector.

Smart City Applications

The MoU signed with Huawei Technologies, a global leader in information and communications technology, provides for strengthening strategic cooperation between the two parties across emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, information security, networking systems, mobility and traffic flow management, and future modes of transport.

It also covers the exchange of technical expertise, the organisation of joint workshops, the implementation of proof-of-concept trials, and the testing and validation of advanced technology solutions.

Areas of cooperation further include the study and development of smart city and AI applications supporting Dubai 20-Minute City vision; the establishment of unified data platforms integrating various transport systems; the deployment of AI technologies for real-time incident detection and response; the development of smart operations and control centres; and the enhancement of digital infrastructure and redundant data centres to ensure business continuity and improve operational efficiency.

The MoU also explores opportunities to draw on advanced Chinese expertise in the operation and management of smart metro systems, the development of AI-enabled monitoring and control systems, and solutions for managing stations and public transport. These efforts will enhance customer service and raise levels of operational efficiency and sustainability across RTA's areas of work.

Strengthening International Partnerships

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer said the visit comes as part of RTA's keenness to strengthen its international partnerships with leading global institutions and companies, and to draw on successful experiences and advanced expertise in public transport, rail, digital transformation and artificial intelligence. These efforts support Dubai's future agenda and reinforce its position as a leading global city in smart and sustainable mobility. Al Tayer said: "China represents a leading global model in the development of transport and rail infrastructure, digital technologies and artificial intelligence. Over the past decades, China has succeeded in building integrated systems that combine innovation, technology and operational efficiency.

"Through this visit, RTA seeks to gain first-hand insight into these leading experiences, explore new opportunities for cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and adopt global best practices that support the development of Dubai's transport system and keep pace with the emirate's rapid urban and economic growth.

"RTA is also working to build long-term strategic partnerships with leading Chinese companies and leverage their advanced expertise in delivering major infrastructure and transport projects, while deploying the latest technologies and innovative solutions that support RTA's future projects in line with the highest standards of efficiency, quality and sustainability."

Al Tayer added: "The two MoUs signed during the visit underline RTA's direction towards expanding the use of emerging technologies and artificial intelligence across various areas of work, developing the digital infrastructure that supports the transport sector, and advancing future rail and metro projects. These efforts will help improve operational efficiency, raise service quality, enhance customer experience, and reinforce Dubai's leadership in smart mobility."

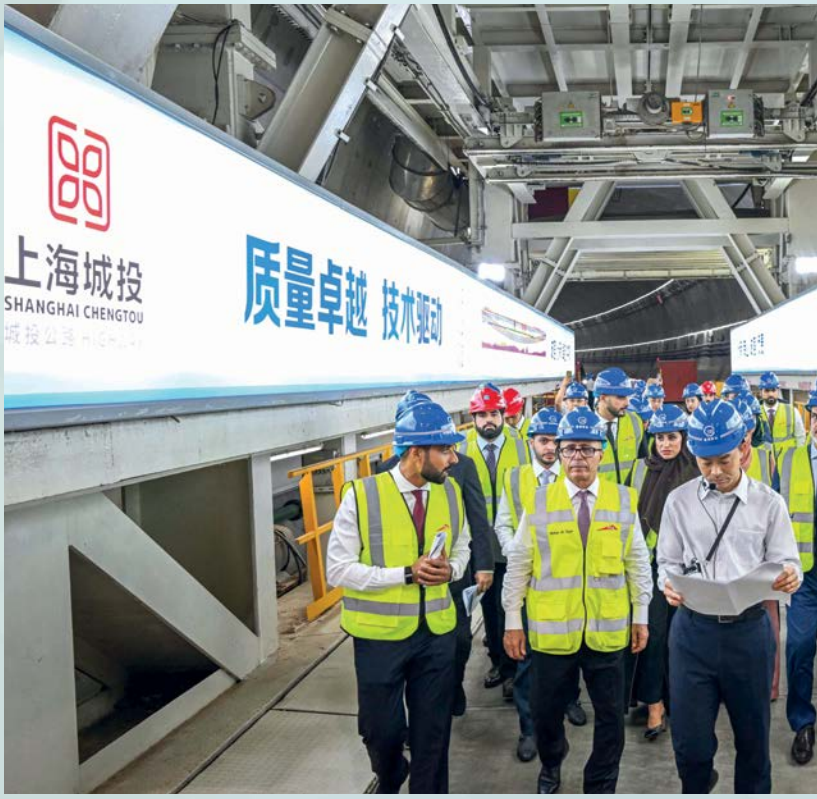
H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors at RTA, chaired the Dubai Metro Blue Line Forum meeting, held at the headquarters of CASCO in Shanghai, China, on the sidelines of the RTA delegation›s visit to China. The meeting was attended by the chairmen of the boards and chief executive officers of MAPA, Limak, and CRRC Hong Kong, the heads of the consultancy and contracting companies delivering the project, and several RTA CEOs. A number of chairmen of international companies and other RTA CEOs also participated via video conference. The Forum convenes on a regular basis as part of RTA's strategy to monitor progress and take the necessary decisions to ensure compliance with the approved project schedule. During the meeting, the Forum reviewed the latest project updates and progress across various work sites, implementation plans for the coming months, as well as key challenges and the mechanisms to address them, ensuring the project maintains its delivery momentum and achieves its objectives in line with the approved programme.

Expertise and Strategic Partnerships

RTA's delegation held an intensive series of meetings and field visits with leading Chinese government entities, institutions and companies specialising in transport, infrastructure, urban planning, artificial intelligence, rail and smart mobility.

The programme aimed to strengthen cooperation, exchange expertise, explore future partnership opportunities, and increase the participation of major Chinese companies in delivering the strategic projects RTA intends to implement in the next phase. It also enabled the delegation to review China's advanced experience in operating and managing public transport and rail projects, as well as applications of artificial intelligence.

The delegation reviewed Shanghai's integrated transport management and operations system in a city of more than 24 million residents. This included a visit to the Command and Control Centre of the Shanghai Municipal Transportation Commission (SMTC), where the delegation was briefed on coordination mechanisms across various modes of transport, including roads, metro, buses, taxis, airports, freight and traffic management, as well as best practices in operating and managing mobility systems in major cities.



The delegation visited the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Planning and Natural Resources, where it was briefed on China's advanced experience in transport planning for major cities, including the application of the 15-minute city concept, which aims to enhance quality of life and reduce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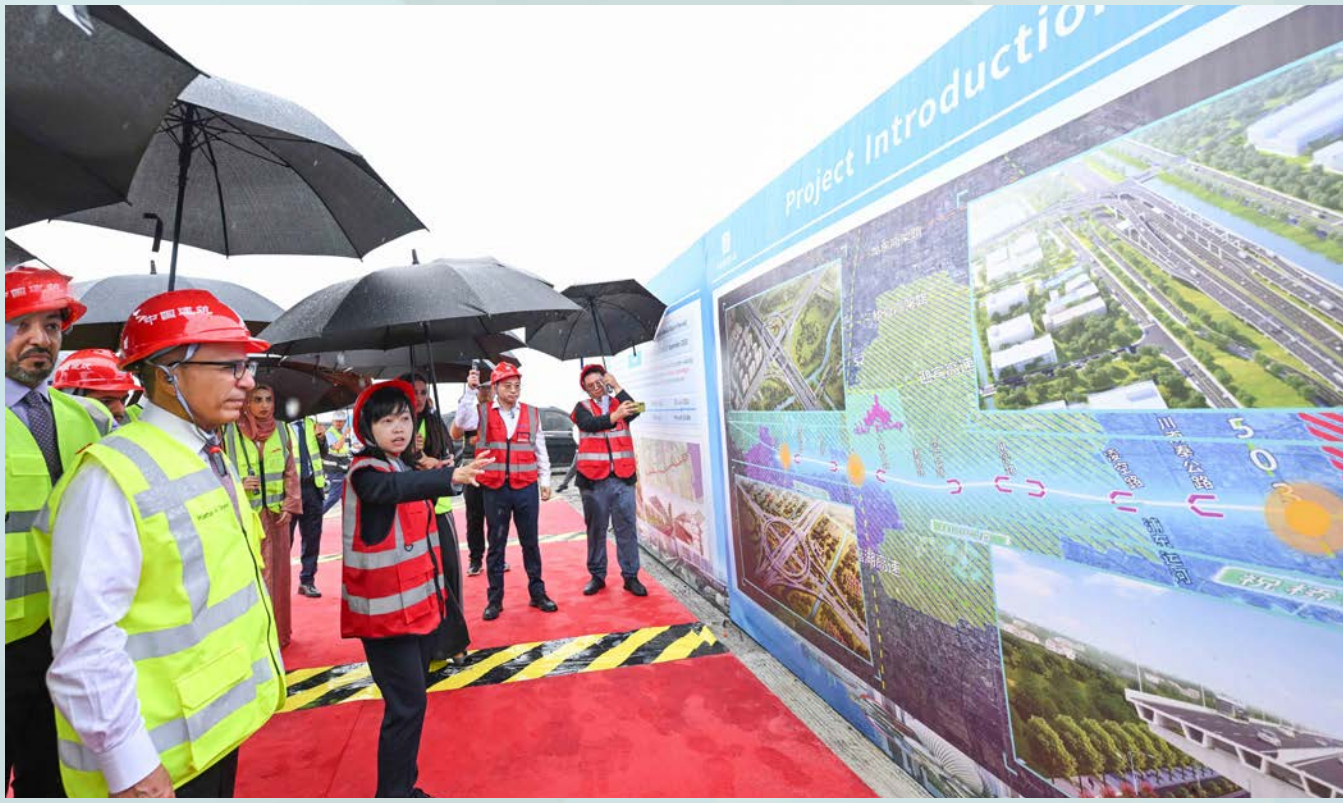
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reliance on vehicles. The visit also provided insights into the integrated transport experience, which contributes to improving the sustainability of mobility in cities.

The visit also included the Shanghai Maglev Ride Experience, one of the world's fastest commercial train services. The delegation was briefed on the advanced technologies used in its operation and management, as well as its performance efficiency, supporting RTA's efforts to anticipate the future of public transport and rail systems.

The delegation visited several major road, bridge and tunnel projects to review the latest design and construction methodologies and the technologies deployed in infrastructure development. The visits aimed to draw on global expertise in delivering tunnel and bridge projects in support of RTA's current and future work in this field.

The delegation was also briefed on the Hongqiao Integrated Transport Hub, one of the world's leading models for linking different modes of transport. The visit provided insights into

best practices in multimodal hub design and the development of surrounding urban areas, contributing to enhanced mobility efficiency and quality of life.

The programme also included visits to several leading companies and institutions specialising in rail and metro systems, autonomous driving and artificial intelligence. The delegation reviewed the latest solutions and applications in metro network operation and maintenance, smart control systems, predictive maintenance, autonomous vehicles and smart logistics, supporting RTA's plans to deploy future technologies in developing Dubai's transport and mobility ecosystem.

Visits

Day1

Shanghai Municipal Transportation Commission (SMTC)

To review Shanghai's unified transport control room and the latest technologies used.

Maglev Train

To review the latest maglev transport technologies through a train linking the city with the airport at speeds ranging between 300 and 431 km/h.

Zhou-Deng Bridge

To review modern methodologies and approaches used in delivering road projects, particularly bridges, which contribute to faster project completion.

Hongqiao Integrated Transport Hub

To review the integration system between the airport and multimodal transport networks, including metro, buses and other modes.

Day 2

Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Planning and Natural Resources

To review Shanghai's urban planning exhibition, which presents the city's development through interactive models and displays highlighting stages of urban growth, infrastructure planning and the city's future vision.

CASCO Laboratory and MoU Signing

To sign an agreement with CASCO to establish an innovation and testing laboratory that supports the readiness of the Blue Line Project systems before operation.

Blue Line Forum

To present updates on the Dubai Metro Blue Line Project by RTA and the project consortium.

Meeting with Westwell

To discuss autonomous logistics transport technologies and their operational applications.

Meeting with WeRide

To follow up on updates related to the qualification and testing of the company's autonomous vehicles, including the Level 3 vehicle, various buses and expansion plans.

Day 3

Shanghai Expo Greenhouse Garden

To review Shanghai's experience in deploying innovative environmental solutions and integrating sustainability and nature into urban development.

Underground Parking

To review modern excavation technologies and smart underground vertical parking solutions, as well as their effectiveness in improving space utilisation.

Shentong Wuzhong Road Metro Station

To learn about the operation mechanisms of the control and operations centre and its role in managing the extensive metro network and improving daily operational efficiency.

Baidu Apollo Park

To follow up on Apollo's plans to expand Robotaxi services in Dubai and discuss the requirements for qualifying vehicles for operational testing.

Day4

Meeting with Huawei and MoU Signing

To strengthen the strategic partnership between RTA and Huawei through the signing of an MoU to enhance cooperation opportunities in artificial intelligence, digital transformation and smart solutions, supporting the development of a more efficient and sustainable mobility ecosystem in Dubai.

AED 5.3 billion in Revenue Generated Through RTA's Digital Channels in 2025, Marking Growth of Over 20%

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) generated AED 5.3 billion in revenue through digital channels in 2025, marking a 20.6% increase compared to 2024. The performance underscores the accelerated adoption of digital services and enhanced efficiency across RTA's ecosystem.

Transactions completed through digital channels exceeded 628 million, a 13% rise. RTA offers customers 105 digital services through six channels, reflecting a growing shift towards digital channels as the preferred way to access and complete services. Digital channel adoption reached 96%, while the average customer happiness index stood at 98%.

Smart and Innovative Solutions

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

Smart Kiosks

- **Across alternative service channels, smart kiosks offering 24 services covering drivers, vehicles and nol witnessed growing uptake. Transactions increased by 17.3% compared with 2024, surpassing 1 million, while revenue exceeded AED 425 million, a rise by more than 11% year on year. As part of kiosk expansion plans, RTA launched four new interactive kiosks at Customer Happiness Centres.**

Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), stated that RTA's digital-channel results demonstrate advanced corporate maturity in adopting digital transformation. RTA is moving from service digitisation to designing an integrated digital ecosystem driven by data and artificial intelligence, supporting Dubai's aspirations for global leadership in smart cities. He noted that this transformation reflects the vision of the wise leadership to enhance the quality of life in Dubai, strengthen the emirate's global competitiveness, and lead it to be the world's smartest city.

Al Tayer added, "RTA is moving ahead with expanding digital services and adopting the latest artificial intelligence technologies to deliver outstanding services to customers. RTA is also developing solutions that enhance the customer experience, support the happiness of Dubai's residents and visitors, and reinforce the emirate's position as a leading global model for smart cities."

"The shift to digital channels is a key pillar in advancing the mobility ecosystem and related services. RTA remains committed to delivering proactive, seamless services that meet customers' aspirations and provide an integrated service experience built on innovation and collaboration across government entities, enhancing customers' quality of life."

"The next phase will focus on expanding the use of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies in the design and delivery of services, while strengthening integration with government digital platforms. This will help build an advanced digital ecosystem that supports sustainable growth and keeps pace with rapid global developments in mobility sector, Al Tayer concluded.

Performance Indicators

This advanced performance marks the culmination of RTA's digital transformation journey. RTA achieved 94% on the Digital Maturity Index, reaching Level 5, the highest level across the Government of Dubai in 2025, and ranked among the top four government entities.

RTA also scored 83% in the Digital Customer Experience pillar, a 12% increase on 2024, and achieved 100% in the

RTA Achieves Strong Performance Across its Digital Channels in 2025

Revenue 5.3 AED billion

An Increase of 20.6% compared to 2024

Completed transactions:

628 million

Growth of 13%

105 digital services across 6 channels

4 smart applications

32 interactive services

96%

Digital Channels Service Adoption Rate:

94%

Digital Maturity Index

(Level 5, the highest level across the Government of Dubai in 2025)

98%

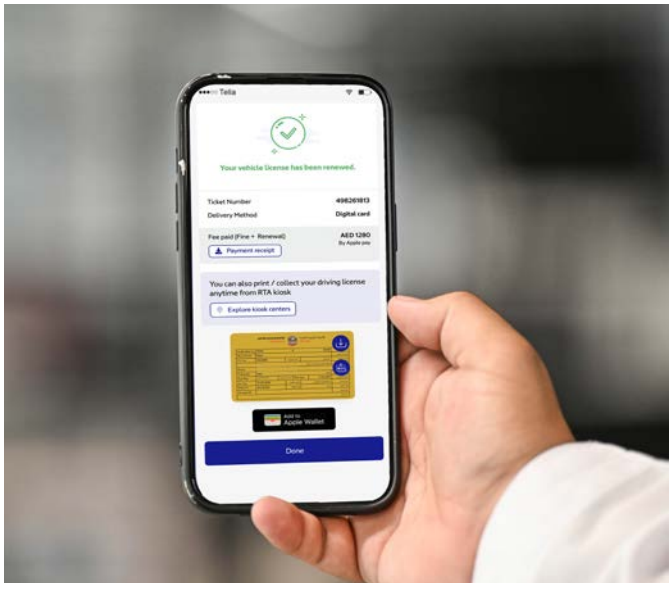
Average Happiness Index Across Digital Channels

The results reflect RTA's strategy to build an integrated digital ecosystem powered by data and artificial intelligence.

accessibility assessment for People of Determination, reflecting RTA's commitment to providing inclusive, sustainable digital services aligned with the highest international standards.

Smart Apps

As part of efforts to enhance services through smart apps, RTA recorded customer usage of services via smart apps at more than 25%, a 40% increase year on year. RTA also launched 18 new services through the RTA Dubai app, designed in response to customer



needs and government directions.

Smart apps continued to gain traction, with active users of the RTA Dubai app exceeding 1.2 million in 2025. Meanwhile, S'hail app also introduced a range of services linked to the automated fare collection system, including nol card services, alongside new features and enhancements that improved the

Enhancing Integration

- **RTA continued to implement objectives of the Services 360 Policy by launching and enhancing 48 of 74 digital services across digital channels, strengthening service integration and simplifying the customer journey.**
- **As part of Dubai Government's digital integration, RTA expanded services across shared digital channels. RTA added 14 services to S'hail app under the "Mobility in Dubai" channel, enhanced 23 services on "Dubai Now", and upgraded 21 services on "Invest in Dubai". RTA also made 10 services available through "Visit Dubai" and integrated RTA services into the "Build in Dubai" platform. These efforts support the drive towards a connected one-government model and enhance the customer experience across shared digital channels.**

integrated mobility experience and reinforced the concept of shared digital channels.

These developments support RTA's drive to provide a unified and seamless mobility experience across Dubai's various transport modes. They also contributed to higher app usage, with annual visits rising to 68 million, increasing by 144% from 2024. Requests for enquiry and journey-planning services also rose to 48 million, representing 48% growth.

RTA continues to develop S'hail app by adding new services and features, further strengthening the app's position as the "Mobility in Dubai" channel and providing customers with a more integrated digital service.

Website

RTA provides 103 services through the website, with 11 million transactions completed and a customer happiness index of 96%. RTA also launched four new digital platforms on the website, including dedicated platforms for the Road Safety Film Festival Competition, Delivery Service Excellence Award, Academic Scholarship Programme, and Dubai Award for Sustainable Transport.

RTA also added three new services: payment of advertising signboard fines, contesting violations, and the temporary passenger transport permit service, "Naqel". RTA also introduced an AI-powered search feature to make services easier to access and improve the user experience.

Virtual Assistant "Mahboub"

RTA has significantly enhanced digital services through the virtual assistant "Mahboub", adding and improving 15 digital services under Phase 3 of the Services 360 Plan. This raised the total number of interactive services to 32, improving the efficiency of the digital ecosystem and elevating the customer journey.

The enhancement also contributed to greater uptake of digital channels, with transactions increasing by 20.6% compared with 2024 and revenue collected rising by 8.1%. This reflects the growing reliance on digital channels as a primary option for completing services, as well as their expanding role in supporting financial sustainability and creating added value for government services.

Global Awards

- **RTA continued to strengthen global presence and excellence, winning two Global Business Tech Awards. The RTA Dubai app won the "Best Application of Tech – Public Sector" award, while S'hail app won the "Best Mobile Tech of the Year" award. The achievement reflects RTA's leadership in delivering advanced digital services, placing it among leading global cities such as Singapore, London, Hong Kong and Sydney.**

WhatsApp

- **The WhatsApp channel offers 16 services, with revenue from parking ticket reservations rising to more than AED 21.7 million. RTA also launched "Madinati" service via Mahboub chatbot on WhatsApp, using computer vision and generative AI technologies to support the shift towards proactive smart services.**

Al Tayer Receives Joby Aviation CEO

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), received Mr JoeBen Bevirt, Founder and CEO of Joby Aviation, in the presence of Mr Anthony El Khoury, Joby UAE General Manager.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed progress on the air taxi certification programme and the timeline for launching commercial air taxi operations by the end of this year. Several officials from the RTA attended the meeting.

.... And Discusses Strengthening Cooperation with Boston Consulting Group

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), received a delegation from Boston Consulting Group.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed global trends in the transport sector along with opportunities to strengthen cooperation in strategic transformation, as well as AI- and data-enabled mobility governance. They also exchanged expertise on global best practices in developing transport and infrastructure systems.

The Boston Consulting Group delegation included Mr Giovanni Moscatelli, Managing Director & Senior Partner, Global Leader of Transport Sector; Mr Suresh Subudhi, Managing Director & Senior Partner, Global Leader Cities & Infrastructure; and Mr Arturs Smilkstins, Managing Director & Partner, Global Leader Urban Mobility.

Several RTA officials attended the meeting.

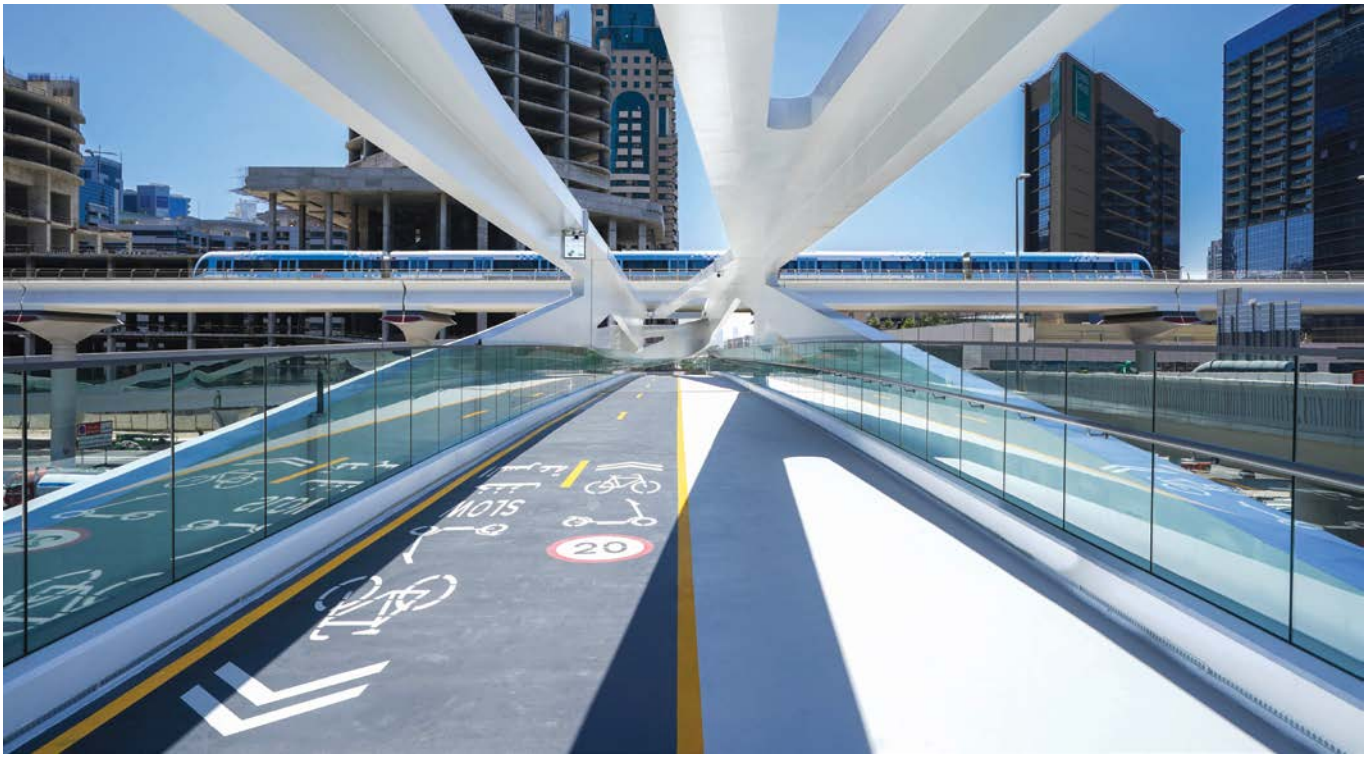
Approving Construction of 31 Pedestrian Bridges Across Key Areas in Dubai by 2030

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has approved the five-year plan 2026–2030, covering the construction of 31 pedestrian bridges and tunnels across key locations in Dubai. Sites were selected following detailed technical and field studies that considered population density, integration with land uses, proximity to tourist and economic destinations, and connectivity with public transport stations. The plan aims to improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian safety, and enable pedestrians and cyclists to crossroads safely.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority, affirmed that the continued expansion of pedestrian bridge infrastructure reflects the directives of the wise leadership to enhance traffic safety, provide a safe and sustainable mobility environment for all road users, and make Dubai a pedestrian and cyclist-friendly city. He added that these efforts also support the emirate's quality-of-life and contribute to the happiness of residents and visitors.

Al Tayer noted that the number of pedestrian bridges and tunnels has grown from 26 in 2006 to 178 by the end of 2025, an increase of 585%. The 31 pedestrian bridges and tunnels planned for completion by 2030 will span several key locations, most notably Sheikh Zayed Road, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Street, Al Ittihad Road and Omar bin Al Khattab Street.

His Excellency said: "Existing and planned pedestrian bridges form an integrated pathway network linking residential communities across Dubai with key destinations and encouraging residents to use sustainable soft mobility modes for first and last-mile journeys. Pedestrian bridges and tunnels have played a significant role in enhancing traffic safety, with the pedestrian fatality rate falling from 9.5 deaths per 100,000 population in 2007 to 0.22 deaths in 2025, a decline of 98%."



"They have also contributed to measurable gains across key indicators, with residents' satisfaction with Dubai's pedestrian infrastructure reaching 88%, pedestrian trips increasing from 307 million in 2023 to 326 million in 2025, a rise of 6%, and cycling trips increasing from 46.6 million in 2024 to 57.3 million in 2025, a rise of 23%."

Completed Bridges

RTA has recently completed three pedestrian and cycling bridges. Two were constructed on Sheikh Zayed Road and Al Khail Road, providing strategic links for pedestrian, cycling and e-scooter tracks across Al Sufouh and Dubai Hills, extending through Dubai Internet City, Barsha Heights and Al Barsha 3.

Both bridges feature distinctive architectural designs inspired by surrounding environments. Sheikh Zayed Road bridge draws on themes of interconnection and continuity through interwoven lines, while its open structural form offers unobstructed view of the surrounding towers and skyline. Al Khail Road bridge draws inspiration from the light-lines cast by the sun's rays, giving the pathway a smooth, flowing character and offering pedestrians and cyclists a sense of calm, away from road noise, with the sun's path integrated into the overall architectural concept. Sheikh Zayed Road bridge spans 528 metres, while Al Khail Road bridge extends 501 metres. Both bridges are 5 metres wide, comprising a 3-metre track for bicycles and e-scooters and a 2-metre pedestrian walkway.

The third completed bridge is located on Al Manara Street in Al Quoz Creative Zone, supporting the smooth movement of pedestrians and cyclists within the area and to surrounding attractions. Its design incorporates aesthetic elements that align with the visual identity of the zone's facilities and surroundings. The bridge is 45 metres long and 5.5 metres wide, with a clearance of 6 metres above asphalt level. It also includes two ramps, one on either side, each extending 210 metres.

Bridges Under Construction

RTA is currently constructing three additional pedestrian bridges, two of which rank among Dubai's largest pedestrian and cycling bridges and are now in their final stages of construction.

The first is located on Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road at Tunis Street–Al Nahda intersection, linking Muhaisnah 1 with Al Twar and extending onwards to Al Mamzar Beach. The bridge

RTA Approves Construction of 31 Pedestrian Bridges by 2030

To be delivered across several key locations in the emirate, most notably:

- Sheikh Zayed Road
- King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Street
- Al Ittihad Road
- Omar bin Al Khattab Street

Objectives:

Enhance road safety

Provide a safe and sustainable mobility environment

Support first- and last-mile journeys

Number of Pedestrian Bridges and Tunnels in Dubai

26 _ 2006

178 _ 2025

Increase of: **585%**

Total Pedestrian Trips in Dubai **326** million trips

Reduction in Pedestrian Fatalities **2007 _ 2025**

Residents' Satisfaction with Dubai's Pedestrian Infrastructure

is 554 metres long and 5.6 metres wide, with a clearance of 12.5 metres above Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road.

The second crosses Dubai–Al Ain Road, linking Wadi Al Safa 4, known as Liwan, with Nad Hessa in Dubai Silicon Oasis. The bridge is 730 metres long and 5.6 metres wide, with a clearance of 7.8 metres above Dubai–Al Ain Road.

The third is being constructed as part of Al Mustaqbal Street Development Project. Located on Al Sukook Street, the bridge features a design that complements the urban fabric of Dubai's Central Business District. It is 44 metres long, 4.6 metres wide and 6.5 metres high, and includes lifts, staircases and an electromechanical systems room. Completion is expected in the first quarter of 2027.

Pedestrian Safety

RTA places the highest priority on pedestrian safety as a key pillar of Dubai's safe and sustainable transport system. The construction of pedestrian and cycling bridges forms part of the Dubai Traffic Safety Strategy, which aims to achieve Zero Fatalities and position Dubai among the world's leading cities in traffic safety.

RTA is expanding its pedestrian bridge network in line with the highest international standards in design and construction, while incorporating creative and aesthetic elements. The bridges are equipped with advanced systems, including electromechanical, alarm, fire-fighting and remote monitoring systems, along with other safety and security features. Select bridges also include dedicated cycling tracks and bicycle parking facilities.

Completing 90% of Bridge Development Project Leading to Dubai Harbour Entry and Exit Points in Collaboration with Shamal Holding

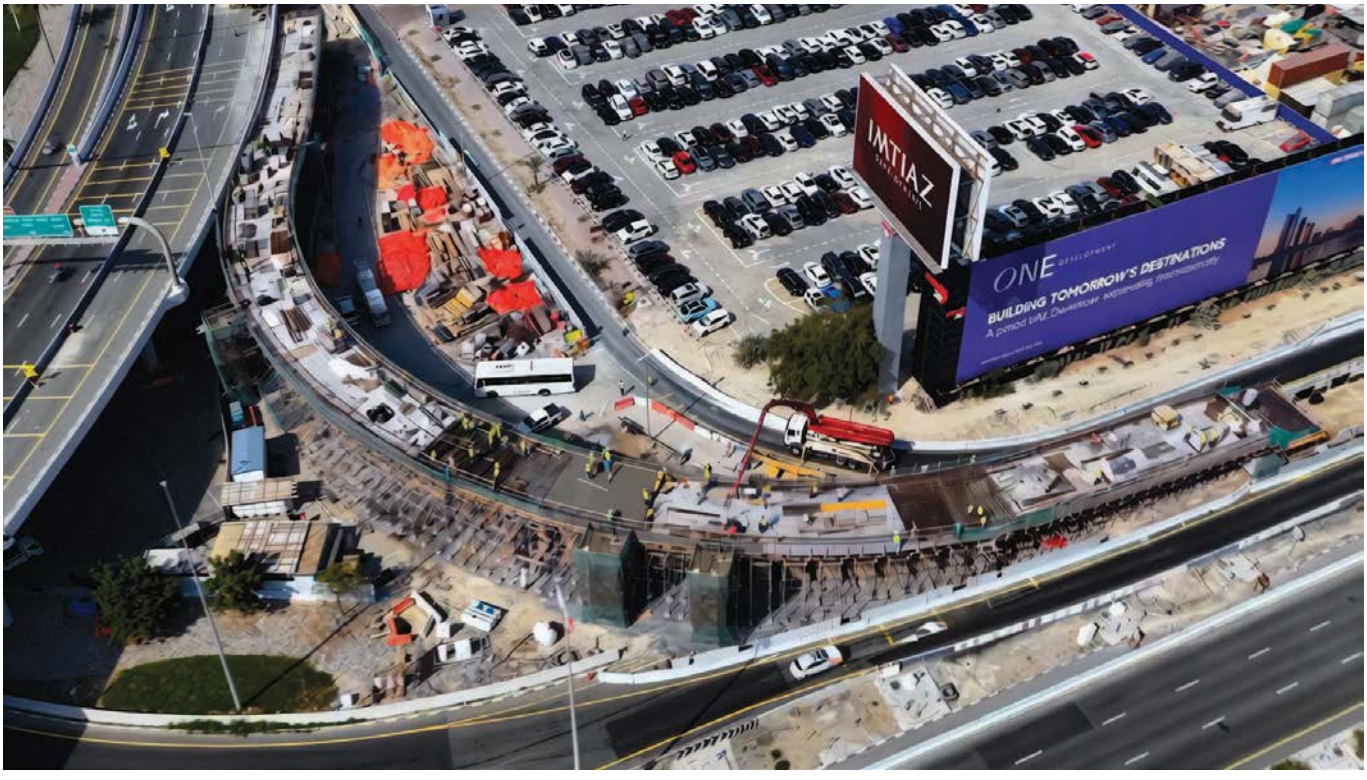
Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed 90% of a project to construct a 1,500-metre bridge with two lanes in each direction, providing direct entry and exit between Sheikh Zayed Road and Dubai Harbour, one of the emirate's leading modern waterfront and tourism destinations and home to the largest yacht marina in the Middle East.

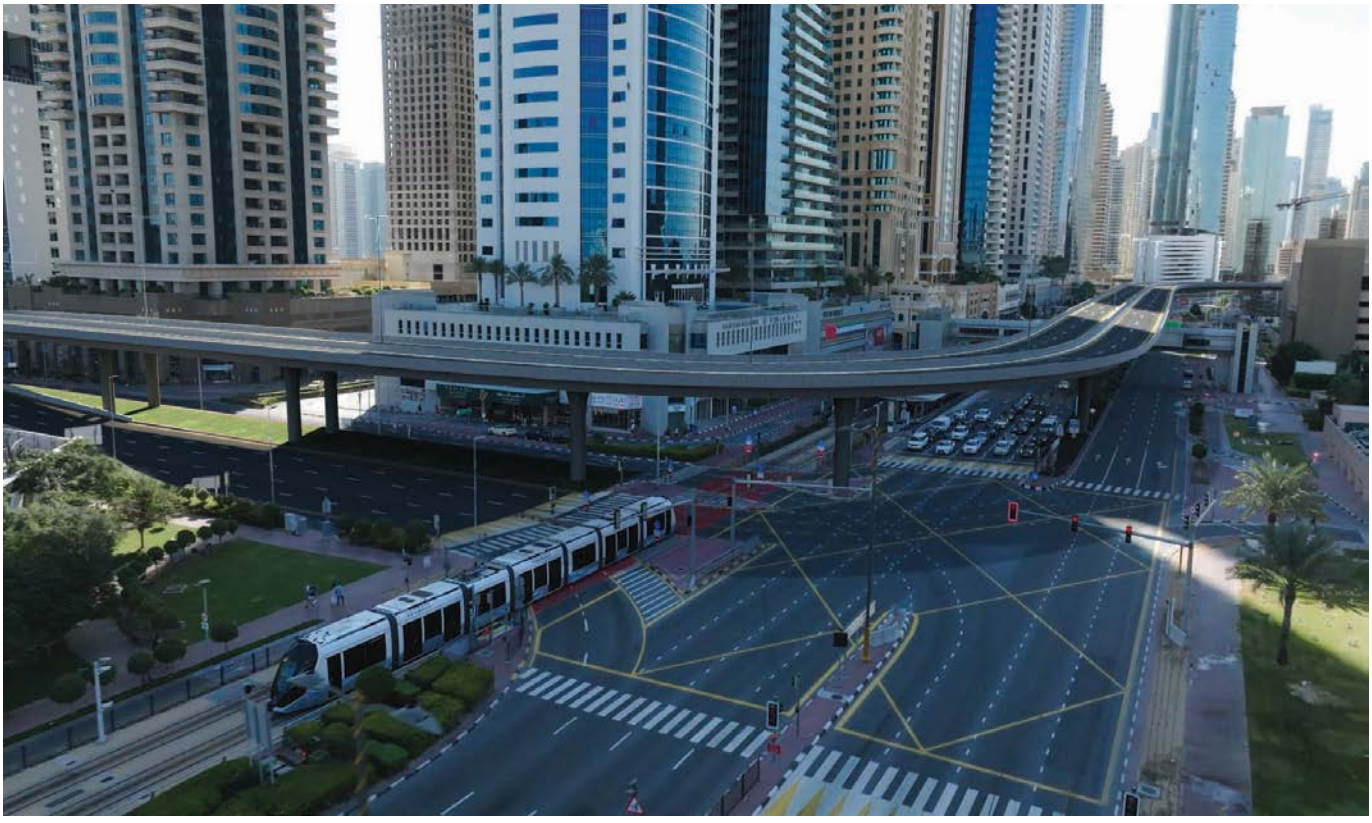
The project forms part of RTA's ongoing efforts to develop advanced infrastructure that enhances road network efficiency and keeps pace with Dubai's rapid urban and tourism growth, supporting smoother traffic flow and improving connectivity with major development projects and key attractions.

The contractor has made significant progress, completing a substantial portion of the foundations, columns and concrete barriers. The project currently has 1,400 engineers and workers across 12 teams, with more than 4.2 million work hours recorded since commencement, while upholding the highest occupational safety measures. More than 45,000 m3 (cubic metres) of concrete and 8,273 tonnes of steel have been used in the project.

According to the project timeline, the bridge will open to traffic this June for motorists travelling from Sheikh Zayed Road, from both Deira and Jebel Ali, towards Dubai Harbour. In July, traffic will open from Dubai Harbour towards Al Naseem Street, as well as from the new bridge towards the intersection of King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Street and Al Naseem Street.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman





of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA, said: "The project translates the directives of the wise leadership to develop integrated infrastructure that supports Dubai's rapid urban and economic growth. It also forms part of RTA's ongoing efforts to develop an integrated and connected road network, while enhancing infrastructure readiness to support future growth across key areas."

"The project represents a model of public-private partnership and integration between road infrastructure projects and urban development through cooperation and coordination with Shamal Holding. It will help provide sustainable traffic solutions that support seamless access to Dubai Harbour, one of the emirate's leading waterfront and tourism destinations, while enhancing mobility efficiency and quality of life for residents and visitors, in line with Dubai's vision to consolidate its position as the best city in the world to live and work."

Reduced Journey Time

His Excellency added: "Work on the project is progressing at an accelerated pace, with completion reaching 90%. The project includes the construction of a 1,500-metre

Completion 90%

of Bridge Development **Project Leading** to **Dubai Harbour** Entry and Exit Points

Direct access between **Sheikh Zayed Road** and **Dubai Harbour**

Implemented in collaboration with **Shamal Holding**

Opening to Traffic: June **2026**

Project Completion: July **2026**

Bridge Length: **1500** metres

Capacity: 2 lanes in each direction

Traffic Capacity: **6000** vehicles per hour in both directions

Travel Time Reduction: From **12** minutes to **3** minutes

bridge with two lanes in each direction, starting from Interchange 5 on Sheikh Zayed Road near American University in Dubai, passing through the intersection of Al Naseem Street and Al Falak Street, crossing over the intersection of King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Street, and extending to Dubai Harbour Street."

"The bridge will have a total capacity of up to 6,000 vehicles per hour in both directions. The project also includes at-grade improvement works at four key intersections along the bridge corridor, enhancing traffic flow and improving connectivity to the area. Upon opening, the project will reduce journey time from 12 minutes to 3 minutes and improve traffic flow to and from Dubai Harbour and surrounding areas."

Abdulla Binhabtoor, Chief Executive Officer of Shamal Holding, said: "This bridge is an important milestone in the evolution of Dubai Harbour and a testament to what can be achieved through strong collaboration with the Roads and Transport Authority. Enhanced connectivity is fundamental to creating great destinations, and this development will play a significant role in supporting Dubai Harbour›s continued growth as one of the region›s leading seafront districts. At Shamal, we invest with a long-term perspective, focusing on opportunities that create lasting value and contribute to the future of the city. The completion of this bridge reflects that commitment, strengthening the destination today while helping to shape its next chapter for years to come.»

About Dubai Harbour

Dubai Harbour occupies a distinctive location between Bluewaters Island and Palm Jumeirah, alongside Dubai's most iconic landmarks including Burj Al Arab. It hosts a wide range of residential, retail, and entertainment options. A development project currently underway spans 1.5 kilometres and includes a residential complex comprising 24 towers and approximately 7,500 residential apartments.

Project Facts and Figures

- **Concrete volume: 45,104 m3 (cubic metres)**
- **Steel quantity: 8,273 tonnes**
- **Number of piles: 254**
- **Number of bridge columns: 66**
- **Number of bridge ramps: 5**
- **Workforce: 1,400 engineers and workers**
- **Number of work teams: 12**
- **Lost-time injuries: Zero**
- **Total man-hours: 4.2 million**

Completing 30% of the 14.5 km Dedicated Bus and Taxi Lanes Project

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed 30% of the 14.5 km dedicated Bus and Taxi Lanes Project, which is being implemented across 6 key streets: Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Street, 2nd December Street, Al Satwa Street, Al Nahda Street, Omar Bin Al Khattab Street, and Naif Street. Upon completion, the total length of dedicated bus lanes in Dubai will increase to 20.6 km.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, stated that dedicated bus and taxi lanes are a key enabler of Dubai's sustainable mobility targets. They support efforts to make public transport the preferred and more attractive choice for daily mobility by providing fast, regular, and reliable services.

Al Tayer added: "The project ranks among the world's leading practices and successful transport policies for encouraging residents to use public transport instead of private vehicles. It targets shorter journey times, improved adherence to bus schedules, better taxi arrival times, and lower direct and indirect operational costs, while also supporting greater public transport uptake across the community, smoother integration across transport modes, and reduced polluting emissions. Collectively, these

outcomes advance the strategic goal of integrated Dubai, enhance quality of life, bring happiness to public transport users, and reinforce Dubai's standing as a world-leading city in seamless mobility and urban sustainability."

He added: "The expansion of dedicated bus lanes will reduce bus journey times on routes using these lanes during peak hours by 24% to 59%, while improving expected bus arrival times by 28% to 56%. Bus journey times are expected to fall by 59% on Naif Street, 54% on Al Satwa Street, 50% on Omar bin Al Khattab Street, and 38% on Al Nahda Street. Bus arrival times are also expected to improve by 56% on 2nd December Street, 52% on Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Street, 48% on Al Satwa Street, and 42% on Omar bin Al Khattab Street."

Beyond speed and reliability, Al Tayer noted that the expanded lanes are expected to encourage residents and visitors to use public buses, with ridership projected to increase by up to 30% on some streets. The expansion will also reduce the number of buses required to serve these routes due to the journey time savings achieved.

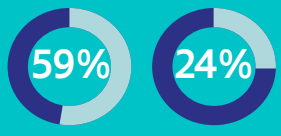
He explained that the current expansion builds on the major success achieved across the previous three phases of dedicated bus lanes. These phases helped reduce journey times on some bus routes by around 5 minutes per bus, marking a 24% improvement in journey time, while also increasing satisfaction levels among passengers, bus drivers, and taxi drivers.

It is worth noting that RTA previously implemented 6.1 km of dedicated bus lanes. These included a separate lane for buses and taxis on Khalid bin Al Waleed Street, extending 4.3 km in both directions from the intersection of Khalid bin Al Waleed Street with Al Mina Street to just before its intersection with Zaa'beel Street. The works also covered sections of Naif Street extending 500 metres, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Street from Al Satwa Roundabout to Sheikh Rashid Street extending 900 metres, and Al Ghubaiba Street from its intersection with Al Mina Street to Street 12 extending 400 metres.

Total length of the dedicated lanes upon completion:

20.6 km

Reduction in bus journey times:



The project covers 6 Key Roads

2nd December Street	1	2	Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Street
Al Satwa Street	3	4	Al Nahda Street
Naif Street	5	6	Omar Bin Al Khattab Street

Al Faghi Street in Al Khawaneej named as Sheikh Zayed Farm Street

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), in collaboration with the Dubai Road Naming Committee, has announced the renaming of Al Faghi Street in Al Khawaneej to Sheikh Zayed Farm Street. The move recognises the national and historical significance of Sheikh Zayed Farm in Al Khawaneej, which His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, declared as the UAE's third union site, alongside Union House and Arqoob Al Sedira. The designation honours the site's national symbolism and the important historical meetings it hosted during the founding stages of the United Arab Emirates.

Sheikh Zayed Farm is closely associated with a pivotal chapter in the Union's history. In March 1971, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan stayed at the farm for nearly two consecutive weeks during which he held a series of meetings and discussions with the Rulers of emirates. These meetings marked a key milestone on the path to establishing the Union and paved the way for the signing of the Union Agreement and Constitution in July of the same year.

The adoption of the new name aligns with Dubai's drive to commemorate national sites of historical and cultural value, and to link urban features, including roads with landmarks that embody the nation's memory and development journey. It also strengthens national identity and embeds the UAE's historical legacy in the hearts and minds of future generations.

Completing Advanced Maintenance and Comprehensive Rehabilitation Works on Dubai Metro Tunnels

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed advanced maintenance and comprehensive rehabilitation works on Dubai Metro's tunnel infrastructure. The works form part of RTA's ongoing efforts to enhance operational safety, ensure service continuity with high efficiency and reliability, and preserve vital assets in line with the highest international standards and recognised best practices in the rail sector.

The maintenance works align with RTA's vision for sustainable operational excellence, delivered through an integrated preventive and corrective maintenance framework built on advanced technologies and innovative engineering solutions. The framework enhances the efficiency of Dubai Metro's tunnel infrastructure, extends its operational life, and maintains the highest levels of readiness and safety.

The advanced tunnel maintenance and management programmes cover periodic inspections, specialised

Sheikh Zayed Farm stands today as one of the UAE's most prominent national landmarks owing to its historical and national symbolism and close association with the Union journey. It also carries deep social and cultural significance, reflecting values of authenticity, unity and vision established by the Founding Fathers in building a nation that has become a global model for development, quality of life and stability.

cleaning, resolution of technical observations, rectification of operational defects, replacement and upgrade works for assets that have reached the end of their service life, and continuous improvement projects aimed at sustaining optimal system performance over the long term.

Over the past year, RTA carried out 51 specialised tunnel inspections under precise operational plans. These inspections led to the identification and resolution of 873 corrective maintenance tasks to high efficiency standards. Key performance indicators recorded outstanding results, with RTA achieving 100% of its preventive maintenance targets and 100% of its corrective maintenance targets. This reflects RTA's corporate commitment to safety, asset sustainability and operational service quality.

Asset Preservation and Enhanced Sustainability

RTA continues to carry out periodic and comprehensive tunnel cleaning works to maintain a safe and sustainable operating environment, enhance asset efficiency and extend asset operational life. These works involve advanced cleaning methods that combine manual cleaning with high-pressure washing technologies, ensuring the effective removal of dust, debris and surface build-up that may affect operational safety or system efficiency.

All maintenance, rehabilitation and inspection works are carried out in accordance with recognised international standards and global best practices in the rail sector. These works also focus on developing technical capabilities and strengthening continuous training and qualification programmes for specialised teams, ensuring alignment with the latest technologies and international standards while supporting the readiness and capability of teams to uphold the leadership of Dubai's mass transit system.

Deploying AI to Enhance Real-Time Bus Operations and Efficiency

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has deployed an advanced suite of AI-powered smart dashboards at the Bus Operations Control Centre, marking a significant milestone in the real-time management of bus services through advanced data analytics and artificial intelligence.

This initiative marks a significant step forward in reinforcing Dubai's standing at the forefront of global cities in AI-powered public transport operations.

The system was developed by RTA's Public Transport Agency in collaboration with the Artificial Intelligence Centre at Corporate Technology Support Services. It operates on RTA's Dataiku platform, enabling a proactive, data-driven operational approach across Dubai's bus network.

The dashboards integrate a suite of operational applications, including early-departure performance analysis, AI-powered trip cancellation prediction, rapid-response systems for metro service disruptions, and optimisation of short-turning operations. These solutions are now fully embedded in the Control Centre's daily workflows.

The initiative has delivered tangible results, most notably a reduction of more than 68% in early departures, sustained performance in line with global benchmarks, accelerated response through the immediate deployment of buses during metro service disruptions, and enhanced customer service through automated alert systems.

The sustainability dashboards have further supported environmental goals by reducing engine idling and

Earning BSI Recognition for Configuration and Engineering Change Management

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has received recognition from the British Standards Institution (BSI) for implementing BS EN 9223, the standard related to Configuration and Engineering Change Management. The recognition reflects RTA's continued commitment to operational excellence, safety, and the highest quality standards in managing the critical assets of Dubai's transport ecosystem.

BSI's recognition acknowledges RTA's adoption of global best practices in controlling and documenting engineering system components and managing related changes in a systematic and disciplined manner. This approach ensures safety, conformity and traceability throughout the asset lifecycle, particularly in complex systems such as Dubai Metro and Dubai Tram.

This recognition is the result of RTA's sustained efforts in collaboration with its operational partners. It also reflects RTA's strategic commitment to adopting innovation and sustainable development, in line with its vision to be The World Leader in Seamless and Sustainable Mobility.

The milestone places RTA among the region's leading organisations, as one of the first government entities in the Middle East to achieve this recognition. It also reflects the maturity of RTA's internal systems and its ability to keep

improving bus parking management, resulting in a reduction of more than 13,000 tonnes of CO^2 emissions.

The Bus Operations Control Centre serves as the backbone of Dubai's bus network. These smart dashboards represent a decisive shift towards an AI-powered, proactive operating model that strengthens service reliability and elevates the customer experience.

Through the Artificial Intelligence Centre and Dataiku platform, RTA is embedding Enterprise AI into daily operations, demonstrating RTA's capacity to develop scalable smart solutions in support of Dubai's vision as a world-leading smart city.

pace with the latest international standards in Configuration and Engineering Change Management.

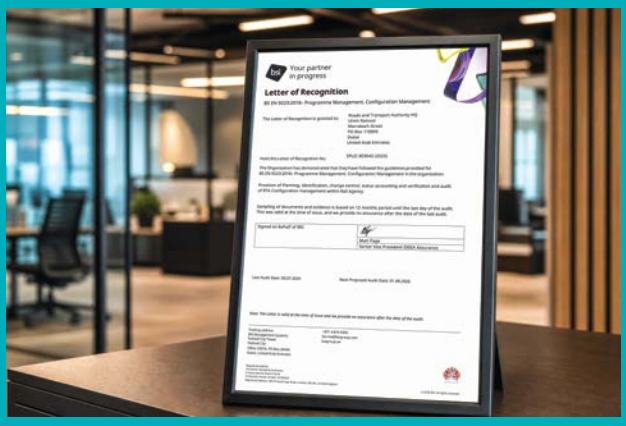
Integrated System for Engineering Change Control

BS EN 9223 is also based on an advanced governance framework that defines clear mechanisms for managing components of engineering systems. This includes the precise identification of assets, documents and software; the adoption of formal change-control procedures; the documentation and tracking of the status of each item or modification; and periodic audits and reviews to ensure compliance and quality.

The Configuration Management system ensures that no engineering change, however minor, is implemented without first submitting a change request, reviewing and approving it, carrying out the modification, and updating the relevant drawings and data. This ensures that no discrepancy arises between the actual technical configuration and the approved documentation.

Enhancing Safety and Efficiency in Complex Systems

Applying this standard enhances safety and reliability across critical systems, particularly rail, mass transit and other complex systems that require high levels of control and documentation. Managing changes in a structured and traceable manner ensures efficient operational continuity, reduces operational risks, and extends asset lifecycles.



Readying Air-Conditioned Rest Areas for Delivery Bike Riders Ahead of Summer

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has confirmed the full operational readiness of air-conditioned rest areas for delivery riders ahead of the summer season. The project forms part of RTA's efforts to enhance traffic safety, reduce accident risks, improve riders' quality of life, and encourage compliance with traffic laws and regulations.

Allocating 23 Temporary Rest Areas at Bus and Metro Stations for Delivery Riders

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has allocated 23 locations at bus and metro stations across key areas of the emirate as temporary rest areas for delivery motorcycle riders. This allocation marked 53% increase of rest areas compared to the year 2025.

The allocation is in line with the midday heat-stress protection initiative for workers, observed during the summer period from 15th June to 15th September, under which work under direct sunlight and in open-air areas is prohibited from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm, in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation.

The rest areas were provided in coordination with the relevant entities and RTA's partners. This year's expansion adds 8 new locations, bringing the total to 23, up from 15 last year, to keep pace with the continued growth of the delivery sector in the emirate. The expansion aims to enhance traffic safety, reduce the risk of road accidents, improve riders' comfort and quality of life while waiting for new orders, raise their happiness levels, and encourage compliance with traffic laws and regulations.

These measures reaffirm RTA's role as a key contributor to national initiatives aimed at protecting the safety of delivery motorcycle riders. They also align with quality-of-life objectives and support Dubai's position as the world's best city to live and work.

Maintenance and preparatory works have been completed across all air-conditioned rest areas designated for delivery riders, totalling approximately 40 facilities across key areas in Dubai, including Hessa Street, Al Khawaneej, Al Barsha, Al Satwa, Oud Maitha, Al Karama, and Arjan. Site selection was informed by operational data and a comprehensive study of the highest-demand delivery zones, conducted in coordination with delivery companies. The initiative reflects RTA's commitment to providing a purpose-built environment that enables delivery riders to perform their work effectively and safely, particularly in light of the sector's significant growth in recent years, driven by rising public demand for delivery services.

Ahmed Mahboob, CEO of the Licensing Agency at RTA, stated: "Traffic safety remains RTA's highest priority, in line with our ambition to make Dubai a world leader in this field. We have developed an integrated governance framework for the delivery sector that ensures effective oversight across Dubai and contributes to continuously raising service standards."

Mahboob added that the exterior design of each rest area has been carefully considered to minimise the effects of direct sunlight within the facility and provide adequate thermal insulation without compromising visibility. Each rest area features an air-conditioned space equipped with water dispensers and mobile phone charging stations. Depending on location, each facility accommodates approximately 10 riders at a time and includes dedicated parking spaces for delivery motorcycles, alongside additional amenities tailored to riders' daily needs.

The rest areas selected this year include key locations across Dubai, such as Gold Souq Bus Station, Al Satwa Bus Station, Al Jafiliya Bus Station, Al Qusais Bus Station, Al Karama Bus Station, Centrepoint Metro Station, Al Furjan Metro Station, DMCC Metro Station, BurJuman Metro Station, Ibn Battuta Metro Station, and e& Metro Station. The selected sites are equipped with facilities that can serve the largest possible number of delivery riders throughout the initiative period.

The temporary rest areas at bus stations were also supplied with ready-made hot meals by the UAE Food Bank, in cooperation with Deliveroo, in appreciation of riders' daily efforts in serving the community and their vital role in supporting the emirate's economy and keeping pace with the remarkable growth in the delivery sector.

The number of delivery companies operating in Dubai grew by around 18% compared with last year, reaching 2,948 companies.

Expanding Driver Training Zones and Opening Doors to Investors

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has approved an expansion of the areas eligible for licensing new institutes and branches to provide driver training services across the emirate. The move aims to enhance service reach and extend access to more of Dubai's new residential communities.

This expansion forms part of RTA's strategy to keep pace with the emirate's rapid urban and population growth and ensure residents have convenient access to driver training services. It also creates new investment opportunities for existing institutes and prospective investors seeking to enter this vital sector.

The newly eligible areas include Wadi Al Safa, Jebel Ali, Mushrif, Al Maktoum City and Madinat Hind. RTA invites accredited institutes and prospective investors to submit applications to open new branches in accordance with the approved regulatory standards and requirements.

Ahmed Mahboob, CEO of the Licensing Agency at RTA, said: "This expansion reflects RTA's commitment to meeting the needs of residents in emerging communities by bringing driver training services closer to them and reducing the need

8.2 million Riders Use Public Transport Modes During Eid Al-Adha Holiday

Dubai›s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) recorded total ridership of 8.2 million across public transport and mobility services during Eid Al-Adha holiday 1447 AH / 2026, from Monday, 25th May, to Friday, 29th May.

Dubai Metro›s Red and Green Lines carried 3.3 million riders during the holiday, while Dubai Tram served 114,300 riders. Public buses transported 1.73 million riders, and marine transport services registered 304,300 riders.

Taxi services, including Dubai Taxi and franchise company vehicles, transported 2.3 million riders. Shared mobility services, including smart app vehicles, hourly rental vehicles and Bus-On-Demand, recorded 402,700 riders.

for long-distance travel. It also supports Dubai's vision of making mobility across the city easier and safer."

Mahboob added: "RTA will provide the necessary support to new investors, adopting a flexible approach to reviewing applications in line with relevant legislation and policies. This will strengthen private-sector participation in developing driver training services, enhancing driver competency and improving traffic awareness across the community."

This expansion marks another step in RTA's ongoing efforts to build an integrated infrastructure for driver training and licensing, advancing Dubai's ambitions to enhance traffic safety and raise the quality of services provided to residents across the emirate.

Number of passengers on public transportation, shared transportation, and taxis during the Eid al-Adha holiday 2026

8.2 million riders The statistics include 5 days from May 25, 2026 until May 29, 2026.

- **Metro: 3.3 million riders**
- **Taxi: 2.3 millon riders**
- **Public Buses: 1.73 millon riders**
- **Using Shared Mobility: 402.7 Thousands riders**
- **Marine Transport: 304.3 Thousands riders**
- **Tram: 114.3 Thousands riders**

Opening Registration for Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport 2027, Driving the Future of Smart Integrated Infrastructure

Under the patronage of 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, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced the opening of registration for the fifth edition of the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport 2027, held under the theme: "Smart Integrated Infrastructure."

The challenge invites global innovators, technology providers, researchers, and academic institutions to submit pioneering solutions that advance autonomous mobility and support the development of intelligent transport ecosystems. Registration is now open through the challenge's dedicated Finalists will be announced in November 2026, while the winners will be revealed during the Dubai World Congress for Self-Driving Transport in September 2027. The challenge offers total prizes of USD $1.2 million, distributed across separate categories for solution providers and top-performing local academic participants.

The challenge offers total prizes of USD $1.2 million

Providing further details, Ahmed Bahrozyan, CEO of Public Transport Agency, Head of the Team of the Dubai

World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport, said: "The Challenge forms a key pillar of RTA's efforts to reinforce Dubai's position as a global leader in autonomous mobility. It supports the Dubai Government's vision of converting 25% of all mobility journeys in the emirate into self-driving trips by 2030 and contributes to RTA's strategic objective of advancing a smart, sustainable, and connected transportation ecosystem."

"Since its launch, the challenge has served as a global platform that brings together industry leaders, technology developers, researchers, and academics to generate innovative ideas and practical solutions that accelerate the adoption of autonomous transport technologies. It also supports Dubai's broader Smart City ambitions by fostering collaboration and innovation in future mobility," added Bahrozyan.

The 2027 edition introduces a forward-looking competitive theme focused on 'Smart Integrated Infrastructure,' encouraging the development of transformative solutions that redefine the future of mobility. The challenge seeks innovations that enhance operational safety, improve transport efficiency, and enable seamless and reliable mobility through advanced Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) integration and intelligent connected transport ecosystems. Participants are encouraged to address one or more of the use cases suggested by RTA and may propose additional use cases, provided they align with the overall theme of the challenge.

The RTA proposed use cases are the following:

- **1.V2X connectivity retrofit via aftermarket devices**
- **2.Predictive traffic analysis**
- **3.Emergency or prioritized vehicle approaching**
- **4.Green Light Optimal Speed Advisory (GLOSA)**
- **5.In-vehicle signage**
- **6.Bidirectional VRU (Vulnerable Road User) safety**
- **7.Automated Valet Parking (AVP)**
- **8.Autonomous digital wallet**
- **9.See through**
- **10.Vehicle platooning**

Participation is open to:

- **Solution providers offering market-ready technologies and solutions.**
- **Local academic institutions and research entities.**
- **Applicants may participate individually or as part of a consortium comprising multiple organizations, integrating various V2X use cases within a unified smart mobility service framework.**

website: https://sdchallenge.awardsplatform.com.

Launching Scholarship Programme to Attract Emirati Talent in Strategic Future Transport Majors

Dubai›s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has opened applications for its Academic Scholarship Programme covering the 2026–2027 academic year. The initiative reflects RTA›s continued commitment to developing human capital and attracting young Emirati talent in specialised majors that support its strategic direction towards building a smart and sustainable transport ecosystem.

The programme aligns with Dubai›s vision to prepare qualified Emirati talent capable of leading digital transformation and meeting future needs. It targets Emirati high-school graduates with outstanding academic achievement, as well as current university students, offering scholarship opportunities across a range of vital majors directly linked to transport and advanced technologies.

Athari Mohamed, Executive Director of Human Resources and Development at the Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA, said: «The Scholarship Programme, launched by RTA in 2009, is a key pillar of RTA›s strategy to build a sustainable pipeline of specialised Emirati talent capable of supporting key transformation projects in the transport sector and strengthening Dubai›s global competitiveness in adopting smart and innovative solutions.» She added: «We take a forward-looking approach to aligning scholarship outcomes with RTA›s priorities, ensuring that the programme serves as a key enabler of our strategic objectives. Our focus is on attracting and developing talent in artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics, cybersecurity,

Launching Specialised AI Programme in Collaboration with the University of Birmingham to Prepare Future-Ready Talent, Engaging 463 Employees

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) launched its specialised Artificial Intelligence (AI) Programme during the fourth quarter of 2025 in collaboration with the University of Birmingham. The programme aims to enhance employees' capabilities and develop their skills in future technologies, supporting RTA's strategic direction towards embedding digital transformation and adopting smart solutions across various areas of institutional operations.

The programme aligns with the Government of Dubai's recent direction towards the adoption of advanced technologies, reflected in the launch of a new government ecosystem aimed at transitioning to self-executing and AI-

digital infrastructure, and autonomous mobility."

«This reflects our commitment to developing a generation of Emirati leaders equipped with academic knowledge and practical experience, enabling them to lead transformation across the sustainable mobility ecosystem with competence and confidence,» Athari stated.

The programme covers specialised majors that form the backbone of smart mobility›s future – at the forefront is autonomous mobility, roads engineering, advanced traffic systems, smart city planning, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). It aims to attract and qualify Emirati talent for future roles linked to the transport sector and infrastructure projects, strengthen RTA›s corporate readiness, and build national capabilities in forecasting and strategic decision-making – reinforcing Dubai›s position as a global driver of innovation in an era of rapid change.

Interested students are invited to visit RTA›s official website to review the programme details and submit their applications within the specified period.

To apply, visit:

https://www.rta.ae/wps/portal/rta/ae/home/careers/apply-for-scholarship

led government operations within the next two years. This initiative is expected to enhance government efficiency and further develop public services through solutions powered by the latest artificial intelligence technologies.

The programme also reflects RTA's leadership and continuous commitment to training and empowering its workforce in artificial intelligence technologies, driven by its firm belief in the importance of these technologies and their effective role in enhancing and developing the services it delivers to customers and the wider community.

The initiative attracted the participation of 463 employees from a broad range of functional and specialised disciplines. It focuses on building specialised knowledge, developing practical skills, and enabling the effective application of modern technologies, thereby supporting digital transformation and institutional innovation.

The programme forms part of RTA's ongoing efforts to support the Government of Dubai's vision for adopting

advanced technologies and to achieve the objectives of the RTA Artificial Intelligence Strategy 2030 while contributing to the goals of the UAE Artificial Intelligence Strategy 2031. Through this initiative, RTA seeks to strengthen the readiness of national talent, enhance institutional performance, foster a culture of innovation, and accelerate the adoption of AI-driven solutions across the transportation and services sectors.

Signing Agreement with JAFZA to Advance Integrated Road Regulation in Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed a cooperation agreement with Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA) to advance regulatory integration in support of implementation of Law No. (4) of 2021 Regulating Roads in the Emirate of Dubai. The agreement aligns with Dubai's vision and strategic objectives to enhance road safety, elevate service standards across the road network, and ensure the delivery of development projects in accordance with the highest standards and regulatory requirements approved by relevant authorities.

The agreement was signed on behalf of RTA by Hussain Al Banna, CEO of Traffic & Roads Agency at RTA, and on behalf of JAFZA by Abdulla Al Hashmi, COO, Parks & Zones, DP World GCC.

Hussain Al Banna said: "RTA remains committed to enhancing infrastructure within the road right-of-way across Dubai, including development areas and free zones, as part of its mandate to preserve the emirate's urban character and aesthetic identity. These agreements strengthen the alignment of plans and strategies governing the roads sector by establishing a unified framework to guide strategic direction and oversee implementation, thereby supporting the continued development of Dubai's road network."

Al Banna added: "This agreement underscores the importance of close collaboration between RTA and its strategic partners, including developers, to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of road infrastructure across the emirate. It also supports the sustained management and operation of road rights-of-way, associated facilities and pavements in line with approved best practices."

Abdulla Al Hashmi, COO of Parks & Zones, DP World GCC, said:

Holding Workshop on Intelligent Monitoring System Using Cameras to Document Compliance Inspections

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) organised a workshop for driving institutes to showcase the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS) and illustrate how it monitors the behaviour of instructors and trainees inside training vehicles. The initiative forms part of RTA's ongoing commitment to advancing the driver training ecosystem while enhancing quality standards and transparency.

Saeed Al Ramsi, Director of Licensing Activities Monitoring at Licensing Agency, RTA, said: "The Intelligent Monitoring System is aimed at safeguarding the rights of both trainees and instructors while ensuring the optimal use of time allocated for training. The initiative aligns with the Dubai Government's direction to utilise camera-based systems to document compliance inspections and leverage artificial intelligence and smart technologies to enhance the efficiency of monitoring operations."

"The system marks a qualitative shift in monitoring

"We are pleased to collaborate with the RTA on this strategic initiative aimed at advancing road infrastructure standards in Dubai. This agreement reflects our continued commitment to supporting the emirate's vision of achieving the highest levels of road safety and operational excellence."

"At DP World, we remain committed to aligning our development plans with approved requirements and standards. This cooperation strengthens integrated efforts to ensure sustainable infrastructure that supports economic growth and provides a safe and seamless environment for the business community and residents."

It is worth noting that RTA has signed numerous agreements with leading developers and free zones across the emirate. These include cooperation with JAFZA; Dubai Maritime City; Union Properties; Dubai Sports City; Wasl Properties; Emaar Properties; DAMAC Properties; Majid Al Futtaim Properties; Nshama; Al Futtaim Real Estate; Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC); Dubai Healthcare City Authority; Dubai Investments Park; and the Dubai Integrated Economic Zones Authority (DIEZ).

training sessions at driving institutes. It has contributed to increasing inspection activities by more than 200% compared with the period before deployment, helping enhance compliance levels and detect several undesirable behaviours during training sessions, most notably sleeping, eating or drinking, and being distracted during training."

Al Ramsi explained that the workshop presented the system's features and operating mechanism, including procedures for handling alerts and observations. These cover instructor and trainee behaviour, as well as training-vehicle alerts related to stopping or non-compliance with scheduled times and routes.

Al Ramsi added that the system represents a fundamental shift in the automation of training operations, performance indicators, and monitoring of training sessions. It also reduces inspection time, making it a comprehensive monitoring tool that contributes to raising the quality of training services and ensuring the highest safety standards.

He stressed that RTA is committed to strengthening its partnership with driving institutes through knowledge-sharing and the exchange of best practices, ensuring optimal system implementation, enhancing quality of life, and achieving the highest levels of safety and compliance across the driver training sector in Dubai.