هيئة الطرق والمواصلات
ROADS & TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
RTA

المسار
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The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA
Issue No. 218 –August 2026

Contract Awarded for 12-km Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor Development Project

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.

Readiness Today... Leadership Tomorrow

The leadership of entities and organisations is measured by their ability to anticipate the future and their efficiency in turning vision into sustainable achievements that improve quality of life and strengthen the competitiveness of the national economy.

Dubai's leadership has established a development model built on long-term strategic planning, speed of delivery, and sustained investment in people, innovation and technology. This model has reinforced Dubai's position at the forefront of global competitiveness indicators.

The forward-looking vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, has shaped Dubai's comprehensive development journey over the past decades. It has embedded a work culture that does not merely respond to the present, but actively shapes the future, placing investment in infrastructure, innovation and human capital at the forefront of its priorities. This reflects a firm belief that leadership can only be sustained by organisations that continue to innovate, adapt and evolve.

This approach places a major responsibility on government entities, which play a central role in turning visions into tangible reality. Every stage of development brings new requirements and opens wider horizons for progress. This makes organisational development a continuous journey, grounded in readiness, agility, and the ability to adapt to change and turn it into opportunity.

The years ahead will bring an unprecedented acceleration in technological transformation. This underscores the need to build more integrated and efficient operating ecosystems, supported by proactive planning, anticipation of future scenarios, and greater organisational readiness to respond to change quickly and effectively. Preparing for the future begins with embedding a culture that believes in continuous improvement and sees change as an opportunity for growth and for delivering added value to society.

Artificial intelligence, data analytics and digital transformation will be key pillars in developing government work in the coming period. They will support decision-making, enhance operational efficiency, improve service quality, and enable government entities to harness advanced technologies to achieve the best outcomes. At the same time, strengthening information security and developing digital infrastructure are becoming increasingly important to keep pace with national ambitions and sustain performance over the long term.

At the Roads and Transport Authority, we believe that sustaining leadership requires fresh thinking and future-focused leadership that makes development a continuous approach and innovation a culture of work. This reflects a firmly established corporate approach aligned with Dubai's vision for the future, and strengthens RTA's ability to deliver strategic projects efficiently, develop services in line with the highest international standards, and consolidate an integrated transport ecosystem that supports quality of life, enhances Dubai's competitiveness, and contributes to achieving its development objectives.

Investment in people remains the most important pillar in RTA's development journey. Developing leaders, empowering national talent, transferring knowledge, and strengthening a culture of responsibility and teamwork are essential to sustaining corporate performance. Leading organisations shape their future through leaders who possess vision, believe in continuous learning, and take the initiative to develop their tools and working methods in line with the aspirations of the coming period.

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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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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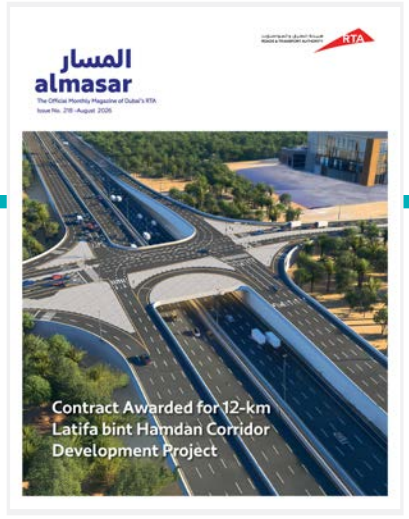

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RTA Leadership Team Shapes the Road Ahead at a Special Meeting

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), chaired a special meeting of RTA's leadership team to review the roadmap for the coming period, which will see major projects implemented across the emirate.

The meeting set out priorities for action in line with the leadership's directives to enhance the efficiency of Dubai's transport and infrastructure ecosystem. It also addressed key future challenges and opportunities, as well as mechanisms to accelerate delivery, supporting Dubai's comprehensive development objectives and keeping pace with the rapid growth taking place across various sectors.

Al Tayer stressed that exceptional achievements begin with a clear vision and influential leaders who can anticipate the future, keep pace with rapid change and turn challenges into opportunities. He noted that the years ahead represent a pivotal stage in RTA's journey to strengthen Dubai's readiness for the future and consolidate its position as a global model for smart mobility, advanced infrastructure and quality of life.

The meeting underscored the importance of working as one team, adopting innovative solutions, and making effective use of modern technologies to achieve strategic objectives and sustain excellence and leadership across all areas of work. It also highlighted the importance of investing in national talent, developing corporate capabilities, and fostering a culture of innovation and sustainability in a way that enhances services delivered to customers and achieves the highest levels of efficiency and operational agility.

Al Tayer said: "Over the past six months, RTA has delivered and launched a series of strategic projects, most notably the opening of bridges under the World Trade Centre Roundabout Development Project, the launch of official operations of the driverless taxi service, the start of work on the Dubai Loop project, the announcement of the Dubai Metro Gold Line project, the launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line, and the inauguration of the first Air Taxi Station."

Al Tayer added: "These projects were not isolated

Mega Projects within Dubai's Road Right-of-Way: Investments of up to AED

200 Billion

The projects include

Dubai Metro Gold Line: AED 34 billion

Dubai Metro Blue Line: AED 20.5 billion

Road projects, including First Al Khail Street: more than AED 45 billion

achievements, but strategic steps that further consolidate Dubai's position as a leading global model for smart and sustainable mobility.

"I extend my thanks and appreciation to RTA's leaders and work teams, who continue to work around the clock to meet approved timelines and ensure that these projects are delivered in accordance with the highest standards of quality and efficiency."

He noted that the next stage will see strong momentum in project delivery, saying: "Dubai will be a major worksite in the years ahead, with the total value of mega projects to be implemented within the emirate's road right-of-way estimated at around AED 200 billion. These include the Dubai Metro Gold Line project, valued at AED 34 billion, the Dubai Metro Blue Line project, valued at AED 20.5 billion, and road projects worth more than AED 45 billion, most notably the development of First Al Khail Street."

Al Tayer added: "There are several strategic focus areas that

- **RTA's Key Milestone Achievements in the First Half of 2026**
- **Opening of bridges under the World Trade Centre Roundabout Development Project**
- **Launch of official operations of the driverless taxi service**
- **Start of work on the Dubai Loop project**
- **Announcement of the Dubai Metro Gold Line project**
- **Launch of tunnelling works for the Dubai Metro Blue Line**
- **Inauguration of the first Air Taxi Station**

we must prioritise in the coming period to maintain the highest levels of readiness, continue delivering achievements, and realise the leadership's aspirations.

"These include reviewing scenarios, updating plans, strengthening readiness, and ensuring business continuity amid global shifts. They also include updating RTA's plans based on the outputs of the

Sustainable Population Planning Project to 2040, as well as the comprehensive development of the Corporate Technology Support Services Sector.

"The use of artificial intelligence, particularly Agentic AI, together with the big data ecosystem, will be among the most important areas of focus going forward. This will go hand in hand with advancing the information security ecosystem to keep pace with the wider adoption of modern technologies, and strengthening the project management system, particularly for mega projects, to improve delivery efficiency and risk management."

He concluded by emphasising the importance of focusing on revenue growth initiatives, rationalising expenditure, and applying the principles of value engineering in a way that supports financial sustainability, improves spending efficiency, and strengthens RTA's ability to deliver its strategic projects in line with international best practices.

Al Tayer Receives Four Students Who Won Gold at the International Greenwich Olympiad for Innovation

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority, received four outstanding students from Dubai Schools – Al Khawaneej, who won the gold medal at the International Greenwich Olympiad for Innovation, held in London with the participation of students from more than 80 countries.

Al Tayer congratulated the students – Ali Al Jarwan, Khalifa Al Marzouqi, Omar Al Balushi and Saeed Obaid Abu Al Shawareb – on this global achievement, stressing that it reflects the competence of Emirati students and their ability to compete and excel on international platforms.

He was briefed on their «Smart Irrigation Train» project, which employs the Internet of Things (IoT), solar energy, artificial intelligence, automation and smart agriculture to enhance the efficiency of irrigation operations and support water security and agricultural sustainability.


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Al Tayer Inspects Progress on Al Qudra Street Development Project

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority, inspected progress on Al Qudra Street Development Project, reviewing the progress of works and the project timeline. He stressed the importance of completing the project in line with the highest standards of quality and efficiency, in keeping with Dubai's urban and population growth and in support of smoother traffic flow along one of the emirate's most important key corridors.

Al Qudra Street Development Project is one of the strategic projects being implemented by RTA as part of its ongoing plans to develop the road network and enhance its operational efficiency. Upon completion, the project is expected to serve more than 400,000 residents and visitors, reduce journey time by up to 85%, and increase the street's capacity from 7,800 vehicles per hour to 19,400 vehicles per hour, further improving traffic flow and enhancing the efficiency of Dubai's road network.

increase capacity
from **7,800** vehicles per hour
to **19,400** vehicles per hour
up to **85%**

the project is expected to serve more than **400,000** residents and visitors

Awarding AED 2 Billion Contract for Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor Development Project Extending 12 km

In line with the directives of the wise leadership to accelerate the delivery of road infrastructure projects, expand road network capacity, enhance traffic flow across the Emirate of Dubai, support economic growth, and keep pace with the urban development and population growth witnessed by the emirate, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has awarded the contract for the Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor Development Project. Extending 12 km at a cost of AED 2 billion, the project will form a new strategic corridor that strengthens connectivity between Dubai's key road corridors, linking Sheikh Zayed Road, through Al Khail Road, Al Meydan Street, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road and Sheikh Zayed Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street, to Emirates Road.

The project includes the construction of seven bridges extending 2,300 metres and eight tunnels covering 900 metres, enhancing traffic flow and improving the efficiency of the road network. The new corridor is expected to have a capacity of around 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions and accommodate more than 130,000 trips per day. It will also reduce travel time between Umm Al Sheif Street and Emirates Road from 33 minutes to 15 minutes, a 54% reduction, while supporting current and future development projects and enhancing quality of life for residents and visitors. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2028.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, affirmed that the major infrastructure projects being implemented in Dubai embody the vision of leadership, a vision that has placed investment in roads and transport infrastructure at the heart of Dubai's future, economy and competitiveness.

Al Tayer noted that developing the road network is one of the key pillars of keeping pace with rapid urban and economic

growth, supporting sustainable development, reinforcing Dubai's standing as an investment hub, and consolidating its position as the best city in the world to live, work and visit.

New Strategic Corridor

His Excellency said: «Dubai has adopted a proactive approach to infrastructure development, centred on delivering major projects ahead of growth requirements. This ensures the road network is ready to accommodate the urban, population and economic expansion witnessed by the emirate.

«RTA continues to deliver strategic projects that strengthen connectivity between different areas, enhance traffic efficiency and ensure smoother mobility. These projects have a positive impact on quality of life and support the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 and the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, both of which aim to reinforce Dubai's leadership as a global model for sustainable urban development."

Al Tayer added: «Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor Development Project forms part of RTA's efforts to support strategic road corridors experiencing rising traffic volumes, such as Al Khail Road, Dubai–Al Ain Road, Umm Suqeim Street and Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road. The project will contribute to distributing traffic flow and managing demand.

"The new corridor also aims to serve development projects by providing entry and exit points that facilitate access to them and enhance their economic competitiveness. Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor is a new strategic corridor that strengthens integration across the main road network, provides advanced infrastructure to serve current and future urban projects, and improves connectivity between the eastern and western parts of the emirate. It will support economic growth, facilitate the movement of residents and visitors, and enhance the capacity of the road network in line with the highest international standards."

Enhancing Connectivity Between Road Corridors

Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor is one of the strategic projects being implemented by RTA to enhance connectivity between Dubai's key road corridors. Extending approximately 12 km, it links Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Khail Road, Al Meydan Street, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street and Emirates Road, forming an integrated traffic corridor that adds 12% capacity to east-west corridors across the emirate.

The corridor will serve many existing and future residential and development areas, most notably Nad Al Sheba, Al Barari, Dubai Hills, Dubai District One, Mohammed Bin Rashid Gardens, Living Legends, Majan and Global Village, in addition to residential, commercial and industrial areas along Latifa bint Hamdan Street and Al Meydan Street, as well as areas

between Al Khail Road and Emirates Road. The new corridor is expected to serve around 650,000 residents and visitors.

The project includes expanding Latifa bint Hamdan Street to four lanes in each direction and constructing an integrated system of multi-level free-flow interchanges, bridges and loop ramps that provide all traffic movements. It also includes the construction of seven bridges extending 2,300 metres and eight tunnels covering 900 metres,

Project Cost **2** AED Billion

Project Length **12** km

Travel Time Improvement

From **33** minutes To **15** minutes

Reduction

54%

Project Includes:

7 bridges spanning **2300** metres

8 tunnels spanning **900** metres

Population Served **650** thousand residents

12.5 km of Cycling Tracks
Connecting Al Qudra and Jumeirah tracks.

Corridor Capacity **16000** vehicles per hour in both directions

Project Completion End of **2028**

Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor – A New Strategic Corridor Connecting:

- Sheikh Zayed Road
- Al Khail Road
- Meydan Road
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road
- Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street
- Emirates Road

Key Areas Served:

- Nad Al Sheba
- Al Barari
- Dubai Hills
- District One
- Mohammed Bin Rashid Gardens
- Living Legends
- Majan
- Global Village

in addition to a new road linking Al Khail Road with the extension of Latifa bint Hamdan Street.

The project further includes developing parts of Al Meydan Street and constructing a new interchange to serve development projects in the area, enhancing traffic flow and improving the efficiency of the road network.

It also includes the construction of 12.5 km of cycling tracks, linking them with the existing network to form an integrated route from Al Qudra to Jumeirah. This supports the sustainable mobility system and enhances mobility options across the emirate.

Traffic Benefits

Latifa bint Hamdan Corridor is estimated to have a capacity of around 16,000 vehicles per hour in both directions, with total trips expected to exceed 130,000 per day. The corridor will also increase the capacity of the overall road network, particularly the surrounding key corridors, most notably Al Khail Road, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, Dubai–Al Ain Road and Umm Suqeim Street.

It will improve service levels and ensure smoother traffic flow, with travel time between Umm Al Sheif Street and Emirates Road expected to drop from 33 minutes to 15 minutes, a 54% reduction. The project will also enhance traffic safety through multi-level interchanges, strengthen connectivity between key corridors, and support urban growth and future development projects.

Completed Phase

RTA had previously completed the development of the western section of Latifa bint Hamdan Street as part of the Latifa bint Hamdan and Umm Al Sheif Streets Development Project. That project marked a major shift in improving connectivity between Jumeirah, Al Khail Road and the parallel roads through implementing an integrated network of multi-level bridges, which provided free-flow traffic movement, improved traffic flow, and reduced travel time from Sheikh Zayed Road to Al Khail Road from 12 minutes to four minutes. It also facilitated truck movement to and from Al Quoz Industrial Area.

The previous project also contributed to supporting urban and economic development in the areas it serves, connecting several development projects and residential areas to the main road network. The current project will complete the development of this vital corridor and further strengthen its role as one of Dubai's key strategic corridors. It forms part of RTA's integrated vision to develop a world-class road network that drives future growth, boosts the economy, elevates quality of life, and meets Dubai's ambitions for global leadership in infrastructure and sustainable mobility.

Approving the Five-Year Soft Mobility Plan Covering 25 Residential Areas and 63 Public Transport Stations by 2030

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has approved a five-year plan to expand the emirate's soft mobility network through 2030. The plan aims to strengthen links between residential areas and public transport stations and to build an integrated urban mobility system that supports first- and last-mile journeys, making travel easier and safer for residents and visitors.
The plan encompasses infrastructure development across 25 residential areas and upgrades to the infrastructure surrounding 63 public transport stations by 2030.

Areas covered by the soft mobility project are selected according to a set of priorities, including the availability of public transport services, high levels of public transport use, population density, land-use patterns, whether residential, commercial or mixed-use, and the existing condition of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in the area. The selection process also considers each area's future development plans under the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan.

Future Mobility Ecosystem

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said: "The plan forms part of RTA's efforts to reinforce Dubai's position as the best city in the world to live in, and to develop an integrated and sustainable transport system that keeps pace with urban and population growth while enhancing quality of life.
"Soft mobility has become one of the strategic enablers of the future mobility ecosystem and a key pillar in strengthening integration across transport modes. It reinforces public transport's position as the preferred mobility choice and supports Dubai's sustainability and quality-of-life objectives,

in line with the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan."

Al Tayer added: "The global mobility sector is undergoing a fundamental shift in the philosophy of infrastructure development. Success is now measured by a mobility system's ability to deliver an integrated, safe and seamless journey that allows residents and visitors to move between different transport modes with ease, efficiency and safety.

"Dubai has succeeded in building one of the world's most advanced public transport systems by strengthening integration between the road network, public transport modes and individual mobility modes. Pedestrian journeys rose from 326 million in 2024 to 342 million in 2025, a growth of 5%, while the maturity of infrastructure surrounding public transport stations reached 87% and pedestrian satisfaction across Dubai rose to 89%. Cycling trips increased from 46.6 million in 2024 to 57.3 million in 2025, a growth of 23%, and e-scooter trips rose from 32.3 million in 2024 to 39.6 million in 2025, a growth of nearly 23%."

Making Public Transport More Attractive

Al Tayer noted that RTA views the development of the urban environment surrounding public transport stations as a strategic investment that maximises the value of transport infrastructure and increases the appeal of public transport.

He explained that providing pedestrian and cycling tracks, safe pedestrian crossings, facilities for People of Determination, shading and urban beautification elements, and stations and parking bays for shared mobility services such as Careem Bike and e-scooter rental operators, encourages residents to adopt more sustainable mobility patterns and strengthens connectivity between the city's different components.

He added that the next phase will focus on completing the final link in the customer journey by developing first- and last-mile requirements and connecting residential areas, business districts and vital facilities with metro and bus stations and other public transport modes. This will transform every station into an integrated mobility hub, offering residents and visitors a more flexible, efficient and sustainable mobility service.

Plan Details

The five-year soft mobility plan will extend soft mobility elements to 25 residential areas, bringing the total number of targeted areas to 34 by 2030. Soft mobility elements are currently being implemented in five areas: Dubai Marina, Al Murar, Naif, Al Rigga and Al Muraqqabat.

The plan also includes upgrading the infrastructure surrounding 63 public transport stations by 2030, to make it easier to access metro and bus stations and raise the

efficiency of the integrated mobility system.

The plan supports Dubai's drive to increase reliance on public transport and sustainable mobility. It will deliver an integrated infrastructure network that is friendly and accessible to everyone, strengthening links between development projects, key destinations and public transport stations through individual mobility modes such as walking, cycling and e-scooters.

First- and last-mile requirements will be developed through a comprehensive set of transport integration elements and requirements, including cycling tracks, pedestrian crossings and rest areas, shaded areas and pathways, landscaping, vehicle parking, passenger pick-up and drop-off points, and bicycle parking facilities.

Completed Phases

RTA has previously developed soft mobility elements across nine residential areas: Al Mankhool, Al Qusais, Al Karama, Al Barsha 1, Al Barsha 2, Al Khawaneej 2, Hor Al Anz, Abu Hail and Al Souk Al Kabeer.

RTA has also upgraded the urban environment surrounding 37 metro stations, most notably Mall of the Emirates, Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall, ONPASSIVE, Gold Souq, BurJuman, Baniyas Square, Sharaf DG and Abu Hail. The works included implementing an integrated network of pedestrian and cycling paths, upgrading pavements, constructing safe pedestrian crossings, providing facilities for People of Determination, developing mobility hubs, establishing stations and parking bays for shared mobility services, and carrying out urban beautification works. Together, these efforts help reinforce first- and last-mile journeys and achieve greater integration between different transport modes.

The soft mobility initiative reflects RTA's vision of transitioning towards an interconnected urban mobility ecosystem in which the road network is integrated with the public transport system, comprising the Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, public buses, marine transport and taxis, together with individual mobility modes, within a single network that delivers a seamless, safe and sustainable journey. This supports economic and urban growth and strengthens Dubai's competitiveness and global leadership in smart mobility and quality of life.

Comprehensive Study

It is worth noting that RTA conducted a comprehensive study to build a master plan for non-motorised transport modes across the Emirate of Dubai. The study focused on providing suitable infrastructure for relatively long- and medium-distance journeys, to ensure safe and easy mobility for all, and on setting a strategy for expanding the

use of non-motorised individual mobility modes.

The strategy aims to create infrastructure that is friendly to residents, provide a suitable environment for People of Determination within the road right-of-way, and strengthen connectivity between the city's components by facilitating movement between development projects and areas of attraction. It also covers the development of first- and last-mile standards and requirements, increasing the use of non-traditional, non-motorised modes such as walking and cycling, and developing a guide to transport integration requirements and standards for application across all RTA projects.

Transport Integration

The soft mobility project includes the development of transport integration elements, namely facilities for People of Determination, raised pedestrian crossings, traffic-calming measures, cycling tracks of various types, and bicycle parking bays, in addition to the installation of directional and warning signs, pavement modifications, and shared-use lanes for vehicles and non-traditional transport modes.

It also includes the implementation of rest areas featuring green spaces and seating, as well as shaded areas and pathways that encourage residents to adopt soft mobility. Additional elements include vehicle parking, passenger pick-up and drop-off points, and stations and parking bays for shared mobility services. Together, these elements contribute to enhancing the quality of life of Dubai's residents.

The plan includes

25 Residential Areas

63 Public Transport Stations

Reshaping Dubai's Urban Mobility Network by Connecting Residential Neighbourhoods to Public Transport Stations

Supporting First and Last-Mile Journeys

Pedestrian Trips	**342** million trips
Cycling Trips	**57.3** million trips
E-scooter Trips	**39.6** million trips

Pedestrian Satisfaction Rate **89%**

Soft Mobility Implementation Rate Around Public Transport Stations **87%**

Soft Mobility Elements Are Currently Being Implemented in **5** Areas

Dubai Marina · Al Murar · Naif · Al Rigga · Al Muraqqabat

Overhauling 262 Walkways and Escalators at Metro Stations

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), in collaboration with Keolis MHI, the operator and maintainer of Dubai Metro and Dubai Tram, has announced the completion of the comprehensive overhaul programme for walkways and escalators. A total of 262 escalators, representing 63% of all escalators in Dubai metro stations, having been overhauled to date. The ongoing programme aims to enhance safety, reliability and passenger comfort, while extending the service life of critical equipment.

The project forms part of RTA's ongoing strategy to deliver a seamless, safe and comfortable mobility experience for Dubai Metro users, while reinforcing Dubai's position as a leading city in sustainable and smart transport solutions. It also underlines RTA's continued commitment to develop all elements of the public transport ecosystem, in line with the goals of Dubai Vision 2030 to make Dubai the best city in the world to live and work.

Providing further details, Dawood Alrais, Director of Rail Maintenance at the Rail Agency, RTA, stated: «The scope of work includes detailed inspections, refurbishment, and replacement of critical components such as handrail belts, drive systems and motor units. The works are carefully planned to minimise disruption to metro operations and ensure user safety throughout implementation. They are carried out mainly at night or during scheduled maintenance windows to ensure service continuity for passengers during peak hours.»

Alrais continued: «The overhaul of escalators has delivered a tangible improvement in passenger experience, providing smoother and more comfortable operation, while enhancing asset performance and reliability. The project

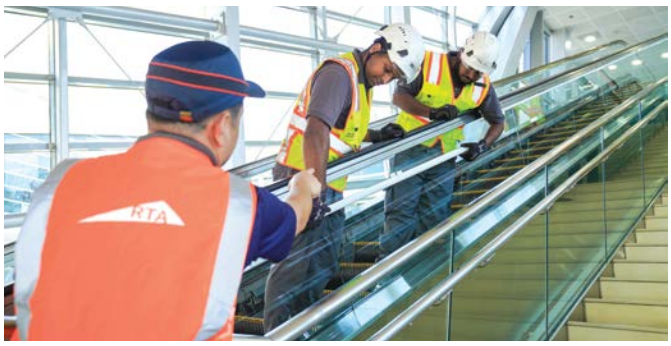
Overhauling AC Systems in 62 Dubai Metro Trains

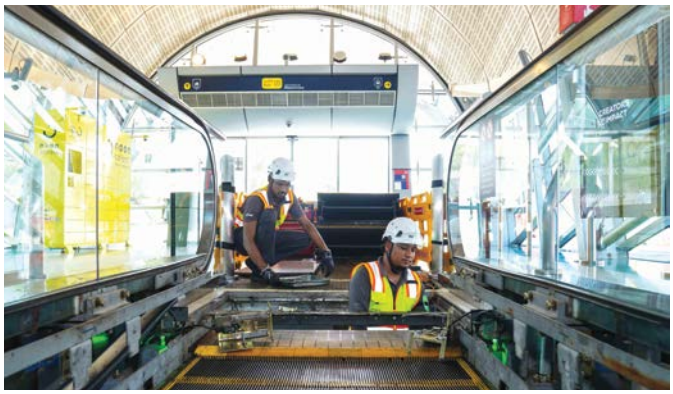
Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), in collaboration with Keolis MHI, operator of Dubai Metro and Dubai Tram, has completed the comprehensive maintenance project for the Train Ventilation and Air Conditioning (VAC) systems on Dubai Metro trains, with works covering 62 trains to date. This initiative reflects RTA's ongoing commitment to enhancing the efficiency of critical assets and ensuring service continuity to the highest standards of quality and reliability.

This initiative forms part of RTA's strategy to enhance asset efficiency, extend service life, and ensure a comfortable and safe mobility experience for Dubai Metro users, while continuing to adopt the latest engineering solutions and advanced technologies in rail maintenance.

Additionally, it also falls under RTA's strategic preventive maintenance initiatives, which is aimed at restoring optimal performance of train VAC systems through comprehensive component inspections, and replacement of parts that have reached the end of their service life, and rigorous performance testing. The works support improved cooling efficiency, reduced recurrent faults, extended system service life, and an enhanced passenger experience.

The VAC Overhaul represents a strategic investment in





has also enabled the reduction of unplanned downtime and unexpected faults, positively impacting operational efficiency. It ensures compliance with the latest safety standards and reflects a proactive approach to asset management, as well as a commitment to maintaining high-quality infrastructure.»

metro fleet readiness and the quality of services delivered to passengers. The sustained efforts made reflect RTA's commitment to applying the highest standards of quality and reliability across all maintenance operations. The project also targets operational excellence by improving VAC system performance, thereby enhancing service reliability.

These efforts also contribute to while lowering long-term maintenance costs and ensuring fleet readiness to meet daily operational demands. This is particularly critical during the summer months, when rising temperatures require cooling systems to operate at high efficiency to maintain comfortable conditions on board.

Works are being implemented in line with the highest global standards and best practices across the rail sector, with strict adherence to operational plans that ensure daily metro services continue without impacting train schedules or passenger comfort. All works are carried out according to defined timelines and outside peak hours, ensuring smooth and uninterrupted daily operations.

Conducting Traffic 'Quick Wins' at 28 Locations across Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has rolled out a series of traffic 'Quick Wins' at 28 locations across Dubai between July and September 2026. The works form part of RTA's ongoing efforts to enhance the road network, improve operational efficiency, ensure smoother traffic flow and higher safety levels, and strengthen connectivity between residential areas, educational zones, and development areas – supporting the emirate's sustained urban and population growth.

The works cover four locations around school zones, three locations in development areas, and 21 locations across various parts of Dubai. They have been scheduled during the summer holiday to benefit from lower traffic volumes, accelerate delivery, and minimise impact on road users.

The Emirates Road expansion project is among the most prominent rapid traffic improvements being implemented during the summer. It includes the addition of two new lanes over a 5 km section extending from the Emirate of Sharjah towards Al Amardi Street. The project reflects the significance of Emirates Road as a key corridor linking Dubai with neighbouring emirates, as well as the high traffic volumes it records during peak periods. The expansion is expected to ease traffic congestion and cut journey time by 25% during peak hours on this vital corridor.

The works also include traffic improvements at the intersection of Trade Centre Street and Marasi Drive in Business Bay, improved traffic flow on Latifa Bint Hamdan Street near Al Quoz Industrial Area, and traffic improvements on Ras Al Khor Road towards Al Khail Road. These improvements will raise intersection efficiency and enhance traffic flow across several key areas witnessing growing traffic volumes.

The projects also include improvement works near

Completing 17 km of Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Works Across Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed maintenance, and rehabilitation works spanning 17 km of asphalt roads across 9 streets and 6 areas in Dubai by early June 2026. Carried out under RTA's annual preventive road maintenance programme, the works covered a broad section of Dubai's road network, including highways, freeways, arterial roads, internal roads in several industrial, commercial and residential areas, as well as a cycling track.

The works reflect RTA's commitment to developing and maintaining Dubai's road network in line with the highest international standards, keeping pace with population and economic growth, and supporting the emirate's quality-of-life objectives. They also contribute to maintaining the efficiency, sustainability and operational capacity of the road network, verifying the structural condition of roads, and ensuring smooth traffic flow and the safety of road users across Dubai.

residential areas. These include adding a new lane at the intersection of Al Khawaneej Street and Al Amardi Street, upgrading the right-turn movement on Ras Al Khor Road towards Dubai–Al Ain Road from one lane to two, and expanding a traffic lane on Algeria Street in Al Mizhar 4 before the entrance to the labour accommodation. These works will help increase capacity, reduce queues and improve vehicle movement at these locations.

As part of preparations for the new academic year and efforts to enhance traffic safety around educational institutions, RTA is constructing new parking spaces for Zayed Educational Complex in Al Mizhar 2, along with additional parking spaces for Horizon International School in Umm Al Sheif. Further improvements will help regulate vehicle movement, facilitate entry and exit, and reduce congestion during school peak hours.

The selection of traffic improvement locations is based on specialised technical and field studies, supported by the analysis of historical traffic data, field survey results, and data from intelligent transport systems and surveillance cameras. RTA also draws on public feedback and suggestions received through various communication channels to implement swift and effective solutions that improve traffic flow and efficiency, reduce journey times, and enhance the mobility experience for all road users.

Abdullah Ali Lootah, Director of Roads and Facilities Maintenance at Traffic and Roads Agency, RTA, said: "RTA develops annual proactive plans to assess the condition of roads using the latest laser and artificial intelligence technologies. These plans include comprehensive inspections of the road network, identifying levels of damage, cracks and potholes, and carrying out periodic remedial works to address them."

Lootah added: "Works included the rehabilitation of several streets, including Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, as well as arterial roads such as Al Khawaneej Street, Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street, Baghdad Street, Al Manama Street, Algeria Street, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Street, Riyadh Street, Amman Street, Al Wuheida Street, and Zabeel Palace Street. Internal and industrial areas covered included Mirdif, Za'abeel 1, Margham, Jebel Ali Industrial 2, Al Thanyah fifth, and Al Garhoud."

He added: "During maintenance works, RTA implements traffic diversions based on integrated studies and in line with global best practices to ensure smooth traffic movement. RTA also calls on the public to exercise caution when passing through traffic diversions and to comply with all directional signs to ensure their safety and the safety of all road users."

Upgrading Pedestrian Bridge Lighting at 30 Key Locations across Dubai

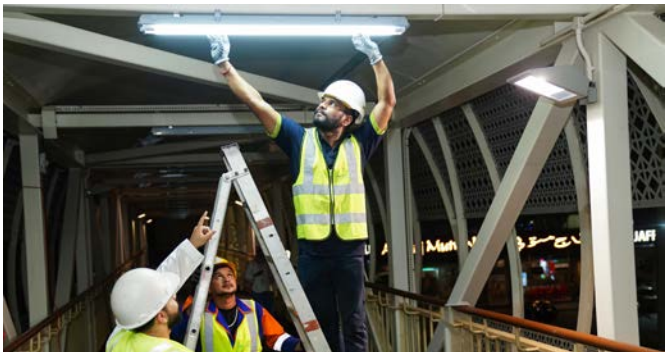
Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has started a project to upgrade the lighting of pedestrian bridges at 30 key locations across Dubai. The project forms part of RTA's People Happiness initiative, which aims to provide a safer and more comfortable mobility environment for users of road facilities and enhance the customer experience. It also supports RTA's efforts to strengthen Dubai's standing in the green economy and sustainable development, promote a clean environment, and optimise the use of RTA assets while extending their service life.

The project is expected to enhance pedestrian safety during evening hours and improve the experience of using pedestrian bridges, in line with Dubai's vision to develop smart and sustainable infrastructure that places people's happiness and quality of life at the forefront of its priorities.

The project involves equipping 30 pedestrian bridges with modern, energy-efficient LED lighting systems. RTA has adopted smart and sustainable solutions for the project, designing the lighting systems to operate using motion-sensor technology. The lights switch on automatically when pedestrian movement is detected on the bridge, improving energy efficiency and reducing operating costs while maintaining high levels of safety and security.

To ensure the highest levels of pedestrian comfort, RTA carried out studies and site surveys of all bridges covered by the project to assess their condition and identify their technical requirements. Light meters were used to analyse current lighting levels and determine the requirements of each location, ensuring appropriate illumination in line with the highest approved standards and specifications, meeting user needs and enhancing infrastructure efficiency.

The first phase of the project covers lighting upgrades on 21 pedestrian bridges, with the full project expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2026. RTA will continue to develop road lighting systems and related facilities across Dubai by adopting the latest technologies suited to local environmental conditions, while supporting environmental sustainability targets through the use of energy-efficient lighting solutions.



Launching Smart System to Enhance Bus Response and Readiness

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched an AI-powered system to manage and operate buses efficiently across various operational conditions. The system monitors more than 1,100 buses and supports 26 operational scenarios, enhancing operational flexibility and improving the readiness of the public transport system.

The system also strengthens bus response to operational changes in other public transport modes, such as Dubai Metro and Dubai Tram, while enhancing the customer experience and ensuring the continuity of public transport services.

This initiative reaffirms RTA's commitment to adopting the latest advanced technologies to enhance the efficiency, flexibility and sustainability of the public transport system. It also aligns with Dubai's direction towards smart cities by delivering proactive services that meet customers' aspirations and keep pace with the city's rapid growth.

Marwan Al Zarooni, Director of Buses at RTA's Public Transport Agency, said: "The Decision Support System has been developed by RTA's Public Transport Agency through the Bus Operations Control Centre in collaboration with the Artificial Intelligence Centre within the Corporate Technology Support Services Sector. It relies on advanced technologies that enable it to reduce the time required for decision-making and bus deployment from 30 to 60 minutes to less than one minute, enhancing response speed and the efficiency of operational resource management."

Al Zarooni added: "Through the Artificial Intelligence Centre and RTA's enterprise Dataiku platform, we have been able to develop advanced capabilities to support real-time decision-making, contributing to greater efficiency in managing operational processes and reinforcing RTA's leadership in harnessing artificial intelligence to support the smart mobility ecosystem."

Al Zarooni noted that the system uses real-time data, machine learning technologies and advanced optimisation algorithms to identify the most suitable buses and dispatch them instantly according to operational needs, while maintaining the efficiency of the public transport network and minimising the impact on service levels.

The Bus Operations Control Centre plays a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth flow and continuity of public transport services in Dubai. This smart system also represents a qualitative shift towards more efficient operations based on real-time data analysis and intelligent decision-making, strengthening service reliability and elevating the customer experience.

Winning Two International Awards for Digital Public Bus Service Innovations

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has won two international platinum awards at the 18th cycle of the Ideas Arabia International Award, in recognition of its innovations in digital services for public buses. The achievement reflects RTA's success in leveraging big data and artificial intelligence to develop public bus services and enhance operational efficiency.

RTA won the platinum award in the Process Efficiency category for its project, "AI-Powered Data-Driven Intelligent Operational Efficiency Framework." It also received another award in the Added Value to Product or Service category for its project, "Automation of Public Bus Service Alerts for Real-Time Passenger Information Dissemination."

This achievement underscores RTA's leadership in harnessing advanced technologies and artificial intelligence to develop the public transport ecosystem. It reflects RTA's use of big data, advanced analytics and continuous machine learning technologies to improve the operational efficiency of public buses and enhance the quality of services delivered to customers.

The winning projects delivered tangible operational results, including the re-engineering of operating schedules based on real-time operational data, and the development of smart operating procedures that reduce bus idling during waiting periods. These outcomes support environmental sustainability and contribute to lowering carbon emissions.

The projects also strengthened RTA's position in operating AI-powered public transport systems by employing big data repositories, advanced analytics tools and machine learning technologies in the management and operation of buses, as well as in the automation of related processes. This has improved performance efficiency and enhanced responsiveness to operational changes.

RTA succeeded in reducing trip cancellation rates by 4%

Achieving Advanced Level under Deloitte High-Impact Maturity Model in HR Management

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced a significant new achievement in human capital management, after attaining the "Advanced" level in human resources practices and applications under the Deloitte High-Impact Maturity Model – one of the world's leading frameworks for measuring the maturity and efficiency of human resources functions. The achievement reflects RTA's commitment to adopting global best practices and strengthening its institutional readiness to meet future requirements.

The assessment covered six key dimensions, comprising 22 sub-components, including leadership in HR practices, management of stakeholder expectations, talent management and development, strategic HR roles and responsibilities, policies and processes, and digital transformation and artificial intelligence.

The Deloitte High-Impact Maturity Model is based on five key levels of organisational maturity, starting from the foundational level through to leadership and excellence. It measures the extent to which human resources practices are integrated with strategic objectives and organisational outcomes, ensuring the development of a sustainable HR ecosystem that delivers added value to the organisation and its stakeholders.

This achievement further confirms RTA's success in building

using AI-powered predictive models, reducing early bus departures by 68%, and maintaining performance levels in line with international best practices.

The smart solutions also contributed to faster operational response by enabling the immediate deployment of replacement buses in the event of any disruption to Metro services, while enhancing customer service through automated real-time alert systems.

This achievement confirms RTA's success in harnessing data and artificial intelligence to develop advanced operational solutions that raise the efficiency, sustainability and reliability of the bus network. It also supports proactive decision-making and enhances customer service in line with international best practices. Artificial intelligence has today become a key pillar in the management and operation of bus services, enabling

the prediction of operational challenges and rapid response to them, while ensuring more efficient and flexible services for hundreds of thousands of passengers every day.

The results of these initiatives have been reflected directly in the performance of the bus network and customer confidence in it. Public bus ridership increased to 197.2 million in 2025, recording growth of 4.9% compared with 2024, the highest level recorded in recent years. This confirms RTA's success in translating innovation into tangible added value that supports quality of life and strengthens Dubai's global standing in smart and sustainable transport.

an integrated human capital management ecosystem founded on innovation, agility, governance, and investment in national talent. It contributes to enhancing organisational productivity, improving the employee experience, empowering leaders, supporting the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda (D33), and reinforcing Dubai's position as the world's best city to live and work.

Athari Mohamed, Executive Director of Human Resources and Development at RTA's Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, said: "RTA's attainment of this advanced level is not an end in itself, but a new milestone in its journey of continuous development. It is also a clear message that investing in people is the most sustainable investment and the one with the greatest impact on achieving institutional excellence."

She added: "We are working to build a smarter human resources ecosystem powered by data, artificial intelligence and predictive analytics. This will enhance the quality of decision-making, strengthen talent readiness, enable leaders to anticipate future needs, and ensure sustainable organisational performance in line with global best practices."

Athari affirmed that RTA views human resources as a strategic partner in achieving corporate transformation, not merely an operational function. She noted that the next phase will focus on accelerating the adoption of artificial intelligence across various HR practices, strengthening a culture of continuous learning, building future-ready skills, and developing leaders in line with the rapid changes shaping the workplace.

This achievement embodies RTA's vision to be among the world's leading government entities in human capital management and development. It reflects RTA's commitment to adopting international best practices, investing in national talent, fostering innovation, accelerating digital transformation, and harnessing artificial intelligence to shape the future of work, in support of Dubai's vision and global ambitions.

Completing 72% of nol Digital Payment System Upgrade to Account-Based Ticketing

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced the completion of 72% of the project to develop and upgrade the existing nol system, currently operating on card-based ticketing (CBT), into a digital payment system powered by account-based ticketing (ABT).

The upgraded system will be the latest and most advanced of its kind, keeping pace with global developments in digital payments and financial technology in line with international best practices. All phases of the project are scheduled for completion by the end of the first quarter of 2027.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said: "The nol system upgrade marks a strategic step in RTA's comprehensive digital transformation journey and represents a strategic investment in the future of digital services. It will enable RTA to develop a unified, more integrated payment ecosystem linking various modes of transport and services, while delivering the highest levels of operational efficiency and customer convenience.

"The project aligns with the vision of the leadership to harness advanced technology to simplify government services, enhance the customer experience, and make Dubai the world's best city to live, work and move around."

Customer Experience

Al Tayer added: "The new system will deliver a step change in the customer experience by expanding payment options and enabling modern, diverse payment methods, streamlining procedures and making services easier to access. It also reinforces nol card's position as one of the most advanced and comprehensive digital payment solutions, supports the Dubai Cashless Strategy, and strengthens integration across various economic and service sectors, making nol an everyday payment tool that supports Dubai's drive towards the digital economy and smart cities.

"Given the scale of the project, it has been divided into three main phases. The first will see the launch of QR code ticketing through digital channels. The second will involve the rollout of the new generation of nol cards, powered by new technologies and aligned with global standards, ensuring compatibility with bank card technologies and automatic digital linkage to customer accounts when a new card is purchased. The third phase will complete the system upgrade to accept other payment methods, such as bank cards and digital wallets, for the payment of public transport fares in Dubai."

New System Features

Al Tayer added: "The nol system upgrade will offer customers a wide range of features and benefits, including the creation of customer accounts, linking nol cards to accounts, adding nol cards to smartphone digital wallets, purchasing tickets via QR code technology through digital channels, and applying flexible fares across public transport modes.

"Through the new system, customers will be able to create accounts, link their own nol cards and those of family members, manage profiles, allocate top-up amounts to each linked card, and activate automatic top-up through bank account linkage. They will also be able to view daily transaction statements, block cards and recover balances seamlessly."

Card Uses

The upgrade of systems, devices and smart kiosks at public transport stations will support the new payment technologies, enabling customers to pay public transport fares through a variety of methods, including QR code tickets, the new generation of nol cards, bank cards and digital wallets.

The new system will also expand the use of nol cards beyond public transport through these new technologies. Customers will be able to use the new generation of nol cards for shopping across various digital channels and at retail outlets across the UAE, in the same way as bank cards.

Launch of nol System

RTA launched the nol system on 9th September 2009, coinciding with the launch of Dubai Metro, to facilitate mobility for all public transport users. RTA has recently introduced several development initiatives for nol cards, including the nol Student Package, in collaboration with the International Student Identity Card Association (ISIC Association), which provides dedicated discounts for students worldwide. RTA also launched promotional and incentive-based nol Travel cards for tourists and residents, and enabled nol card payments for soft mobility modes, namely e-scooters, enhancing integration with public transport and supporting the first- and last-mile strategy. The use of nol cards to pay soft mobility fares is considered one of the pioneering applications worldwide.

RTA completes 72%

of the nol digital payment system upgrade programme using Account-Based Ticketing (ABT) technology

Project completion: 2027

The initiative reinforces **nol** as one of the world's most advanced and comprehensive digital payment solutions.

Development Phases

Phase One : Launch of ticket purchases using QR Code technology

Phase Two : Compatibility with bank cards and automatic linking to customers' digital accounts

Phase Three: Acceptance of bank cards and other payment methods for public transport fare payments

The Next Generation of the nol Card

Creation of digital customer accounts

Linking nol cards to customer accounts

Adding nol cards to digital wallets

Purchasing tickets using QR Code technology

Introduction of flexible fare pricing across public transport

Digital payments through online channels and retail outlets across the UAE

Expanding Truck Rest Stop Parking Capacity by 56% across Seven Locations in Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has announced the expansion of parking capacity at seven truck rest stops across the emirate, adding 364 parking slots, a 56% increase, and bringing the total number of truck parking slots at these rest stops to 1,007.

The expansion reflects RTA's ongoing commitment to strengthening the competitiveness of the land transport and logistics sector and keeping pace with the continued growth in truck numbers, in line with the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 to reinforce the emirate's position as a global hub for trade and logistics services.

The expansion works included the addition of 107 parking slots at Al Rowaiyah 2 Truck Rest Stop, 90 slots at Lehbab 2 Truck Rest Stop, 47 slots at Lehbab 1 Truck Rest Stop, 18 slots at Al Tayy Truck Rest Stop, 15 slots at Al Rowaiyah 1 Truck Rest Stop, and 27 slots at Madinat Hind 2 Truck Rest Stop. Expansion works are also under way at Nad Al Hamar Truck Rest Stop, where 60 additional parking slots are currently being added.

Hussain Al Banna, CEO of Traffic and Roads Agency, Roads and Transport Authority, said: "Truck rest stops play a vital role in enhancing road safety and traffic flow, while preserving Dubai's urban and aesthetic appearance. They contribute to reducing random truck parking on main roads during truck movement ban periods, thereby improving the road-user experience in line with international best practices. They also provide greater comfort for drivers and help reduce fatigue associated with long-distance driving.

"These expansions also contribute to creating a safer working environment for truck drivers by providing integrated service facilities that meet their daily needs during rest periods, including accommodation, restaurants, retail outlets, fuel stations, and heavy vehicle and tyre maintenance services."

Al Banna stressed that RTA has developed an integrated strategic plan to expand the truck facilities network and provide flexible, integrated infrastructure that enhances the efficiency of goods movement and supports economic growth in the emirate.

He noted that more than 150,000 trucks benefit from rest stops in Dubai every month, with an average of 400,000 daily trips across the emirate, reflecting growing demand

for these rest stops and their importance in supporting freight and land transport movement.

Al Banna also noted that RTA has recently completed 14 of 16 truck rest stops. These rest stops are located across six vital sites, including strategic roads and logistics areas that attract large numbers of trucks daily, namely Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, Emirates Road, Dubai–Hatta Road, Dubai–Al Ain Road, Jebel Ali–Lehbab Road and Al Awir Road.

RTA develops truck rest stops in line with international best practices in transport and logistics facility planning, ensuring an organised operational environment that supports land freight movement, reduces traffic congestion in urban areas, and improves the efficiency of Dubai's road network.

The rest stops help streamline truck movement during truck movement ban periods on certain main roads, as well as in emergency situations that require trucks to make mandatory stops. They provide safe, designated locations where trucks can wait until movement is permitted, enhancing traffic flow and reducing random truck parking on roadsides and in urban, residential and industrial areas.

Truck movement and safety in the emirate form a key part of the Traffic Safety Strategy, with several truck-related plans included in its executive plan for 2026–2033, which aims to reduce fatalities and serious injuries resulting from road accidents to among the lowest levels globally, in line with the world's leading countries in traffic safety.

In addition, several awareness and inspection initiatives are also being implemented for truck drivers and road users, most notably:

- Conducting year-round awareness campaigns covering truck gathering areas such as Ras Al Khor, Jebel Ali and Lehbab, as well as areas along Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road and Al Yalayis Street.
- Maintaining continuous coordination with DP World and Continental Tires in Jebel Ali, focusing on three key areas: providing drivers with awareness advice and guidance; conducting technical inspections of tyre safety and key traffic-safety aspects of trucks; and ensuring compliance with traffic safety requirements during loading, unloading and driving within Jebel Ali.
- Preparing and issuing awareness booklets and films targeting truck drivers and light-vehicle drivers in relation to truck-related accidents.
- Updating and issuing the Truck Safety Guide in four languages, enabling the widest possible number of truck drivers of different nationalities to benefit from it. The guide includes safety instructions for truck drivers, key violations, and the locations of truck rest stops.
- Expanding the scope of work of heavy vehicle monitoring units, with support from seconded Dubai Police officers, to conduct inspection and monitoring operations covering the technical safety and roadworthiness of heavy vehicles, trucks and transport vehicles operating on Dubai's roads. These operations include periodic campaigns across seven main roads and streets in the emirate.

193,000 Riders Use Bus Pooling

The pre-booked app-based minibus service has recorded rapid growth since its launch by Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), with the total number of riders surpassing 193,000. This reflects the growing demand for smart and flexible mobility services and customers' trust in innovative solutions designated to streamline daily mobility across the emirate.

RTA continues to advance Dubai's sustainable public transport ecosystem by adopting smart and innovative solutions that meet the needs of residents and visitors. Among the most prominent is the smart shared bus service, which provides a flexible mobility option based on pre-booking through smart apps, bringing together riders travelling to nearby destinations in a shared journey marked by comfort, efficiency and accessibility.

Highest Operational Performance

The service recorded its highest operational performance in October 2025, transporting more than 18,000 riders in a single month – reflecting growing demand and its increasing role in meeting mobility needs between residential areas, business districts and key destinations across Dubai.

Innovative Operating Model

The service operates through a flexible model that enables customers to book their journeys easily via smart apps and benefit from dynamic routes tailored to demand. This ensures the highest levels of operational efficiency, enhances the public transport experience, spurs reduced reliance on private vehicles, and encourages greater use of public transport.

Supporting Sustainability Targets

The smart shared bus service supports Dubai's sustainability and green mobility targets by optimising vehicle utilisation, reducing traffic congestion and carbon emissions, and

Continuing to Develop S'hail App within Shared Digital Channels Ecosystem

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) continues to develop the S'hail app within the shared digital channels ecosystem, reflecting the government's direction to unify digital channels and deliver an integrated mobility experience through a single platform that brings together the emirate's various mobility services and modes. This forms part of an integrated roadmap aimed at developing the app in a way that enhances integration among entities and simplifies the customer journey.

RTA continues to develop the S'hail app in line with a future roadmap aimed at strengthening its position through expanding the scope of services and enhancing partnerships with the government and private sectors, further consolidating the app's role as a comprehensive digital mobility platform for the emirate.

S'hail enhances the mobility experience by enabling customers to access public transport payment services through the nol card. Customers can manage their cards and complete various related services through the app, including balance top-up, purchasing and renewing travel passes, and applying for and renewing personal nol cards, following the re-engineering of these services

providing effective solutions for first- and last-mile journeys – enhancing connectivity between residential and commercial areas and the emirate's public transport network.

Continuous Expansion and Diverse Options

The service currently covers several key areas across Dubai, while RTA continues to explore expansion opportunities in response to growing demand, offering customers more flexible and accessible mobility options and enhancing integration across various public transport modes.

The service ecosystem currently includes three authorised operating platforms, helping diversify the options available to customers, inspires innovation, and raise service quality in line with global best practices in the smart mobility sector.

Future Vision for Smart Mobility

These results support RTA's vision to build an integrated and sustainable transport system driven by technology and innovation – offering safe, comfortable and efficient mobility options that enhance quality of life and strengthen Dubai's position as a leading global city in smart and sustainable mobility.

in line with the principles of the Services 360 Policy.

The app was recently launched on smartwatches, enabling customers to access journey information, arrival and departure times, and real-time alerts directly from their smartwatch. This provides customers with faster and more convenient access to journey information while on the move.

S'hail is an integrated digital platform that enables customers to plan journeys across various public transport modes, including buses, Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, and abras. It also integrates with on-demand mobility services, taxi booking, and first- and last-mile transport options such as e-scooters and bicycles, providing customers with a seamless mobility experience through a single platform.

The app provides real-time journey information, bus occupancy data, and instant alerts on any changes or delays, enabling customers to plan their journeys more efficiently and make informed travel decisions.

Enhancing Bus Network Efficiency with 4 New Routes, Upgrading 13 Others

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) launched four new public bus routes and upgraded several existing routes from 17th July. The step forms part of ongoing efforts to raise the efficiency of the public transport network, improve connectivity between residential, commercial and service areas, and provide customers with more flexible and convenient mobility solutions.

These changes form part of RTA's regular review of the public bus network, based on studies of transport demand and passenger mobility patterns. They aim to enhance integration between public transport modes, improve service levels, and provide more efficient and sustainable mobility options for Dubai's residents and visitors.

The new routes are as follows:

- Route 35: Connects International City with Dubai Silicon Oasis, with 30-minute headways during peak hours.
- Route 85: Connects Al Quoz (Al Khail Gate) with Dubai Internet City Metro Station, with 20-minute headways during peak hours.
- Route 37A: Operates between International City and Dubai Silicon Oasis Lake, with 30-minute headways during peak hours.
- Route 37B: Operates between Dubai Silicon Oasis Lake and International City, with 30-minute headways during peak hours.

RTA will also introduce changes to several existing routes on the same date to improve operational efficiency and enhance integration with the Metro network and Metro Link services. Route 27 will be rerouted via Al Mustaqbal Street instead of Al Sukook Street, with Route 29 available as an alternative for passengers affected by the change.

The changes also include Routes 36A and 36B, where sections of their routes between International City and Dubai Silicon Oasis will be discontinued. Passengers heading to Academic City and Dubai Silicon Oasis may use the new Routes 37A and 37B.

To further enhance integration with the Metro network, Route 67 will be rerouted to connect with Oud Metha Bus Station instead of Al Ghubaiba Bus Station. Passengers may use the Dubai Metro Green Line to reach Bur Dubai.

Route 84 will also be modified to terminate at InsuranceMarket Bus Stop (South Side) instead of Mall of the Emirates. Passengers travelling between Dubai Marina and Al Quoz may use the new Route 85.

Route 88 will undergo a similar change, terminating at ONPASSIVE Metro Bus Stop (North Side) instead of Umm Al Sheif Street. Passengers heading to Dubai Internet City may use Route 8.

Routes 96 and X94 towards Al Quoz will be rerouted via Al Yalayis Street/Jebel Ali instead of Expo Road, improving journey efficiency and easing access to key destinations.

For Metro Link routes, Route F06 will be extended to serve Nad Shamma, Route F29 will be modified to serve Umm Al Sheif instead of Umm Suqeim 3, Route F36 will be extended to serve Al Barsha South 2, and Route F47 will be modified to serve staff accommodation in Jebel Ali Industrial Area.

Route F49 will no longer serve the Parco Hypermarket area when travelling from Danube Metro Station. Passengers may use several alternative routes, including Routes 56, 95A, F47 and F53, to reach the area.

During evening peak hours, Route C01 will be rerouted between Flame Intersection 2 and Dnata 2, as part of measures to improve journey times and enhance operational efficiency.

Route X22 towards Al Qusais Industrial Area will also be revised to bypass stops within Business Bay. The route will operate directly from Business Bay Metro Bus Stop (South Side 1) to Al Qusais Industrial Area 2 via Sheikh Zayed Road. Passengers in Business Bay may use the alternative Routes F14 and F41.

RTA and Dubai Police Sign Agreement to Develop Traffic System Services, Enhance Institutional Integration

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) and Dubai Police General Headquarters, represented by the General Department of Traffic, have signed a cooperation agreement to enhance institutional integration and develop traffic system services. The agreement aims to raise the efficiency of services delivered to customers and support the highest standards of quality and excellence in traffic operations management.

The agreement was signed by Major General Saif Muhair Al Mazrouei, Assistant Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police, and Ahmed Hasan Mahboob, CEO of RTA's Licensing Agency, in the presence of officials from both sides. The signing ceremony took place at Dubai Police Officers Club.

The agreement stems from a shared commitment to establishing stronger cooperation frameworks and elevating joint work between the two entities. It reflects RTA and Dubai Police's drive to strengthen their strategic partnership and unify efforts in support of Dubai Government's direction towards digital transformation and the advancement of government services, through the exchange of expertise and information and the development of joint working mechanisms related to traffic services and systems.

The agreement also reflects the commitment of both organisations to sustained cooperation and coordination in achieving their strategic objectives. It further underscores their shared drive to enhance quality of life in Dubai by delivering integrated and sustainable traffic services in line with international best practices.

It focuses on strengthening technical and operational cooperation between the two sides and developing connectivity and integration channels between relevant systems. This will ensure fast and accurate data exchange, improve the customer experience, and raise the efficiency of procedures and services linked to the traffic sector.

Both parties affirmed that the agreement marks an important step towards reinforcing joint action and developing Dubai's transport and traffic system. It aligns with the emirate's strategic vision and reinforces its global standing as a leading city in delivering smart and innovative services.

They added that the agreement will support both sides' efforts to achieve the highest levels of traffic safety, improve the efficiency of operational processes, and develop digital solutions that keep pace with future developments and meet the needs of customers and partners.

Honouring Long-Term Service Employees

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, Roads and Transport Authority, honoured several RTA's long-serving employees in recognition of their dedication and outstanding contributions to RTA's journey and achievements throughout their years of service.

Al Tayer expressed his pride in the efforts of the honoured employees, whose work has played a tangible role in RTA's growth and continued success. He noted that recognising their service reflects RTA's culture of appreciation and loyalty towards its people, as well as its firm belief that human capital is the key driver of institutional excellence and sustainable success.

The recognition reflects RTA's commitment to honouring employees with distinguished long-service careers, some spanning up to 45 years, in appreciation of the expertise, dedication and sincere efforts that have helped strengthen RTA's position and advance its legacy of continuous development and leadership in serving Dubai, its residents and visitors.

The recognition included Mona Abdulrahman Saleh Abdulrahman Al Osaimi, Adel Mohammed Nour Mohammed Sharif Shakri, Ahmed Ali Mohammed Abdullah Al Theeb Al Kaabi, Muhaila Hashel Saeed Hashel Al Zahmi, Hamad Ali Mohammed bin Hajar Al Shehhi, Mona Salem Jumaa Al Muhairbi, Azza Abdulwahab Ahmed Al Mashra, Ahmed Rashid Ahmed Rashid Al Harmoodi, Khalid Abdullah Mohammed Saeed, Ahmed Mohammed Sharif Mohammed Awadhi, Munira Yousuf Hamza Al Asmakh, Hussain Hassan Ahmed Hassan Al Dosari, Khalid Omar Awad Mubarak, Mohammed Ali Ibrahim Ismail Al Hammadi, Khalid Ali Abdulrahman Ahmed Saab Al Ali, Najeeb Abbas Ahmed Ali Tobji, Saud Ali Qasim Ali Abdullah Al Shuaibi, Iman Abdulrazzaq Mohammed Abdulrahman Huwair, Wedad Obaid Khalfan Al Wedad Al Suwaidi, Ammar Mohammed Abdullah Khalfan Al Attar, Khalid Mohammed Ahmed Abdulrahman Al Qattan, Amna Nabil Hamad Bu Issa Al Shamsi, Saleh Mohammed Awad Al Mansoori, Majid Mousa Abdullah Hassan Al Khumairi, Ahmed Abdullah Mohammed Abdullah Baba Aish, Amir Ali Wahid Bakhsh, Khalid Ibrahim Saeed Abduldayem, Mohammed Abdulrasoul Mousa Ahmed Lanjawi, Mohammed Ahmed Ibrahim Masoomi, Abdul Malik Ibrahim Mohammed Abulsheikh, Maryam Mousa Hassan Mohammed Al Blooshi, Mohammed Yousuf Abdulhadi Abdulaziz, Jumaa Yar Mohammed Qadhi, Noushad Mariam Vittal, Ahmed Abbas Abdullah Essa Al Blooshi, Khalid Mohammed Faraj Mohammed Al Mulla, Saqib Zia Khan Riaz Gul Khan, Jalaluddin Abdulrahman Abdulrahman, and Mohammed Ibrahim Ahmed Ali.

Adel Mohammed Shakri

Ahmed Ali Al Kaabi

Muhaila Hashel Al Zahmi

Hamad Ali Al Shehhi

Azza Abdulwahab Al Mashra

Ahmed Rashid Al Harmoodi

Khalid Ali Al Ali

Ahmed Mohammed Awadhi

Munira Yousuf Al Asmakh

Khalid Omar Mubarak

Mohammed Ali Al Hammadi

Najeeb Abbas Ali Tobji

Saud Ali Al Shuaibi

Iman Abdulrazzaq Huwair

Amna Nabil Al Shamsi

Saleh Mohammed Al Mansoori

Majid Mousa Al Khumairi

Ahmed Abdullah Baba Aish

Wedad Obaid Al Suwaidi

Abdul Malik Ibrahim Abulsheikh

Faisal Alian

Ahmed Abbas Al Blooshi

Mohammed Abdulrasoul Lanjawi

Mohammed Ahmed Masoomi

Jalaluddin Abdulrahman Abdulrahman

Jumaa Yar Qadhi

Noushad Mariam Vittal

Mohammed Yousuf Abdulaziz

Saqib Zia Gul Khan

Amir Ali Bakhsh

Organising AI Workshop to Strengthen Employees' Digital Transformation Capabilities

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) organised a specialised training workshop on developing smart solutions for digital transformation across several fields using artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. The workshop aimed to strengthen employees' capabilities, streamline procedures, support operational efficiency, and improve service quality.

They also underscore RTA's dedication to empowering employees with advanced tools and technologies that enable them to develop practical applications, raise productivity, and deliver added value to customers.

The workshop was organised by the Corporate Technology Support Services Sector at RTA's Fourth Industrial Revolution Lab, in collaboration with global AI and data analytics company Dataiku. Around 50 employees representing RTA's agencies and sectors took part, reviewing a range of initiatives, projects, and innovative solutions that leverage AI technologies to enhance performance.

The workshop forms part of RTA's efforts to promote corporate innovation, support Dubai's digital transformation strategy, and consolidate the emirate's position as a leading global hub for the adoption and application of AI technologies. It also reflects RTA's commitment to empowering employees with advanced tools and technologies that enable them to develop practical applications, raise productivity, and deliver added value to customers.

These activities further aim to enhance agility and innovation, achieve leadership in AI-driven transformation across RTA's services, products, and operations, adopt robust corporate AI governance, and strengthen technical and data capabilities to keep pace with the rapid and continuous evolution of this field.

Holding Customers Council with Umm Suqeim and Jumeirah Residents

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) held a Customers Council with residents of Umm Suqeim, Jumeirah and neighbouring areas, attended by several CEOs and directors of the departments concerned. The Council reflects RTA's dedication to direct community engagement, valuing resident input and ideas to drive service improvements, project development and higher customer satisfaction.

The Council forms part of RTA's broader approach to fostering a culture of open dialogue with customers, involving them in reviewing current and future projects and introducing them to plans for developing the roads and transport network in their residential areas. This strengthens community partnership and ensures initiatives and services are developed in line with residents' needs and aspirations.

During the session, RTA outlined its vision for developing infrastructure and traffic flow in residential areas, including upgrading key road corridors, upgrading internal roads, delivering road lighting projects, expanding pedestrian and cycling tracks, advancing flexible mobility solutions, and broadening public transport services. The session also highlighted major ongoing and upcoming projects in Umm Suqeim and Jumeirah, including developing Jumeirah, Al Wasl, Umm Suqeim and Al Safa streets, along with improvements to Sheikh Zayed Road and Hessa Street. These projects will support smoother traffic flow, strengthen integration with public transport, and enhance

Dataiku presented its advanced platform for AI and data analytics, which enables users to develop sophisticated models and analyses with ease and efficiency. Participating employees were also given the opportunity to experience the platform in practice and develop prototype applications using it.

Development Initiatives

The workshop focused on several development projects and initiatives presented by employees, including the "Chatbot", an AI-powered digital assistant designed to enable the Enterprise Command and Control Centre (EC3) to monitor metro operations, and to allow train operations staff and operators to query data and access planned operational support.

Also featured was the "Smart Job Description Generation" initiative, an AI-powered tool that automatically creates and updates professional, structured job descriptions for newly created positions based on user inputs such as role requirements, duties, and responsibilities.

Further initiatives included the "Operations Dashboard", which provides a comprehensive view of daily transport operations and enables efficient monitoring and control, as well as "Vehicle Inspection Using Advanced AI Vision Technologies", deploying models that automatically identify violations and classify them for review, achieving 100% inspection coverage. The workshop also covered the use of AI technologies in S'hail app.

Participants were divided into working teams and took part in a series of training and hands-on sessions focused on exploring the capabilities of generative and analytical AI within the platform, building and developing smart models using advanced tools, and transforming ideas into applicable solutions within the work environment.

The workshop supports efforts to maximise the use of AI platforms deployed at RTA. It forms part of a wider series of technical AI workshops, advanced training courses, hackathon sessions, and other events and programmes, including sponsorship for students and employees to pursue bachelor's and master's degree programmes in artificial intelligence and data science. These efforts reflect RTA's ongoing commitment to enhancing corporate innovation, supporting Dubai's digital transformation strategy, and consolidating the emirate's position as a leading global hub for the adoption and application of AI technologies.

quality of life in residential neighbourhoods.

Customers were also briefed on several strategic public transport projects, led by the Dubai Metro Blue Line project and its role in supporting the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, alongside an overview of public transport services and the network serving Umm Suqeim, Al Safa and Jumeirah. The network connects residents to metro stations and various areas of the emirate, reinforcing the integration of transport modes and offering more efficient, sustainable mobility options.

The Council featured an interactive dialogue with attendees, who discussed a range of topics including traffic-calming measures in residential neighbourhoods, road development projects, and future mobility plans. Customers commended RTA's initiative in providing a platform to submit suggestions and enquiries about its services, as well as RTA's commitment to transparency and to strengthening direct communication channels with customers. This enables RTA to channel customers' feedback and proposals into future services and projects, thereby boosting customer satisfaction and meeting community expectations.

Launching Traffic Awareness Campaign for Truck Drivers and Transport Operators

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a traffic awareness campaign targeting truck drivers and transport and freight companies, in cooperation with Dubai Police General Headquarters. The campaign runs throughout the summer from June to August, at truck rest areas and on main roads across Dubai.

The campaign features a series of field activities and awareness workshops aimed at promoting safe driving practices, protecting lives and property, reinforcing traffic responsibility, and highlighting the importance of regular vehicle maintenance. RTA will also distribute awareness publications and leaflets explaining traffic safety requirements, ways to avoid violations and accidents, and the importance of checking tyre and brake safety before setting off.

The campaign aligns with RTA's strategic goals of guiding and motivating customer behaviour to support a safer and smoother mobility system. He noted that RTA is deploying all resources to facilitate truck movement, particularly during the summer, through close cooperation with relevant entities and intensified awareness campaigns aimed at reducing accidents and enhancing traffic safety.

The awareness and guidance activities include producing awareness videos featuring social media influencers for distribution across social media platforms, as well as conducting targeted surveys with truck drivers to capture their feedback and requirements. These activities are being carried out across several areas in Dubai, including truck rest areas, Emirates Road and Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, with awareness messages also displayed on electronic signs across Dubai's roads.

The campaign aims to engage directly with drivers and educate them about the importance of complying with traffic safety requirements, foremost among them never stopping in the middle of the road, given the direct danger this poses to road users. In emergencies, drivers must immediately call 901.

The Director of Traffic noted that the campaign encourages drivers to read and comply with the Truck Safety Manual, prepared by RTA in three languages. The electronic link to the manual has been printed on giveaway items distributed to truck drivers during all field and awareness visits. The manual includes

Conducting Field Campaign to Enhance Trailer Safety Across Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) implemented a comprehensive inspection and awareness campaign under the slogan "Trailer Safety" during the first half of this year. The campaign focused on licensing-related requirements and trailer safety on the emirate's vital roads, ensuring their full compliance with technical standards and regulations. This initiative comes as part of RTA's ongoing commitment to enhancing road safety standards and achieving its vision of becoming The World Leader in Seamless and Sustainable Mobility.

Saeed Al Ramsi, Director of Licensing Activities Monitoring at RTA, said: "The campaign reached 1,500 heavy vehicle drivers across the emirate's key roads, focusing on the technical safety standards and requirements that vehicles must meet, including tyres, brakes, lights and other safety features. It also emphasised

key information on preventive truck inspection, tyre safety, brake efficiency, and procedures for handling emergency breakdowns. The campaign also targets transport companies and truck operators, highlighting their role in ensuring regular vehicle maintenance, verifying that tyres are fit for use and trucks are ready for operation before deployment, and encouraging drivers to take sufficient rest breaks and avoid continuous driving over long distances. As part of these efforts, RTA cooperated with Continental Tires to inspect several truck tyres over two days in Ras Al Khor.

Inspection and Enforcement Campaigns

Joint inspection teams from RTA and Dubai Police continue to carry out extensive enforcement campaigns at the end of each month, focusing on verifying compliance with technical safety requirements and identifying defects and violations related to truck safety. These efforts contribute to enhancing the safety and security of road users.

Awareness Guidelines for Truck Drivers

- Inspect the vehicle thoroughly before every journey.
- Check tyre pressure and tread condition regularly.
- Ensure brakes, lights and indicators are working properly.
- Secure the load properly to prevent movement during transport.
- Always wear your seat belt.
- Maintain a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Avoid distractions, including using a mobile phone while driving.
- Observe speed limits and adjust your speed according to road and weather conditions.
- Check blind spots and mirrors continuously.
- Take regular breaks to avoid fatigue and drowsiness while driving.
- Use hazard lights and reflective triangles during emergency stops.
- Never stop in unsafe locations or where traffic flow may be obstructed.
- Plan your route in advance and use designated truck routes.
- Stay alert to smaller vehicles around your truck.
- Report any vehicle faults or defects immediately and have them repaired.

In the Event of a Truck Breakdown

- Stay calm and reduce speed gradually.
- Move the broken-down truck to a safe location away from the road.
- Switch on hazard lights immediately.
- Place warning triangles at a safe distance behind the truck.
- Keep away from traffic and stay in a safe location.
- Contact Dubai Police Operations on 901.

the importance of trailer licensing and registration, and the need for drivers to hold valid professional permits, as part of broader efforts to reduce traffic accidents."

The campaign identified several technical defects in trailers, most notably worn-out tyres, defective rear and side lights, the absence of reflective stickers at the rear of trailers, and unsafe vehicle loading that might pose a risk to the road and its users. Accordingly, drivers were briefed on the relevant standards and requirements via a QR code providing guidance in three languages: Arabic, English and Urdu.

Al Ramsi added: "These routine campaigns support RTA's traffic safety strategy and align with the strategic goal and objective of 'Health, Safety and Security' in enhancing mobility safety. They further support the logistics transport sector by promoting safer roads and protecting the safety of drivers and all road users."

People with Diabetes and Beneficial Fruits

Although doctors strongly warn people with all types of diabetes against consuming white sugar and other forms of sugar, including natural sugars found in fruits such as dates, figs, grapes, mangoes and bananas, and advise that these should be eaten in moderation and with caution, they also recommend other types of fruit that may be consumed with greater flexibility and a lower degree of caution.

The fruits that people with diabetes may eat daily are those rich in fibre, which help promote a feeling of fullness and curb cravings for unhealthy foods. They should also have a glycaemic index (GI) of 69 or lower; the lower the GI, the better.

Among the fruits doctors recommend that people with diabetes consume in moderation are:

Grapefruit: Grapefruit consists of 91% water, is rich in vitamin C, has a glycaemic index of 25, and contains a high proportion of soluble fibre. Eating half a grapefruit daily may help regulate blood sugar levels.

Strawberries: Strawberries contain many vitamins, antioxidants and fibre, which help people with diabetes manage their condition.

Thanks to their low glycaemic index of 41 and low carbohydrate content, strawberries help people with diabetes curb persistent hunger, maintain energy levels, and balance blood sugar.

Oranges: Oranges are an excellent choice for people with diabetes, offering many health benefits. Thanks to their high fibre content, low sugar content, and richness in vitamins C and B1, oranges help regulate blood sugar levels. Oranges consist of 87% water and have a very low glycaemic index of 44.

Cherries: Cherries are considered highly beneficial for people with diabetes, thanks to their low glycaemic index

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of 22 and their richness in vitamins C, A and B9, as well as antioxidants, iron, potassium, magnesium and fibre. They are also believed to help lower blood sugar levels and increase insulin production by 50%.

Apples: Apples not only have a low glycaemic index of 38, but are also rich in vitamin C, soluble fibre and antioxidants. They contain pectin, a substance that helps eliminate toxins from the body and may reduce the insulin needs of people with diabetes by approximately 35%.

Pears: Pears consist of 84% water and contain high levels of fibre, along with vitamins that help regulate blood sugar levels. Pears are believed to be highly beneficial for people with diabetes, as they improve the body's sensitivity to insulin. They also have a low glycaemic index of 38.

Late-ripening green plums: In addition to being low in calories, plums have a very low glycaemic index of 24. Thanks to their rich fibre content, plums are considered an ideal fruit for people with diabetes and heart disease. They also help relieve constipation in many patients and improve digestion.

Avocados: The healthy fats and potassium found in avocados are highly beneficial for people with diabetes. Avocados may also help lower triglyceride levels and LDL cholesterol in the body. They also have a very low and safe glycaemic index of 15.

Peaches: Peaches are an excellent choice for people with diabetes, as they have a low glycaemic index of 28 and are rich in fibre. The antioxidants and vitamins found in peaches are also highly beneficial for people with diabetes.

Pineapples: Pineapples are known for their antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties and are among the fruits recommended for people with diabetes. Pineapple has a glycaemic index of 56, which is considered a safe level for people with diabetes.

Pomegranates: Pomegranates are an ideal choice for people with diabetes and have a low glycaemic index of 18.

Glycaemic Index: The glycaemic index is a numerical scale that classifies carbohydrate-containing foods from 0 to 100, based on how quickly they raise blood sugar levels.

How to Estimate the Approximate HbA1c Level of a Person with Diabetes

1.Take a random blood glucose reading daily for at least one week.

2.Add the readings for all days, then divide the total by the number of days to obtain the average reading.

3.Add 50 to the result.

4.Divide the result by 30 to obtain the approximate HbA1c level for that period.

Example: If the average random blood glucose reading is 130, add 50 to make 180, then divide by 30. The result is 6, which represents the approximate HbA1c level for that period.

This article is for awareness purposes only and does not constitute medical advice. A doctor should always be consulted for direct medical guidance.

The Beauty Queens of the Bus World

The world's most beautiful buses range from classic public transport icons and luxury tour buses to innovative, eco-friendly designs.

Among the best-known buses celebrated for their beauty and performance are:

Routemaster Buses:
London's red double-decker Routemaster is a global icon, particularly the classic older model with its historic open rear platform.

■ **In recent years, the world has seen the manufacture of many smart and modern modes of transport, most notably smart buses, which have entered service and changed the concept of mobility.**

Hydra-Terra Amphibious Bus:
One of the most beautiful and unusual tourist buses, the Hydra-Terra operates on ordinary roads before transforming into a boat that moves through water. It is used for sightseeing tours.

■ **Whether smart or classic, buses continue to attract many people who see them as more than a means of transport. To them, buses are a place where past and present come together.**

■ **Not all buses are alike. There are ordinary buses, and there are luxury buses made especially for the wealthy.**

Toyota Coaster Buses: Known for their elegant, streamlined design, Toyota Coaster buses are among the world's most widely used and reliable minibuses, particularly in Japan and the Gulf countries.

New Explorer Buses: These highly luxurious buses are designed for safari and camping trips, featuring a rugged exterior design and interiors fitted out like luxury hotel rooms.

Artificial Intelligence: Between Pioneering and Cost Reduction

According to a report published by Axios, the US administration faces two main challenges in its efforts to promote American AI technologies globally.

The first is an export-control policy described as volatile, with decisions restricting access to advanced models being taken inconsistently, creating uncertainty across the sector.

The second challenge lies in Washington's failure to keep pace with China's efforts to roll out open-source AI models globally, while deploying them widely within China across manufacturing, healthcare and other sectors.

In an attempt to strengthen its influence, the US State Department has expanded the Pax Silica initiative, which aims to create a US-led bloc in artificial intelligence and semiconductors, while reducing global dependence on Chinese technology.

The move, however, comes as American AI companies continue to deal with the fallout from export restrictions imposed on the latest models developed by Anthropic. At the same time, Chinese models continue to narrow the technological gap with their American counterparts while being offered at lower costs.

Huawei Strategy

Emily Weinstein, a former US Commerce Department official and now a researcher at the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission, believes that what is happening resembles what Huawei did in the telecommunications sector.

She said China is not merely providing AI models, but is also offering the related infrastructure free of charge or at extremely low prices, making it easier for these technologies to spread across emerging markets.

She warned that the widespread deployment of Chinese AI across countries of the Global South could create what she described as an enhanced version of the Huawei model, leaving these countries dependent on Chinese infrastructure that is incompatible with American systems.

Daniel Remler, a former technology adviser at the US State Department, said the decision to restrict the export of Anthropic models had frozen the entire sector pending a clearer policy.

He added that this hesitation was a source of concern at a time when China is moving at full speed to strengthen its global presence.

Saif Khan, a former Adviser to the US Commerce Secretary on Emerging Technologies, pointed to growing global calls for AI sovereignty, expecting many countries to lean towards using open-source Chinese models rather than more advanced American models.

- **The United States is racing to consolidate its leadership in artificial intelligence and build a global alliance around its technologies. China, however, is advancing rapidly with low-cost, high-efficiency models, weakening Washington's efforts to persuade countries to rely solely on American technology.**
- **The competition no longer appears to be confined to developing the most powerful model. It has expanded to who can deploy that model on the widest scale.**

Washington Rallies Allies

By contrast, the US administration is seeking to contain this trend by strengthening international alliances.

US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Jacob Helberg announced that 35 countries had signed the AI Opportunity Declaration under the Pax Silica initiative.

Helberg also criticised the concept of digital sovereignty, arguing that building independent national AI infrastructure is a "backward and unproductive" approach that leads to what he described as "synchronous mediocrity".

Source: Sky News Arabia.