

Law No. (17) of 2005
Establishing the Roads and
Transport Authority

We, Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

The Dubai Police Law of 1966;

Decree of 1961 Establishing Dubai Municipality;

Law No. (5) of 1994 Establishing Dubai Transport Corporation and its amendments;

Law No. (7) of 2002 Regulating Roads in the Emirate of Dubai; and

Executive Council Resolutions No. (6) of 2003 and No. (3) of 2005 Forming the Permanent Supreme Road Traffic Committee,

Do hereby issue this Law.

Article (1)

This law will be cited as “Law No. (17) of 2005 Establishing the Roads and Transport Authority”.

Article (2)¹

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

UAE: The United Arab Emirates.

Emirate: The Emirate of Dubai.

Ruler: His Highness the Ruler of Dubai.

Government: The Government of Dubai.

Executive Council: The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai.

RTA: The Roads and Transport Authority.

¹ - Amended by Law No. (19) 2022

Director General: The director general and chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the RTA.

Board of Executive Directors: The Board of Executive Directors of the RTA.

Directors:

Article (3)²

Pursuant to this Law, a public authority named the “Roads and Transport Authority” is established. The RTA will have legal personality and the legal capacity required to undertake all acts and dispositions that ensure the achievement of its objectives.

Article (4)³

Article (5)⁴

Without prejudice to the functions of federal and local government entities, the RTA will undertake the planning and implementation of the work required for roads and traffic management in the Emirate; and the regulation and provision of required transport services within the Emirate, between the Emirate and other emirates of the UAE, and between the Emirate and neighbouring countries, with a view to providing an efficient and integrated transport system that contributes to the achievement of the vision of the Emirate and serves its vital interests. For these purposes, the RTA will have the duties and powers to:

1. develop, in coordination with the concerned entities, comprehensive strategic plans for roads and traffic management; for regulation and operation of land transport; and for operation of passenger transport Vessels and air vehicles;
2. devise, develop, and implement the policies required to optimise the use of all elements of land transport;
3. devise and develop, in coordination with the concerned entities, the policies related to the operation of Vessels and air vehicles for mass transport of passengers in the Emirate;

² - Amended by Law No. (19) 2022

³ - Repealed by Law No. (19) 2022

⁴ - Amended by Law No. (19) 2022

4. study and approve the plans for privatising or outsourcing certain services assigned to the RTA;
5. build, manage, operate and maintain an integrated system of roads, bridges, tunnels, and pedestrian walkways;
6. build, manage, operate, and maintain an integrated traffic system in the Emirate, and regulate traffic flow and lanes, in coordination with the Dubai Police;
7. build, manage, and operate an integrated system for all types and categories of land transport using vehicles, buses, trains, suspended transport systems, or other intelligent transport systems, in order to ensure the provision of appropriate services that meet the needs of all segments of the society in accordance with the highest safety and quality standards;
8. build, manage, and operate an integrated system for passenger transport using Vessels, in coordination with the Dubai Maritime City Authority and in accordance with the relevant legislation in force;
9. build, manage, and operate an integrated system for passenger transport using air vehicles, in coordination with the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects Corporation, and the Dubai Air Navigation Services Corporation and in accordance with the relevant legislation in force;
10. prepare and implement the technical and administrative operating systems related to the work of the RTA;
11. prepare the studies required for determining and applying the fees and fares related to roads, transport, and traffic, including tolls for the use of the roads network; fees for licensing drivers and vehicles; and fares for transport by the Vessels and air vehicles of the RTA;
12. propose the legislation required for regulating transport, roads, and traffic, with a view to implementing the strategic objectives and plans of the Emirate;
13. register vehicles and license drivers, in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate; and prescribe the rules and procedures required for maintaining the highest levels of driving performance and traffic safety;
14. authorise public mass transport routes in the Emirate;
15. authorise the conduct of the activities and business which the RTA is assigned to regulate and supervise under the legislation in force in the Emirate. This includes issuing authorisations to

the entities operating any electronic media and applications related to these activities and business;

16. manage and regulate public car parks and right of way, and issue the permits required for carrying out works within the same, in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate;
17. determine speed limits on roads and railways, and provide the required operational facilities and traffic signs and solutions, in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate;
18. establish and update the road naming and numbering system; and
19. exercise any other duties or powers assigned to it by the Ruler or the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Article (6)

For the purpose of performing its duties, the RTA may:

1. own and take lease of real property, movables, materials, devices, equipment, and software required for conducting and accomplishing its work;
2. be a shareholder or partner with entities, persons, companies, and authorities within and outside of the Emirate in areas related to its activities and duties, and conclude the agreements required in this respect; and
3. perform any other acts related to the work and objectives of the RTA.

Article (7)⁵

Article (8)

Independent corporations, and companies conducting business in the areas of roads, transport, and traffic, may be affiliated to the RTA, provided that any such corporation or company is established by a resolution issued by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Article (9)⁶

The RTA will have a Board of Executive Directors comprised of the Director General, as chairman, and a number of competent and specialised members appointed pursuant to a resolution of the Director General.

⁵ Repealed by Law No. 19 of 2022

⁶ Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

**Article
(10)⁷**

The Board of Executive Directors will manage the RTA and supervise its administrative, technical, and financial affairs. It will make the decisions and apply the procedures it deems appropriate for achieving the objectives and goals of the RTA including:

1. setting the general policy and project plans of the RTA and its affiliates;
2. preparing the draft budget of the RTA and its affiliates, and submitting this to the Executive Council for approval;
3. preparing the organisational structure and the bylaws related to regulating the administrative, financial, and technical affairs of the RTA and its affiliates, and submitting these to the Executive Council;
4. approving the fees related to transport in the Emirate including road tolls, public parking charges, vehicle registration fees, and determining passenger transport fares; and
5. appointing auditors and determining their remuneration at the beginning of every financial year.

**Article
(11)⁸**

The Board of Executive Directors will be convened at least once every one (1) month at the invitation of its chairman. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be valid only if attended by a quorum of at least five (5) members including its chairman. Resolutions of the Board of Directors will be passed by the majority vote of attending members, and in the event of a tie the chair of the meeting will have the casting vote. Resolutions of the Board of Directors will be recorded in minutes signed by the chair of the meeting and attending members.

**Article
(12)⁹**

1. The Board of Executive Directors may form temporary or permanent sub-committees to assist it in performing its duties. The Board of Directors will determine the functions and powers of these sub-committees, and may delegate any of its powers to them.
2. In performing its functions, the Board of Executive Directors may seek the assistance of experts and specialists whom it deems appropriate to invite to its meetings, provided that they do not have the right to vote in its deliberations.

**Article
(13)¹⁰**

Neither the Board of Executive Directors, nor its chairman, nor any of its members will, in the

⁷ Amended by Law No. 19 of 2022

⁸ Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

⁹ Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

¹⁰ Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

course of managing the RTA and its operations, be liable to third parties for any act or omission with respect to this management. The RTA will be solely liable to third parties for such act or omission.

**Article
(14)¹¹**

The chairman of the Board of Executive Directors is the Executive Director of the RTA, will represent it before third parties, and will, within the powers vested in him, manage all its affairs to ensure the achievement of its objectives including, but not limited to:

1. implementing the resolutions issued, and the general policy set, by the Board of Executive Directors;
2. drafting the annual budget of the RTA and presenting it to the Board of Directors;
3. supervising the work of the executive body of the RTA;
4. proposing the organisational structure and the financial, administrative, and technical bylaws regulating work at the RTA;
5. supervising the work of the corporations and entities affiliated to the RTA and signing the memoranda of understanding required in this regard; and
6. exercising any other powers vested in him by the Board of Executive Directors or stipulated by any resolution issued in pursuance of this Law.

**Article
(15)¹²**

The executive body of the RTA will be comprised of the Executive Director and a number of employees and administrative officers who will be governed by the Employee Affairs Regulation of the Emirate of Dubai or any superseding legislation.

**Article
(16)**

Pursuant to this Law, all rights, liabilities, responsibilities, and powers of the Roads Department, the Dubai Metro Sector, the Department of Public Transport, the Road Maintenance Section, the Road Lighting Division of the General Maintenance Department of Dubai Municipality, the Traffic Engineering Section, the Traffic Safety Section, the Vehicle Registration Section, the Driver Licensing Section, and the Plates Factory Section of the General Department of Traffic at the Dubai Police General Headquarters will be transferred to the RTA.

The RTA may transfer to its employment, as it deems appropriate, any of the employees of the above-mentioned organisational units or appoint new employees according to work requirements.

¹¹ Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

¹² - Amended by Law No. 15 of 2015

**Article
(17)¹³**

- a. The financial resources of the RTA will consist of:
1. the financial appropriations allocated to the RTA in the General Budget of the Government;
 2. the revenue collected by the RTA in return for the services it provides;
 3. returns on the investment of the RTA property;
 4. the grants, gifts, donations, bequests, and endowments received by the RTA and accepted by the Director General in accordance with the relevant legislation in force in the Emirate;
and
 5. any other resources approved by the Executive Council.

The revenue collected by the RTA in return for the services it provides and the activities it conducts will be paid to the Public Treasury of the Government

**Article
(18)¹⁴**

**Article
(19)¹⁵**

- a. In managing its accounts and records, the RTA will apply the rules and principles of government accounting in accordance with the relevant legislation in force in the Emirate.
- b. The Financial Year of the RTA will commence on 1 January and will end on 31 December of each Year.

**Article
(20)**

Any provision in any other resolution or legislation will be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.

¹³ - Amended by Law No. 19 of 2022

¹⁴ - Repealed by Law No. 19 of 2022

¹⁵ - Amended by Law No. 19 of 2022

**Article
(21)**

This Law will be published in the Official Gazette and will come into force on the day on which it is issued.

**Maktoum bin Rashid Al
Maktoum Ruler of Dubai**

Issued in Dubai on 1 November 2005
Corresponding to 29 Ramadan 1426
A.H.