

KYIV MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

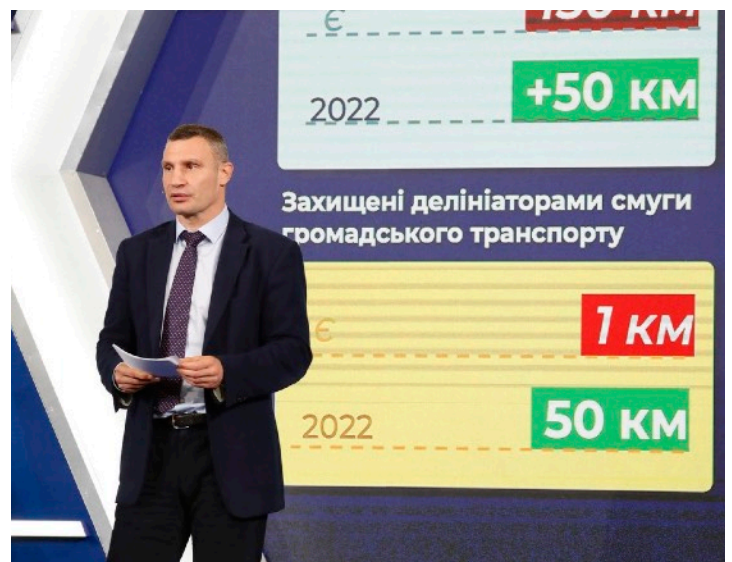
NEW TRANSPORT AND PARKING STRATEGY UNVEILED IN KYIV

Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko unveiled the Transport and Parking Strategic Plan that focuses on decongesting the city's busy central streets, removing transit vehicles from the city area and further developing the cycling network.

"A modern and comfortable public transport will help decongest our busy streets because in the first place it increases road capacity. You see, an average traffic flow in a general-purpose lane is around 2,000 private car passengers per hour compared to 5,000 passengers being carried by bus or up to 9,000 people- by tram. Unfortunately, our drivers still see no alternative for them but to drive a private car. This is why we are working to make public transportation popular as a viable, budget and fast alternative to the private fleet. Since 2014 we have been methodically replacing the old rolling stock of public transport with new buses, trolleybuses and trams. For the past years, the municipality has purchased 307 buses, 139 trolleybuses and 75 trams. It is not enough and we still need more of them, so that Kyivans could reduce the travel time," said the mayor.

The priority should be given to public transport lanes, with a current total length of 150 km which are not enough. Next year the city plans to build an extra 50 km of dedicated bus lanes with delineators. Also, the municipality is set to rethink the public transport service increasing ride comfort and reducing the journey time. The improvements will include A/C, an information board in a cabin with route network and schedule details, and the carrier's details. Besides, public transport must adhere to schedule, with a possible two minutes delay.

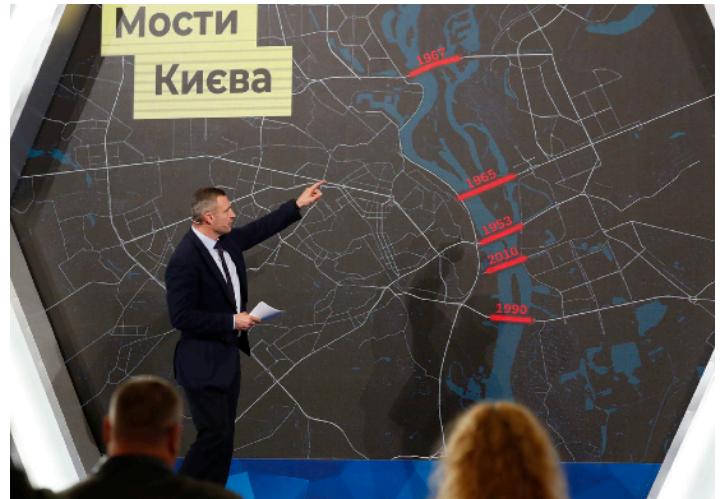
"To prevent people from waiting for a bus for hours, a bus stop must have information about a timetable and real-time arrival available in both printed form and on a travel information system display, just like it is made in many European countries," said the mayor.





He added that 450 public transport stops have already been fitted with such electronic displays and there are 2,000 more to come. "Also, the timetable of public transportation is available in the Digital Kyiv application to help Kyivans save time," said Vitali Klitschko.

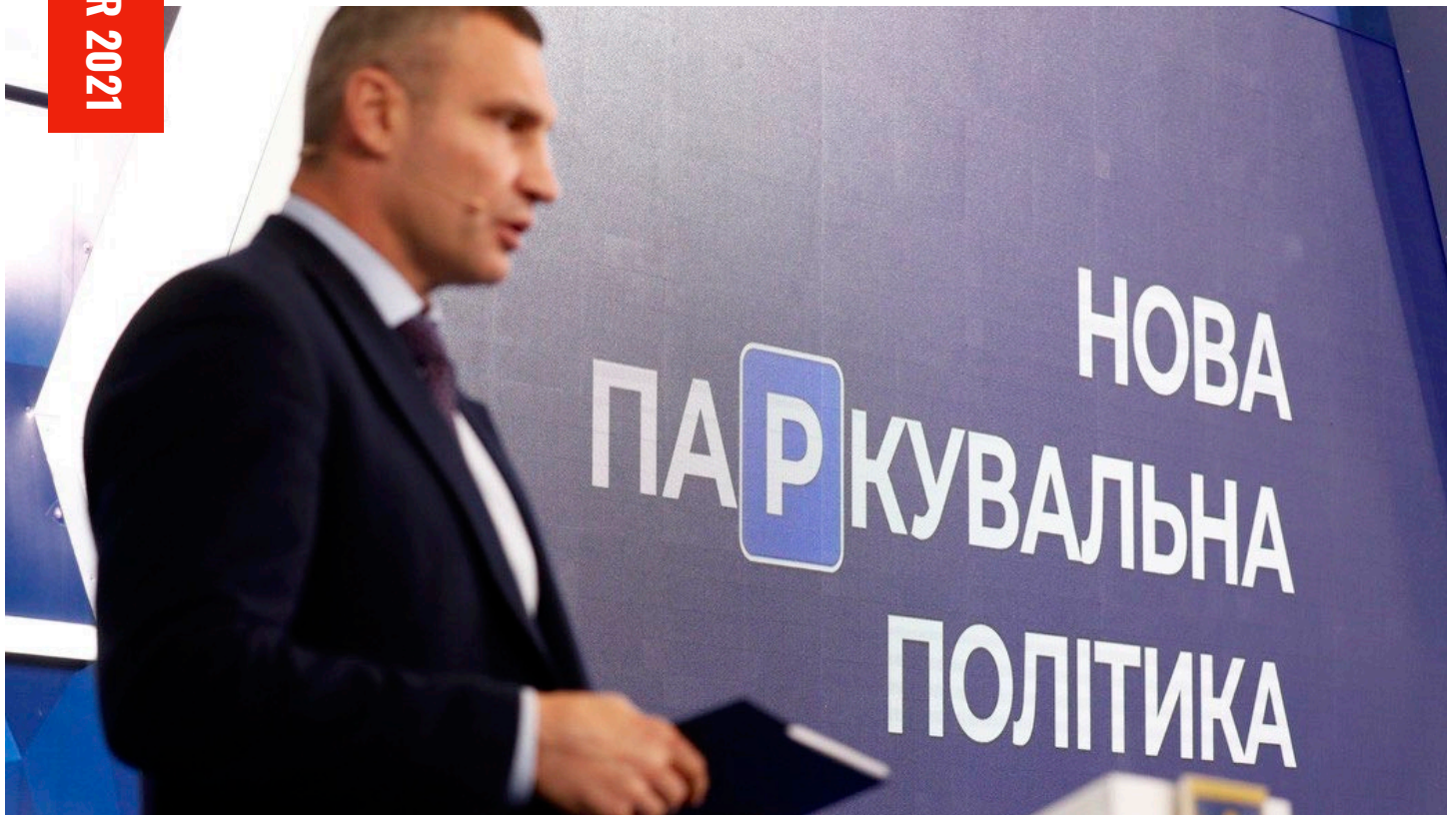
The mayor also revealed that the building of the Kyiv Ring Road is the only solution to the transit problem. "The transit transport puts a lot of pressure on the city's road networks. For example, only yesterday our traffic cameras recorded 4, 611 heavy trucks transiting through the city. Commercial trucks prefer to cross the river in Kyiv because the closest bridge is in Kaniv. Heavy trucks dramatically overload the bridges in Kyiv," said Klitschko, "and the only solution lies in the construction of the Ring Road which will remove transit vehicles from highways. The responsibility to complete the Ring Road construction rests upon the central government that promised to complete the construction by 2025. We are ready to help and support this project because transit vehicles damage a road surface and congest the streets adding to the environmental pollution problem," he underlined. "To improve the situation the municipality continues to build the Great Ring Road. We are well aware that the problem of overloaded highways cannot be solved separately from the completed Ring Road," revealed Klitschko.



Another reason for traffic congestion is an insufficient number of bridges across the Dnieper river and their poor condition. "Most of them have not seen any reconstruction over the last 40-50 years. So now this burden rests upon us. We have already renovated the bridge across the Rusanivka bay, we are repairing the Yuzhnyi bridge and soon will announce a bid for the design project for the Paton bridge repair. We have an ambitious plan to open the Podilsko-Voskresenskiy bridge to traffic by the year-end," said Klitschko. "This ten km long bridge is a complicated project, with many large-scale components. The work there will continue through next year to connect the bridge with Troeschyna and Voskresenka neighbourhoods," he added.

Now the daily average traffic volume in Kyiv is about 1.06 million vehicles, compared to about 620,000 vehicles in 2015. 60 per cent of those vehicles belong to Kyivans, 30 per cent are cars of commuters from the Kyiv region and transit transport makes up 10 per cent.

"Bicycles are a good alternative to private cars. Next year 100 km of bicycle paths will be delivered, on top of 185 km, we have already built in Kyiv. We are committed to making Kyiv more bicycle-friendly. I also love to bike and I fully understand the importance of safe and reliable cycling infrastructure," noted Klitschko.



To encourage switching from private cars to public transport usage we have introduced park-and-ride facilities at the city entrances, streamlining of public transportation and parking system. "Now five of them are already put into service (Vydubitchy, Akademmistechko, Chervony Khutir, Glushkov av. and Syrets). 12 such facilities altogether are expected to open in Kyiv, with some 3,500 parking spaces in total," stressed the mayor.

He revealed that the municipality is working to urge investors to invest in their construction. Now such park-and-ride lots are being designed for the downtown. The investment contest for one of them, near the Oleksandrivska hospital, is currently underway. Besides, the municipality will further unveil multi-storey outdoor and underground parking garages across the city. "An underground garage opened next to the Velodrome that was put into operation previously is now fully occupied around the clock. Its monthly price jumped from ₴400 to 4,000 now," mentioned Klitschko. "Also, we unveiled the 435-space parking garage for visitors of the Kyiv zoo. On weekends its occupancy rate reaches 1,000 vehicles a day. This is why using investment

funds we opened a large parking lot opposite the zoo garage what helped decongest Zoologichna street and a dedicated bus lane running along Peremoha avenue. Car parks can be found now near all renovated public parks and recreation areas," underlined Vitali Klitschko.

He also stated that according to the statistics around a third of cars stuck in a traffic jam are those searching for a vacant parking spot. "Illegal parking along the highways, in the city's public transport lanes and even in the second lane of a multilane road has become a real problem which obstructs traffic flow and interferes with emergency vehicles and public works vehicles. There are motorists who park on pavements despite no parking devices, seriously inconveniencing pedestrians. The only solution to this problem is towing of illegally parked cars and we will continue to remove improperly parked vehicles from the city streets," emphasized Klitschko.

He also mentioned that the municipality protects pavements and pedestrian areas with bollards and parking posts and have already installed them along 80 km of pavements.

KLITSCHKO KICKS OFF THE DAYS OF KYIV IN LEIPZIG

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko together with Mayor of Leipzig Burkhard Jung kicked off the Days of Kyiv in Leipzig to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the sister city partnership between the two cities.

The celebration started with the opening ceremony for the "KyivScape: Democracy and Freedom" photo exhibition about the everyday life of Ukraine's capital city. In attendance were also many Ukrainians who live in Leipzig.

"We are grateful to our German partners and friends for their support and help. We highly appreciate our cooperation. Kyiv learns about Leipzig's expertise in bringing in European democratic standards, best practices and project outcomes in urban governance transformation, including the Smart City system, basic democracy principles, economic and cultural cooperation," stressed Vitali Klitschko.

Burkhard Jung stated that Leipzig partners with Kyiv as with a European city which Kyiv definitely is. "We are set to continue our cooperation - in economy, self-governance, tourism, culture and sport," he said.





Also, Klitschko and Jung who chair the Association of Ukrainian Cities and the Association of German Cities respectively discussed the issues of decentralization and self-governance.

Burkhardt Jung emphasized the importance of strengthening and broader empowerment of local governance governments that drives the democratic development of a country.

Klitschko spoke to the issue of decentralisation also at the meeting with the Special Envoy of the German Government for the Decentralization Reform, ex-Minister President of Saxony Georg Milbradt.

Besides, Germany's Peaceful Revolution Foundation has selected Vitali Klitschko as a keynote speaker at the special ceremony to deliver a keynote address on the topic of Democracy, marking the anniversary of East Germany's peaceful revolution of 1989. In his speech he emphasized that Ukraine and the former German Democratic Republic have the same historic experience because they both have lived under Soviet totalitarian rule for many years. Both countries saw political upheaval and won their right to freedom and democratic values.

"We, Ukrainians have never abandon seeking for our own independent democratic and free country. Millions of my compatriots - victims of political repressions, the Holodomors and wars have sacrificed their lives for reaching this dream. Ukrainian patriots were shot to death, died in prisons and starved... My people paid a heavy price for their right to live in an independent country and build a democracy in it," said Klitschko. "As you may know, I am a former boxer. Sports has been a considerable part of my life. I can say that boxing and democracy share one common thing. There is no victory without a battle, fight, wounds and dismay. To win, one should stay persistent, be willing to work hard, never give up and believe in oneself and one's country! We all understand that figuratively speaking, the foundation of democracy has to be looked after and each its cornerstone has to be attended to daily," he declared.

Klitschko noted that due to the Revolution of Dignity, the war with authoritarian Russia and its occupation of the large portion of Ukraine's territory Ukrainians learnt that their freedom and European choice must be uncompromisingly and consistently defended.

"I want to stress that it is not only about the military aggression and occupation of the large portion of Ukraine's territory. The reasons for it also matter. Two opposing ideologies, democratic and authoritarian went against each other. Ukraine is being knocked down and conquered, pushed back into the empire Russia attempts to restore. But the Revolution of Dignity revealed the developmental choice of our nation which is the European model based upon democratic values. 100 Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred have sacrificed their lives for it as well as our patriots in the east," revealed Klitschko.

He noted that on a path to democracy Ukraine's entire nation and each citizen is confronted with many challenges. And it is important to remember that the stability of the whole of Europe depends on the stability in Ukraine. "The European community is interested in seeing Ukraine on track toward a mature democracy," said Vitali Klitschko.

The mayor of Kyiv emphasised that everyone in Ukraine is aware that structural reforms are essential for building a strong European country. Accordingly, it places additional responsibility on each citizen because Ukraine's future depends on the efforts of each and every Ukrainian. He also pointed out the importance of self-governance and local democracy. "I am certain that democracy is impossible to achieve without strengthening and broader empowerment of local governments. Political debates, free competition of ideas and views are essential components for democracy," said Klitschko.

While in Leipzig Klitschko also had meetings with the Minister President of Saxony Michael Kretschmer, the Special Envoy of the German Government for the Decentralization Reform, ex-Minister President of Saxony Georg Milbradt, businessmen and cultural agents as well as attended the annual Leipzig Festival of Lights that commemorates the 1989 Peaceful Revolution in East Germany.



KYIV AND TIRANA SIGN SISTER CITY MEMORANDUM



At the meeting in Kyiv the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko and the mayor of Tirana Erion Veliaj signed a Memorandum to establish a sister city relationship and discussed the future cooperation between cities.

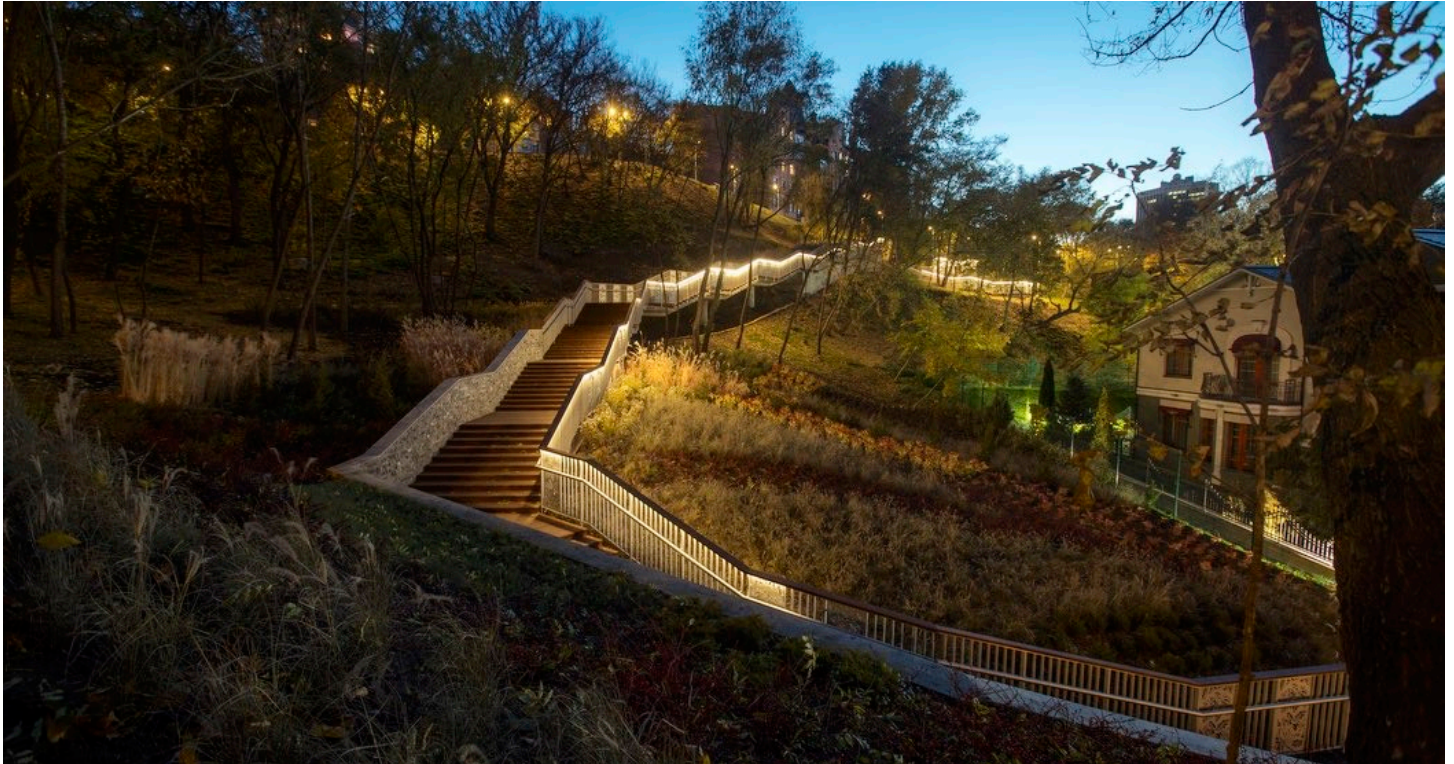
“Kyiv and Tirana have so much in common. This Memorandum lays the foundation for more intensive and effective cooperation. Both our cities have a positive experience of urban transformations that deserves to be shared. Our goal is to bring our cities and countries closer together encouraging cooperation between them,” noted Vitali Klitschko.

A year ago at the invitation of Tirana’s mayor, the Kyiv delegation visited Albania’s capital city to learn about good practices in urban development, public-private partnership projects in healthcare and waste management. Now the delegation from Tirana came to Kyiv to examine Kyiv’s approach to urban construction, public transportation, culture and sport. They were shown landmarks reconstructed by the municipality, including Natalka park, Volodymyrska Hirka park, Arsenalna public space.

“We are committed to transforming Kyiv into a comfortable, secure, resident-oriented and environmentally safe city. Today Kyiv has the highest standards of living, the highest monthly salary, the best schools and hospitals. It also has a very low unemployment rate. Obviously every day we confront various challenges but we are working to implement the necessary reforms as soon as possible and in the most effective way. We are delighted to share our best practices and learn about the best urban solutions implemented by our partners,” noted the mayor of Kyiv.

Sharing his impressions of Kyiv Erion Veliaj said that “Every time I come here, I can see how fast Kyiv is changing for the better becoming more beautiful and comfortable, even though both Ukraine and its capital live under a constant threat from their northern neighbour. For instance, today I have visited Natalka park and was amazed to see so many people there despite the cold weather! I think this is the best sign that people like the transformations. The democratic changes Kyiv delivers put Ukraine’s capital as an example to follow and a source of inspiration for us.” The mayor of Tirana also stressed that residents of Kyiv and Tirana have a lot in common and share common challenges and priorities. “Amazing how we are alike! In particular, young people from Tirana and Kyiv have many success stories in politics, democratic development, arts, culture and sports. Next year Tirana will be the European Youth Capital and we look forward to seeing the young people from Kyiv in Tirana share their achievements and ideas with their European counterparts. By signing the Memorandum we start moving forward to action and implement the initiated joint projects,” underlined Erion Veliaj.

SECOND PORTION OF PEYZAZHNA ALLEY UNVEILED AFTER RENOVATION



Vitali Klitschko cut the ribbon on the renovated second portion of Peyzazhna Alley. “The alley was built about 40 years ago and since then it has never seen a major renovation. Last summer we completed the upgrade of the first portion from the renovated stairs to Podil’s Gonchari-Kozhum`yaki ravine to the figure of Alice in Wonderland. Now we unveil the second round of improvements here. Only recently these slopes and the lower terrace were covered in weeds. Now it is a modern and beautiful recreation area,” said Klitschko.

Other improvements include the reconstructed stairs, newly paved walking paths, comfortable park benches, new irrigation system, LED-lighting and landscaping as well as reinforced retaining walls. The alley features now also decorative lighting for artworks, an emergency alarm button and a surveillance system.

Irresponsible parking was a problem in the alley. This is why 30 automatic parking bollards were installed that let in only locals and emergency service vehicles.

As Klitschko also revealed, reconstruction of the third portion of Peyzazhna alley is expected to begin next year.

KLITSCHKO DISCUSSES THE KYIV URBAN MOBILITY WITH THE WORLD BANK OFFICIALS

Vitali Klitschko and representatives of the World Bank discussed the current and future cooperation aimed at improved urban mobility and urban transport planning at the meeting in Kyiv.

“I would like to thank our partners from the World Bank for all the support they give to us in implementing major infrastructural initiatives, including the Kyiv urban mobility. This is one of the key electric public transportation projects being undertaken in Kyiv. We have devoted much effort to bringing the project to life which is expected to be complete in two years. Our priority is to transform our public transportation system into one of the most convenient and comfortable in Europe,” said Klitschko.

A €30.9 million project will extend the Borschahivska light rail line to the city centre and help decongest the red metro line and the Voksalna metro hub. Also, it will improve mobility throughout Voksalna square.

“As you know, the central government has approved a loan given by the World Bank. Still, we have to agree on some details. I hope soon we will begin the negotiating process. We put much hope in this project that will improve the public transit between city neighbourhoods, reduce the use of private cars, and help reduce traffic congestion and air pollution,” he added.

The World Bank's Manager for Transport in Europe Karla González Carvajal stressed that the Bank sees the Kyiv municipality as a reliable partner and appreciates the cooperation with the city authority. “We all see your efforts and commitment in developing the urban transport system. I want to assure you that we highly appreciate our partnership and will do everything we can to contribute to achieving your goals,” she emphasized.

The attendees discussed also the renewal of the public transport rolling stock, parking issues, transformation of city transit capacities with innovative solutions, further integration of the Smart City system into the urban government.

Karla González Carvajal has years of experience in public administration. Before joining the World Bank she worked as Minister of Public Works and Transport in Costa Rica.



OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS 340 KM OF BADLY DAMAGED PIPES REPLACED

The Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko visited the Solom'iansli district to inspect the progress of work being conducted to repair the most badly damaged parts of the heat network. He said that the municipality continues to reconstruct the depreciated heat pipelines to provide reliable heating services for Kyiv and adapts modern technology and new techniques to extend the service life of pipelines and reduce heat loss. "Since 2019 we have renovated over 340 km of depreciated pipelines, including some 70 km this year. For instance, now we are replacing the components of 1.1 km of badly damaged heating pipeline. There were 14 serious pipe burst incidents here over some years. The pipeline is almost 60 years old and supplies heat to two schools, two non-residential and 25 residential buildings," he revealed.

The mayor noted that the heat and power system of Kyiv is a tremendous sector that services 15,000 buildings and is one of the biggest in Europe. It includes the 2,700-kilometer heat distribution network, two CHPs #5 and #6, the Energy waste incineration plant and almost 200 boiler-houses and heat supply stations. In 2018 the municipality discontinued the 17-year contract with a privately owned company 'Kyivenergo' and regained control of the municipal heat and power system. Since then the municipal 'Kyivteploenergo' has been undergoing modernisation.

"Despite the tariff and the natural gas procurement crisis, we are ready for this year's heat season. We have completed the repairs and preventative maintenance of the heating network and two cogeneration plants," underlined Klitschko and added that the energy company must get ready for emergencies and make emergency responders available in wintertime.

