

# Kyiv Mayor Newsletter

February 2020

**CHANGE STARTS WITH KYIV**

## **Klitschko: Kyiv introduces more restrictive measures due to coronavirus disease**



In a video Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko posted on Facebook, he revealed what the city government is doing to keep the coronavirus disease from spreading. “The city steps up and introduces more restrictive measures. We have to buy more time and reduce the risk of the virus transmission. Such strict measures will help stop the spread of the virus,” emphasized Vitali Klitschko.

He told that as of March 17 the city will temporarily ban any gatherings of more than 60 people and any massive events. Recreation, cultural and sport facilities, shopping malls and restaurants, spas and salons will be closed. Though cafes and restaurants will keep on the online food deliveries. Authorities also recommend to restrict traveling between Kyiv and other cities. Supermarkets, pharmacies, banks and filing stations will continue operating.

“We fully understand the inconvenience such measures cause for citizens and the economic detriment to local businesses. This is a temporary necessity. People’s health and life come first, they are more important than money and revenues,” he added.



“Our particular concern is the vulnerable residents. The city government will deliver groceries and basic necessities to seniors who live alone,” said Klitschko.

“Meanwhile we are not shutting public transport but we hope for people’s common sense. The city is disinfecting the whole public transit fleet several times a day, but we still urge citizens to put on a face mask while they are taking public transportation,” underlined Kyiv mayor.

According to the mayor, the city has allocated ₾10 million to purchase face masks which would be available in hospitals, clinics and Pharmatsiya pharmacies. 5,000 tests are already on hand in the hospitals and diagnostic laboratories across the city. More 100,000 rapid tests for coronavirus will soon be available at two city airports and in seven municipal hospitals which have been set up as dedicated coronavirus treatment centres. They are Oleksandrivska clinic, Kyiv Municipal Hospitals No. 4 and No. 9, Children’s Clinical Hospitals No. 1 and No. 2, the Kyiv Infectious Disease Children’s Hospital and the Clinic for Maternal and Reproductive Health.



The mayor encouraged everyone who is having symptoms of the virus that can be checked online, to immediately call a family doctor. With a doctor’s order, such person will be tested for coronavirus. The city is running a hotline 15-83 or +38-044-235-01-01 for any questions related to COVID-19 testing and treatment.

“Dear friends, tough times await us. Now it all depends on our common sense and our own responsibility for our health and the safety of people around us. Don’t panic and check the official information. Please remember that Kyivans’ health and safety is our top priority!” emphasized Klitschko.

## New services at Kyiv public administrative centres

“Kyiv is stepping up to make the city more liveable. With this in mind we have introduced a network of public administrative centres and continue to expand their services,” remarked Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko. “Recently we have brought a new service of initial vehicle registration. Now all kinds of vehicles can be registered with the centre, even agricultural machinery,” he added.

Mayor also revealed that as from January the centres issue also a temporary residence permit. “Being a one-stop service office the Kyiv public administrative centres are now authorized to issue also a temporary residence permit and job permit for non-residents. The most popular services are: passport services, residence registration, driving licence renewal, vehicle registration, property ownership and business registration,” told Vitali Klitschko.

Average processing time is up to 15 minutes. There are no service fees, only official administrative charges.

All centers are accessible for disabled customers.





## First LVAD implantation by Oleksandrivska hospital

For the first time heart surgeons of Oleksandrivska clinical hospital have implanted a LVAD device. Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko went to visit a patient who underwent the surgery in hospital.

“This cardiac unit is one of the best in Ukraine. Over two years it completed over 7,000 heart surgeries and saved over 7,000 lives. Now the surgeons successfully implanted a LVAD device. Very few such surgeries have been performed in Ukraine and only by the Heart Institute,” told Klitschko. “This is the highest level of cardiac expertise. The operation was successful and the patient is getting well,” he remarked.



Cardiac surgeons of the hospital have been trained in the U.S. to implant a LVAD and are licensed to perform such surgeries. The cost of the device is ₴4,5 million, the cost of the operation is about ₴5 million. Under the Kyivans' Health municipal programme a patient who is 67 year old Kyiv citizen is being treated free of cost.

The city has acquired two such left ventricular assist devices, developed by the U.S. company. Another LVAD implantation is expected in a short time.

According to the chief of cardiology Viktor Klyuzko, the patient on the LVAD will have to take some medication but apart from this he can live an ordinary life. “Now LVAD is a destination therapy, though earlier it was a bridge to a heart transplantation. Patients are living many years on the LVAD,” he explained.

## New equipment for emergency vehicles handed over to Kyiv Emergency Service

A brand new emergency vehicle, three hydraulic aerial platforms for rescue operations and new breathing apparatuses have been purchased by the city government and handed over to Kyiv Emergency Service. Two more rescue vehicles were state purchased.

“I am very excited to hand over a new equipment for Kyiv rescue teams. Thank you to the rescuers in Kyiv for all the commitment and competence, for saved lives and keeping our city safe. We on our part will continue to meet your needs to ensure you are technically upgraded and newly equipped,” said Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko.

He also emphasized that the workload and strain of the rescuers grow with each year due increase in fire and rescue incidents. The city fire brigades rapidly extinguish over 4,000 fires in Kyiv every year. “Our task is to provide them with modern gear and, rescue and fire vehicles. Over the past three years in total Kyiv has bought over 200 units of personal protective equipment, 220 sets of fire turnout gear, telescopic ladders and 20 rescue vehicles - fire, rescue and water rescue trucks,” he noted.



“This is the least we can do for people who risk their own life for saving others. Let me underline - over four years Kyiv rescuers have saved 1,600 lives,” stressed Klitschko.

In December 2019 the Kyiv city council adopted a new Municipal Target Plan for 2020-2022. Under it the city will allocate over ₴680 million to build a new fire station, renovate Kyiv rescue fleet and provide professional rescue training courses.



## Kyivautodor Corporation enjoys fleet boost

Kyiv municipal road corporation expands its service fleet with nine new vehicles.

“The city is continuing to increase the municipal service fleet. The latest addition is nine Ford de-icing vehicles. They are applying the ice melting liquid products to road surface and pavements to prevent icy roadways and reduce the use of rock salt. Salt brine mixture is effective even during winter temperature swings. Ice-melting chemicals are sprayed on a dry road surface and when it starts snowing, the chemical reaction prevents the ice from forming,” told Klitschko.

According to him, such anti-icing with liquid products is widely used in Austria and Germany.



## New Bohatyrskya interchange to open by year-end

As Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko revealed while inspecting the progress of construction, a new interchange which will connect Bohatyrskya street and Velyka Okruzhna ring road, is set to open by the end of this year. In April traffic beneath the overpass will resume.



“Work crews are tasked with building a new road section, about 1 kilometer long, which will connect Sim’y Kulzhenkiv and Bohatyrskya streets. The interchange is part of the ambitious project of Velyka Okruzhna road construction. This major transport artery encircling Kyiv will help to decongest the city’s busy central streets,” remarked Klitschko.

Crews are keeping a good pace to finish the project by the deadline. “Ending years of planning which goes back to the 2000s, we have started construction to create an another route that will significantly relieve transit traffic on the central streets. While repairing the highways, we continue to step up our efforts to rehabilitate the beltway artery,” emphasized Klitschko.

At the same time the City Road Corporation is set to complete the repairs of two more overpasses - over Bohatyrskya street and Obolon avenue and Bohatyrskya street and Stepan Bandera highway. Work crews are on schedule to complete the reconstruction by May. “According to experts, the renovation is quite well-timed. As it turned out after a routine check-up, pillars of both overpasses were in a very poor condition,” noted Vitali Klitschko. The renovations include: replacement of damaged parts and other associated work, new lighting and new underground infrastructure.



## Kyiv tram drivers represent Ukraine at European contest in Romania

Two tram drivers from Kyiv - Vasyl Galiv, 27, and Olena Kravets, 29, will go to Oradea, Romania to represent Kyiv and Ukraine at the European TramDriver Championship-2020 that will take place in May. Overall 25 teams will take part in the competition.

Vasyl has been working as a tram driver for 5 years already, Olena - for 2. They both love their job and put the heart into it. Their day in the depot starts at 4.30 a.m. with equipment pre-use check. And then their trams depart at 5 in the morning.

“There is no margin for error in my job,” said Vasyl. “We are responsible for passengers’ lives. Equally we have no right to run even a minute late because it immediately puts other trams out of schedule. We must stay on schedule otherwise it will cause a tram jam,” he told.



“Every morning I watch the sunrise driving my tram. I have even run across my future husband here as we both are driving trams. Once our trams were running towards each other and I spotted him,” remembered Olena.

Overall there are 648 tram drivers in Kyiv: 380 women and 268 men.

The first ever tram in the Eastern Europe was introduced in Kyiv 128 years ago.



## **Kyiv reveals plan to roll out 70 electric buses by end of 2020**

As Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko revealed, Kyiv plans to introduce about 70 new “green e-buses” by the end of 2020, to further contribute to air pollution reduction.

“It is no secret that vehicle emissions are among the main cause of air pollution in the city. The city government is committed to improve the situation with traffic congestion but at the same time we are introducing new electric public buses. Under the Green Cities joint programme of the EIB and the EBRD, by the end of this year the city will bring about 70 new zero emissions buses,” said Klitschko.

Klitschko mentioned that Kyiv is heavily congested with traffic. “Today there are about 1,2 million of cars in Kyiv. More 300,000 cars come to the city from downtown daily. Moreover, up to 40% of traffic congestion is caused by transit traffic. At the same time the capacity of city’s highways and roads, built decades ago, is about 900,000. Over the past few years the traffic volume in Kyiv has grown 30%,” he explained.

“The solution lies in construction of park-and-ride facilities at the city entrances, streamlining of public transportation and parking system. A key task is to complete an undergoing construction of the Great Ring Road which will remove transit vehicles from the central city area,” emphasized the mayor. He added that what is also important is to significantly relieve pressure on the city’s bridges that are dramatically overloaded with traffic today. The completion of construction and opening of Podilsko-Voskresenskiy bridge to traffic will help to solve this pressing issue.

The mayor of Kyiv also confirmed plans for 273 more buses this year. He said: “The city is continuing with plans to replace old buses with brand new one. Over a few past years the city has introduced over 300 buses, trams and trolleybuses.”

He told that the city government will launch a new public transportation scheme to ensure a convenient switch between different public transport modes and encourage switching from private cars and marshrutkas to public transport usage.

“It is standard practice for all major cities where driving and parking in the city centre costs money. People use public transport more often which favourably impacts the environment and congestion,” noted Vitali Klitschko.