

# Kyiv Mayor Newsletter

October 2018

**CHANGE STARTS WITH KYIV**

## **Klitschko officially unveiled the 56th WBC Convention in Kyiv**

The mayor of Kyiv, Eternal World Heavyweight Champion by the WBC Vitali Klitschko officially unveiled the 56th WBC Convention opening ceremony that Kyiv hosts for the first time ever.

In attendance for the ceremony were the president of the WBC Mauricio Sulaiman, Lennox Lewis, Evander Holyfield, Erik Morales and other boxing stars as well as current world champions, legends of boxing, federation presidents of the WBC member countries, referees and sports officials. Altogether over 700 participants from 166 countries attended the Convention this year.



In his comments prior the ceremony the legendary champion Lennox Lewis stressed that he is happy to visit Kyiv again. “I am delighted to see my friends - Klitschko brothers. It is very nice to see plenty of smiling faces around. I am certain, this Convention will be the best in its history,” noted Lewis. A legend of the world boxing Evander Holyfield also thanked for the invitation to attend the Convention. “I am happy to be here, in this city, in Ukraine. It is a great honour for me to be present, along with other members of the WBC - the best boxing organization in the world,” said Holyfield.

“It is my pleasure to welcome all participants in Kyiv. I am delighted that we brought together so many boxing stars. During this week we will be shaping the future strategies of the world boxing development. I am thrilled that for the first time ever I do not have to go to some faraway location, because my home city hosts this major boxing showpiece,” said Klitschko at the opening ceremony.

In his welcome speech the president of the WBC Mauricio Sulaiman remarked on the high level of preparedness of Kyiv. "I am happy to see so many friends from all over the world. This is very important week for the boxing," said Mauricio Sulaiman. "I want to say thank you to the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko and all those who are involved." Also he announced that from now on the WBC official logo and a new title belt will feature Ukraine's flag among colours of other countries-WBC members. "You know that all boxers dream of the WBC green belt. The trophy constantly changes its look, the same as we do. Now I want to unveil a new title belt with a new WBC logo on it which features Ukraine's flag," said Mauricio Sulaiman and handed over the first such belt with Ukraine's flag in the foreground to the WBC Emeritus Champion Vitali Klitschko.

"A new belt with Ukraine's flag on it! This is a great honour for our country and for me personally. One more perk of hosting the WBC Convention here, in Kyiv," stressed Vitali Klitschko who has personally negotiated the right to host the 56th WBC Congress that convened in Kyiv on October 1-5.





## Klitschko and Lewis faced each other with boxing gloves on



At the opening ceremony of the WBC Convention the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko and the legend of the boxing world Lennox Lewis faced each other again with boxing gloves on.

Looking back to their legendary fight 15 years ago, contenders shared their feelings and commented on the best highlights of the then-match. There were also lots of jokes and teasing about the then-winner. “It is a fight which is still talked about, after all 15 years,” said Klitschko. “This stage is our ring at the moment, and we both can comment on our fight,” he added.

As Klitschko pointed out, if a doctor had not stopped a bout due to severe cuts on his face, he would have put Lewis down in the next round. Also Klitschko thanked Lewis for a chance to demonstrate that he is one of the greatest fighters in the world. “Lennox gave me a chance to prove myself as one of the greatest fighters. My skills were highly acclaimed by all boxing fans and commentators,” remarked Klitschko. “I know that today our rematch is a long-awaited and the most anticipated, but sorry, there would be no rematch,” said the mayor of Kyiv.

Lennox Lewis stressed that he has seen this fight about 30 times and would watch it over and over. He called Vitali Klitschko his toughest opponent. “It was an amazing fight and a breathtaking boxing. And I want to call you my toughest contender,” said Lewis. “If Vitali said things about my mum, I could have fought him. But I would not, he is very nice,” joked Lennox Lewis.

Dr. Paul Wallace also commented on the legendary fight. It was he who stopped the bout due to Klitschko’s severe facial lacerations. Vitali Klitschko asked the doctor in jest if he has made a private deal with Lewis to stop the fight. “I do know, you were fighting like champs. And I do know that you, Vitali could have given your eyes for this belt. But you have a great future ahead. You proved yourself in sports. Now you have other things to deal with,” said Wallace.

## The WBC Gold Championship Belt awarded to Wladimir Klitschko

At the opening ceremony of the WBC Convention Wladimir Klitschko was awarded the WBC Gold Championship belt. It was handed over by the WBC president Mauricio Sulaiman and the Eternal Champion Vitali Klitschko upon agreement of the WBC legends Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield.

“All of them are legends and the ex-champions of the WBC - the same as I am. Do you know why Wladimir has never had the belt? Because we promised our parents and each other we would never fight. We would not have broken this promise for the sake of the belt,” said Vitali Klitschko. “But I believe, my brother has every right to receive it. He deserves to have it around his waist,” announced Vitali Klitschko.

Lennox Lewis agreed, “While fighting the senior Klitschko, I understood that he is not a “chewing gum” and cannot be just chewed over. He is a great boxer. A great man. And it is such a pity I have never had a chance to fight Wladimir. He is also a great boxer,” stressed Lennox Lewis.

At a special gala evening of the WBC Convention it was announced that Klitschko brothers awarded a Guinness World Record. Vitali and Wladimir Klitschko entered the Guinness Book of World Records for being champion brothers with the most records. “The award came as a surprise. Our joint record belongs also to all those who supported the Klitschko brothers, rooted us and Ukraine on, because we always championed our country,” said the WBC Emeritus Champion, the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko.





## Klitschko and WBC Cares visited the Child Rescue Centre

The WBC Emeritus Champion, the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko, the WBC Cares and the WBC champions visited the child rescue centre “The City of Happy Children” located in Obolon neighbourhood. WBC Cares is committed to social responsibility and reaches out to impoverished and vulnerable children in 166 countries.

The City of Happy Children Centre provides support and rehabilitation to children whose family situation is extremely vulnerable. The Centre has been working for over decade now and helped more than 300 kids over the past years. Currently, The City of Happy Children Centre provides shelter and healing to 39 children who are survivors of abuse and neglect. 10% of them are orphans. Physical or emotional stress that children experienced are devastating to some children’s development.

“Each and every one of champions is a person who achieved true success in life and whose dream came true. Their success stories started in their early years. That is why it is so important to build positive emotions and inspire these children,” stressed Klitschko. “This joint social project with World Boxing Cares aims to help the children who are deprived of parental care. Even if they do not become great athletes, today’s meeting will encourage them greatly!” remarked Vitali Klitschko.

“I am delighted to participate in WBC charity events. I love the atmosphere here,” stressed Evander Holyfield. “We have a great life and we make the most out of it. Now our mission is to give back, share our experience and positive emotions. I am delighted I could put a smile on their faces,” told Lennox Lewis to journalists.



At the Centre a special recognition charity award was presented to the mayor by World Boxing Cares. “This is not my personal award. This award recognizes our city’s accomplishments,” emphasized Klitschko.



## The WBC raised \$ 200,000 for charity

At the Kyiv Convention the WBC auctioned off the sports memorabilia, including the original championship belts of the WBC star athletes. The auction raised almost \$200,000 for setting up a boxing gym for kids in Mariupil.

An authentic, autographed Muhammad Ali boxing glove was auctioned off at the highest price of \$55,000. Vitali Klitschko donated his authentic WBC championship belt, which has been also signed by heavyweight champions Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield and which a buyer bid \$20,000 to win. Other prizes included autographed boxing gloves of Mike Tyson, Vitali Klitschko, Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield that fetched \$15,000 and a giant boxing glove signed by over 90 world champions which fetched another \$17,000.



A large photo of the legendary bout between Vitali Klitschko and Lennox Lewis 15 years ago was sold for \$31,000. “The WBC is committed to social responsibility. It supports young athletes and kids who want to play sports. One of such projects will be implemented. All proceeds raised from the charitable auction - almost \$200,000 would go to set up a boxing gym for kids in Mariupil. We will call it “WBC Gym” and expect to unveil it by the next Convention. We have to do everything to make their dream come true,” said Klitschko.

Also the award ceremony took place that evening. Various awards were given out including: a Boxing Couple of the Year, Commissioner of the Year, Referee of the Year, Photographer of the Year, Committee Chairman of the Year and WBC Ambassador.

## Klitschko, Lewis and Holyfield signed autographs in a shopping mall



During the WBC Convention the stars of the world boxing held an autograph session in the city's big shopping mall. Kyivans could have a word, get an autograph and make a selfie with Vitali Klitschko, Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield.

“This is a great honour to host in Kyiv the legends of boxing who traveled to attend the 56th WBC Convention. For this week Kyiv is becoming the boxing capital of the world!” said Klitschko at his welcome speech. He also expressed his thanks to everyone who came to greet the champions. “I say thank you to all boxing fans who joined us for the autograph session with legendary WBC champions. You demonstrated that Kyiv loves sports and values sports succeeders. All Convention participants and guests are so excited to be in Kyiv,” remarked Klitschko. “It is so important that Kyiv being a true European city is on everyone's lips at the moment. Such major boxing events as the WBC Convention help to promote both Ukraine and its capital city. For a week Kyiv became the boxing capital of the world!” pointed out the mayor.

Lennox Lewis remarked that he is honoured to be in Kyiv. He thanked Vitali Klitschko for the invitation and also praised Kyiv's preparations for the Convention. “I love Kyiv, love the people here and say thank you for the support,” said Lewis.

Evander Holyfield also told about his impressions of Kyiv and remarked that he is pleased to visit Kyiv. For over an hour boxing legends signed autographs, shook hands and poses for photographs.



## Kyiv hosted international seminar of the World Road Association

Together with the World Road Association, the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine and CoST Initiative, Kyiv hosts the scheduled international seminar on strategic planning and performance monitoring of road transport administrations.

“I am pleased to welcome the participants of the seminar and want to thank you for choosing our city to host the event,” said the mayor of Kyiv. At the end of June Kyiv joined the World Road Association as a regional authority.



Klitschko emphasized that over the last four years road and transport infrastructure renovation has become one of primary objectives priorities for Kyiv authorities. “Repaired roads, new transport interchanges, comfortable public transport and viable bicycle network are our strategic priorities in the near future. Efficient logistics as well as safe and smooth roads are among indicators of comfortable living environment and an important component to propel city’s travel and commerce,” remarked Klitschko. “The seminar is a good platform for us to follow

the best practices in this area and adapt them to fit our needs. We will use all benefits of knowledge-sharing which the WRA offers,» he stressed. “Besides, speaking of our reforms, a point of emphasis is our fight against corruption,” remarked Vitali Klitschko. “Thus it is very important to ensure the transparency and accountability in road repair sector and we appreciate cooperation with CoST Initiative to achieve such transparency,” said the mayor.

According to Vitali Klitschko, the city authorities inherited road infrastructure in a dilapidated state and has now to revive it. “We inherited roads in a terrible state, some of them had not been repaired for 20-30 or even 40 years! The same can be said of bridges and overpasses. Just look at their state! Our inspection revealed that over 70 objects are reaching their breaking point,” stressed Vitali Klitschko and emphasized the determination to repair them in the nearest future.

He told that over the last two years the city has fixed over 500 km of roads. This year Kyiv plans to rehabilitate 300 km of roads. Kyiv’s road network has a total length of 1667 kilometers. This year road renovation expenditure in Kyiv budget amounts to 9,2 billion hryvnas. The city authorities announced massive repairs of major Kyiv arteries which determine the city’s traffic performance and almost completed sprucing up the road infrastructure. Also road work being carried out on the Ring Road is well advanced. This reconstruction will remove heavy-duty trucks and transit vehicles from the central city area.

The city authorities continue to renew the rolling stock of public transport. In the past years the capital has purchased 100 buses, over 100 trolleybuses and 45 trams. “Kyiv is considering the possibility of attracting investment capital to pour into public transport, into its modernization and renovation,” emphasized Vitali Klitschko.



## Arnold Schwarzenegger visited Kyiv

The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko met Arnold Schwarzenegger who visited Ukraine's capital city for the first time.

“Unfortunately I didn't have much time, but was able to show my friend Arnie around the city. He visited Kyiv for the first time to speak at a business forum, and we took a walk and dined. Arnold loved Kyiv and promised to come again and stay longer. He is pleased, feels good, acts and sends his regards to Ukrainians,” wrote Vitali Klitschko on his Facebook page.

He also posted a video where Schwarzenegger expressed his admiration for Kyiv and promised to come back. “I am right now in Kyiv visiting my friend Vitali Klitschko, the mayor. I am pleased we met and cannot wait to tell about it in California,” remarked Schwarzenegger. “This is my first visit here and I fell in love with your city. I'll be back! Hasta la vista, baby!” he said.

“Hope next time you'll be even more amazed at Kyiv. You'll see!” promised Klitschko.



## New bridges to be constructed in the city

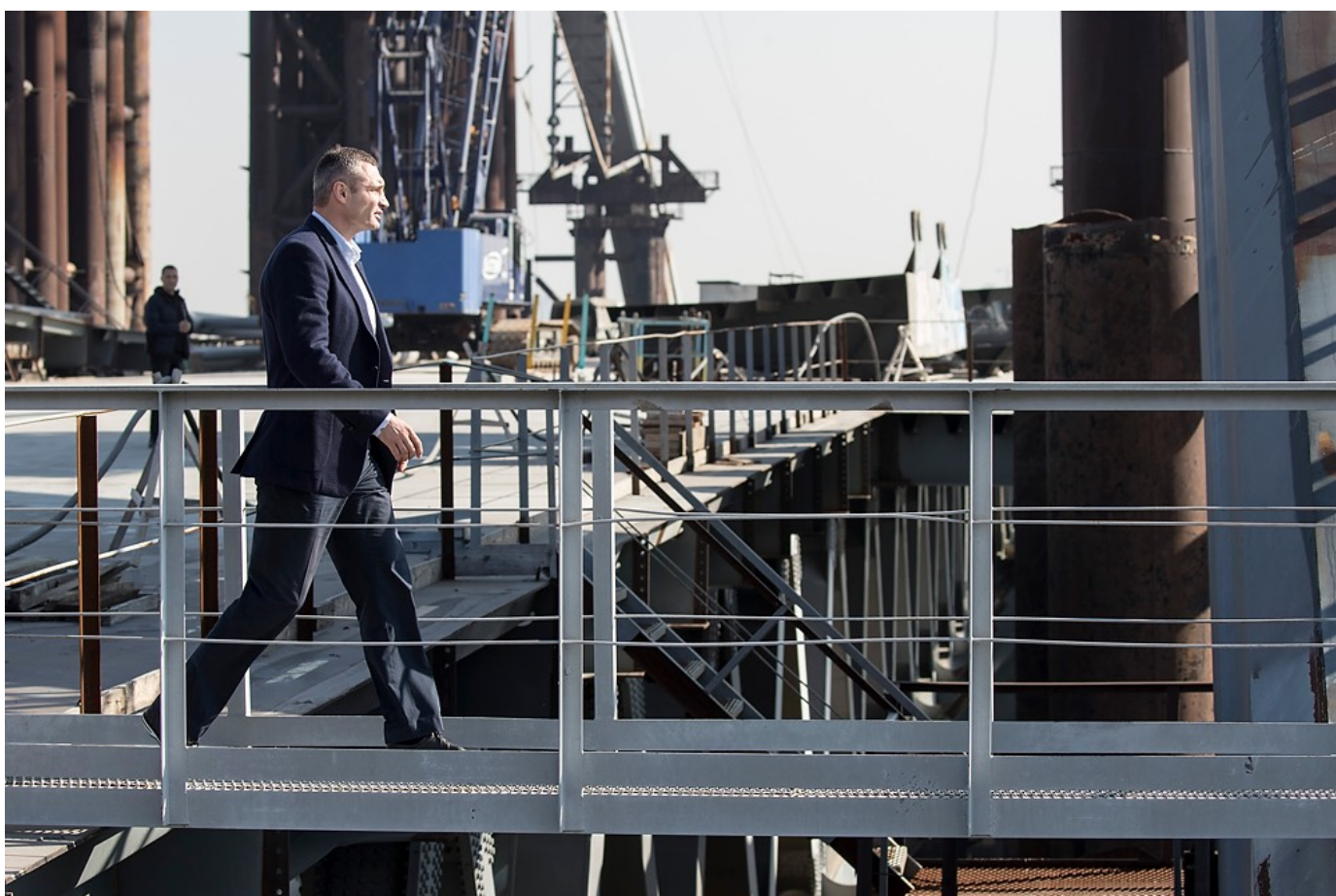
A new pedestrian and cycle bridge that will connect Volodymyrska Hirka park to the Friendship of Nations Monument is due to be completed and open in next spring. The 210-metre long bridge, made of glass and concrete, will string together two major tourist attractions in heart of historical city centre - Volodymyrska Hirka and Khreschatiy parks. “The bridge offers a scenic view of the Dnieper river below and the whole city and will be another charming tourist destination,” stressed Vitali Klitschko.

According to the mayor, the bridge and the reconstructed Artists Alley which both will become part of a major tourist route linking Peyzazhna Alley and Kyivo-Pecherska Lavra, are expected to be completed by the end of spring 2019.

Also the city announces ambitious plan to open the Podilsko-Voskresenskiy bridge to traffic in two years. According to Vitali Klitschko, the 10-kilometer long bridge will reduce traffic congestion between the right and left banks of the Dnieper. “Designed traffic volume of the bridge is 60,000 vehicles per day that must dramatically relieve pressure on major transport arteries. Currently average daily traffic performance of five city bridges ranges from 300,000 to nearly 900,000 vehicles in rush hours,” remarked Klitschko.

The Podilsko-Voskresenskiy bridge construction started in 2003, but the project planning reaches back to 1979. Now the city must allocate further UAH 7 billion on top of 5 billion already been spent on construction and seeks to attract investments to resume the project. This year the city council has allocated 500 million hryvnas for maintenance and construction works.

“When funds are available, we will unveil the bridge in about two years and start to build a subway line to Troeschyna neighbourhood. Extending subway across the city, to Troeschyna area in particular, is among our top priorities,” announced Klitschko.





## Kyiv Smart City Forum 2018

Ukraine's capital city played host to the 2018 Kyiv Smart City Forum. This is the third time Kyiv has hosted the event bringing together over 1200 participants, in particular mayors of Ukrainian cities, IT-community, civil activists, industry experts and business leaders. The event's activities included keynote speeches, discussions, panel sessions as well as Smart Expo Zone exhibition.

In his speech Vitali Klitschko updated the Forum on the latest progress made in implementing Smart City tools in Kyiv. Altogether three years of the smart city infrastructure significantly benefited Kyiv dwellers. Among solutions that were introduced in the capital to advance the city's livability, workability and sustainability are e-democracy, e-procurement and various city e-services. "A smart city concept incorporates information and communication technologies to enhance the quality and performance of core urban infrastructure as transportation, healthcare, education and utilities," remarked Klitschko.



Since the introduction of e-procurement system the city has saved already 3,85 billion hryvnas of the city's budget. Kyiv is the first Ukrainian city which launched new procurement tools and now over 1800 structural departments make public procurement through ProZorro e-system.

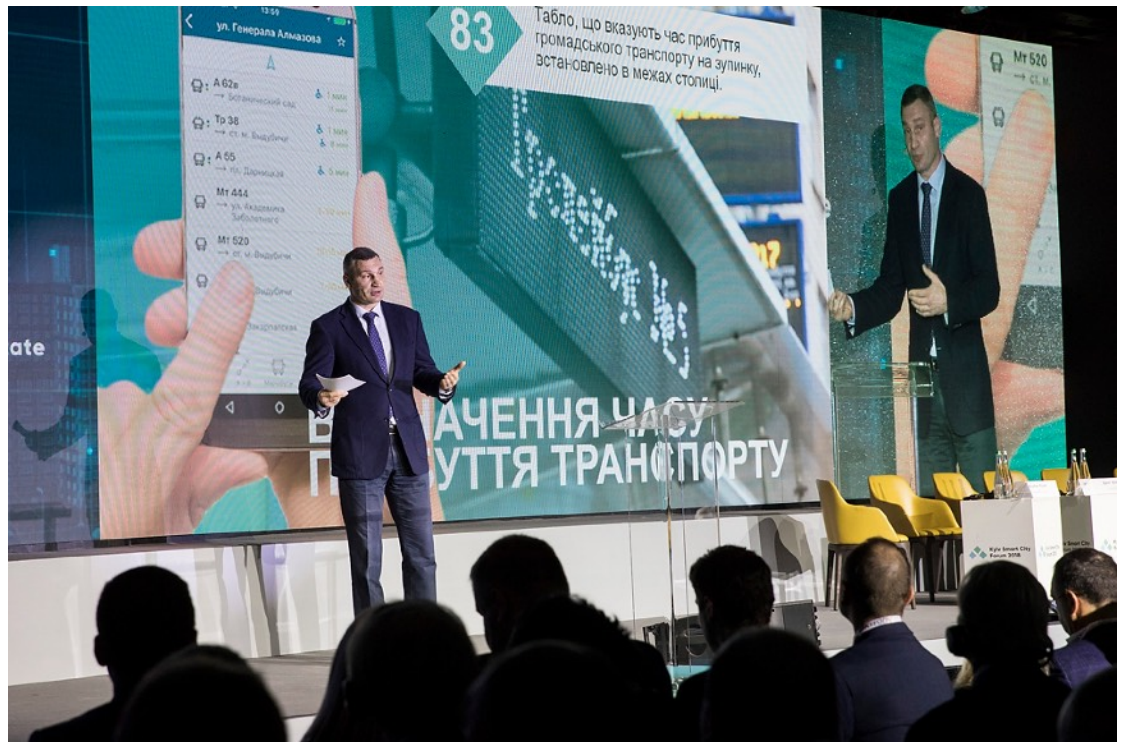
According to Vitali Klitschko, Kyiv was the first Ukrainian city to fully implement the Open Budget and other smart administration trends. "Two thousand of Kyivans visit the Open Budget portal daily and look into the budget data," he said. "Also Participatory Budgeting is very popular among the residents as it allows to involve community members into the process of identifying, prioritizing, and voting on certain local developments - whether it is a building, a yard or a street." Last year the city budget allocated UAH 50 million to fund 62 winning projects. This year 141 project will share 150 million hryvnas in budget funding.

“As Klitschko remarked, over the last years about 5,000 public proposals were contested on the voting platform of e-petitions and 600,000 of Kyivans joined the petitioning. The first e-petition that Kyiv satisfied was night operation of public transport.

A half a million of the city dwellers have already taken advantage of the convenience of being able to book their medical appointments online. “There are 4500 online appointments every day,” stressed Klitschko.

“In last March we introduced an online kindergarten enrollment scheme. Over this time 68,500 children have been admitted to Kyiv’s preschools. Over the last four years we managed to reduce the kindergarten waitlists by 3,5 times,” said the mayor.

Over 1200 vehicles of city public transit fleet as well 665 vehicles of public service have been fitted with Wi-Fi routers and GPS trackers to take full control of the fleet and monitor vehicles whereabouts. The city has also installed 83 bus stops with electronic displays that provide real-time bus information. “70 more such bus stops will be installed by the year-end,” said Klitschko.



To ensure the safety of Kyivans and technological efficiency of traffic control and management, the Safe City Project was initiated and is being implemented at the moment. As of today, the city has almost 7,000 CCTV cameras operating within city surveillance network, some of them are outfitted with facial recognition technology that scans and can identify faces and car number plates.

Since November 1 public transport authorities start testing the eTicket system. Over 1200 validating machines has already been installed across the Kyiv public transport network as well as in the metro. With the new system, the paper tickets will be replaced by plastic smart cards. “An electronic multi-ticket will make journeys more convenient and safe,” explained the mayor. It will also help to control revenues and cash flow, improve public transit reporting, and optimize routing and scheduling.

Since the introduction of contactless payments across the Kyiv metro in 2015, 25 million journeys on the city’s underground were paid that way,” remarked Klitschko.



## Kiy, Schek, Khoriv and Lybid meet visitors in Zhulyany

The city continues to set new entrance signs which feature Kyiv's rich history.



“We are set on replacing the old entrance signs with new original ones featuring the city's rich history. Prince Volodymyr statue indicates the gateway Odesa-Kyiv, Princess Olga figure - Zhytomyr entry to the City. Everyone who drives into the city from Borispil can see a silhouette of Archangel Michael. And from now on silhouettes of Kyiv founders - the brothers Kiy, Schek, Khoriv and their sister Lybid will meet visitors in Zhulyany,” remarked Klitschko.

According to the mayor, next year a figure of Bohdan Khmelnytskyi will be erected at the northeast entry to the city (Brovary entry) and Prince Yaroslav Mudryi will welcome visitors to Kyiv in the northwest (Gostomel entry).

The mayor remarked that architects were tasked to create new gateway signs signifying Kyiv's ancient legacy. “Kyiv is a European city! Plenty of European cities have statement entry. Kyiv is rich in history and outstanding personalities but only unexciting signs welcome visitors as they drive into the city,» said the mayor.

2-metre-tall letters «KYIV» and 8-metre-high silhouettes of Kyiv's founders Kiy, Schek and Khoriv and their sister Lybid which are lit up at night will provide the iconic airport gateway to Kyiv.



## First portion of Troeschyna neighbourhood park unveiled



Vitali Klitschko unveiled the first portion of a new park in Troeschyna neighbourhood. “While the weather allows, we continue to upgrade city green spaces. And today we cut the ribbon to officially open the first portion of the new park in Troeschyna,” said Klitschko.

The park began as 9.5 hectares of the scrub-filled land. “We cleared, landscaped and developed the site, replanted trees and constructed pavements, cycling and walking trails. Also we dredged the lake to clear it out and reinforced its shoreline. Now this is a comfortable and enjoyable recreation zone and there are plenty of people already here,” said the mayor.

The park features two colorful playgrounds, exercise and comfortable sitting areas, and grass lawns. The new park has LED-lighting and irrigation system, gazebos and public restrooms, and a dovecote.

Completion of UAH 48 million park construction is aimed for the next year.



## Vitali Klitschko met Erich Artner, the Austrian athlete with disability

“Yesterday Kyiv hosted an international running race. There were plenty of runners participating from across Ukraine and abroad, including Erich Artner, a double amputee, who proved that where there is a will power and determination, there is a way to achieve remarkable success,” stressed the mayor.

Erich Artner lost his both lower legs nearly 30 years ago, but after a long rehabilitation he restarted to do sports. “Erich twice completed the Ironman distance race. Not every healthy athlete is capable of this. He shows that nothing is impossible in life,” commented Klitschko to journalists after the meeting.

In his turn, Artner described his impressions of Kyiv. “I like Kyiv very much. This is a fairytale city. Organization of the race was top-notch. I can compare because previously I took part in Berlin, Athens and Vienna marathons. I am happy with my result but one should always strive to do better,” told the athlete.

According to Erich Artner, once you experience severe trauma, the most important thing that matters is to realize that life goes on. “Disability is not a death sentence. It is a restart at next level of life which demands extensive changes and adjustment. This is a new beginning of life, another challenge,” remarked Artner.

The mayor gifted the athlete with a pair of boxing gloves with his autograph, as a symbol of everyday fight for one’s dream.

