

Baghdad Provincial Council

Public Transport in Baghdad City

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Dear audience

On behalf of Baghdad provincial council, I appreciate your invitation hope that it will be a real step toward a successful cooperation between our countries.

My presentation will focus on public transportation cooperation opportunities

spatial and demographic growth of Baghdad city over the last few decades, and what expected to face in the future makes the provision of a sustainable transport system, the main challenge facing Baghdad provincial council, especially as the city has a wide road network and is destined to all areas depending primarily on private car

The planning studies that have been prepared for the city, has concluded that the development of public transport system is one of the critical issues facing the city of Baghdad. In view of this situation, there is a need to look for a suitable public transportation system to be adopted, as well as the search for funding and institutional foundations to ensure the success of this system.

As a city council, we focused on the importance and the role of public transport in the city of Baghdad, by reviewing the current situation of the institutions responsible for public transport in the city focusing on the problems preventing the efficient performance of its functions. These problems range from land use to economic and social characteristics, operational and institutional problems

These problems have led to the continued decline in the service provided by these institutions through the decrease (or lack of) the operating routes and the low percentage of their contribution to the movement of citizens, so we came to a conclusion that investment opportunities in the public transport sector must be studied and adopted

We started to overlook the experiences of other countries in the field of improving public transport, including third world countries whose economic and social conditions are similar to those of Baghdad

International experience proved that public transport can be attractive to middle-class groups even in communities depending on private vehicles for mobility, **It is also explained:**

- The importance of integration between public transport management and other governmental functions.
 - The authority responsible for public transport needs to be independent to make operational decisions, public transport needs stable and well-known sources of funding
- **Baghdad City Council came to conclusions that:**

- Public transport systems in Baghdad must be restructured to achieve environmental sustainability of these systems
- Public transportation systems continue to play an important role in providing access to groups of society that do not own vehicles and as a means of avoiding overcrowding.

-The upgrading and efficiency of public transport system is not limited to the construction of new high-cost systems, but may be achieved through improving and better use of existing equipment and infrastructure as a starting action projects for the first period

Obviously we need to discuss several issues in this meeting, including the possibility of using foreign experiences in the development of public transport system in Baghdad city, and cope the stressed need to find suitable alternatives of public transport modes that cope with social and environmental characteristics of Baghdad city.

Next steps

- 1 - The need to an a comprehensive study to examine the alternatives to develop a safe and effective public transport system in the city of Baghdad. Including clearly defining objectives, evaluating available technical alternatives, cost-benefit study as well as research into the institutional structures required for the construction and operation of this system, as well as exploring the possibility of private sector involvement in this areas,
through cooperation with countries of successful experience

2- Institutional restructuring to improve public transport system operations within the city of Baghdad, as existing institutional structures cannot improve the level of public transport services to the required level.

3 – Regional transport strategy for Baghdad for the transport between Baghdad and the provinces surrounding, and transfer stations between the modes of transport.

Thank you for listening

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