

**Law No. (4) of 2021**  
**Regulating Roads in the Emirate of Dubai<sup>1</sup>**

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

After perusal of:

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

Law No. (3) of 2003 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (9) of 2004 Concerning the Dubai International Financial Centre and its amendments;

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

Law No. (6) of 2006 Concerning Contribution of Beneficiaries to the Cost of Roads and Public Transport Contracts;

Decree No. (22) of 2009 Concerning Special Development Zones in the Emirate of Dubai;

The Order of 1961 Establishing the Dubai Municipality;

Regulation No. (4) of 2009 Regulating Work in the Right of Way in the Emirate of Dubai and its Implementing Bylaw; and

The legislation establishing and regulating free zones in the Emirate of Dubai,

**Do hereby issue this Law.**

**Title of the Law**

**Article (1)**

This Law will be cited as "Law No. (4) of 2021 Regulating Roads in the Emirate of Dubai".

**Definitions**

**Article (2)**

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

Emirate:    The Emirate of Dubai.

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<sup>1</sup>*Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.*

RTA:	The Roads and Transport Authority.
DM:	The Dubai Municipality.
Road:	Any public way on which traffic movement is allowed, including main roads, side roads, and byroads; public squares; bridges; tunnels; interchanges; road median strips; public car parks; pavements; pedestrian crossings; pedal cycle lanes; and other Operational Facilities.
Right of Way:	A Road and the area extending from the edges of that Road to the boundaries of adjacent land plots, as demarcated on the plans approved by the DM or by an authority supervising a free zone or a Special Development Zone.
Operational Facilities:	This includes lamp posts, traffic lights, road and information signs, billboards, plantings, concrete and steel barriers, speed bumps, shades, public transport car parks, public car parks, electric vehicle charging stations, and any other equipment and facilities existing within Rights of Way supervised by the RTA.

### **Scope of Application**

#### **Article (3)**

The provisions of this Law apply to all Roads and Rights of Way in the Emirate, including in Special Development Zones and free zones, such as the Dubai International Financial Centre.

### **Objectives of the Law**

#### **Article (4)**

This Law aims to:

1. ensure integration of the plans and strategies of the Roads sector in the Emirate by assigning a single authority to be in charge of developing, and following up the implementation of, these plans and strategies;
2. develop, and enhance the quality and efficiency of, the Road network infrastructure in the Emirate with a view to ensuring the safety of Road users and smooth traffic flow thereon; and
3. enable the RTA to supervise and support the Roads sector in the Emirate.

## **Functions of the RTA**

### **Article (5)**

Without prejudice to the functions of other Government entities, the RTA will plan, design, construct, manage, and maintain Roads and Rights of Way in the Emirate. For this purpose, the RTA will have the duties and powers to:

1. conduct regulatory and technical studies aiming at developing the Road network and enhancing its efficiency as per the latest internationally recognised standards and specifications;
2. devise the plans and designs of Roads and Rights of Way, and implement their approved and relevant projects. In developing these plans and designs, the technical requirements prescribed by the entities in charge of providing Public Utilities in the Emirate, including water, electricity, irrigation, sewerage, and other Public Utilities, must be observed;
3. determine the directions of the traffic flow of vehicles and pedestrians on Roads;
4. construct and pave Roads in the Emirate as per the plans and designs adopted in this respect;
5. supervise Roads; prescribe their safety requirements; and follow up their technical condition with a view to ensuring their efficiency and safety;
6. protect and improve Roads; conduct regular corrective and preventive maintenance thereof; and perform all works that ensure their efficiency and guarantee the highest levels of security and safety of their users;
7. devise the solutions required for reducing traffic congestion on Roads and submit the same to the competent entities in the Emirate for approval. This includes determining the lanes designated for mass transport vehicles and for other types of vehicles; installing traffic toll systems and determining their locations; and proposing traffic toll fees;
8. determine, establish, and manage vehicle parking and waiting areas, taxicab stands, and public bus stations, in accordance with the requirements of urban planning and as necessary to manage traffic and public transport flow;
9. issue the permits required for the activities and events organised within Rights of Way after verifying that they would not compromise the efficient use of, and traffic movement on, these Rights of Way, or the Public Utilities or Operational Facilities existing therein;
10. install Operational Facilities within Rights of Way as required by the concerned entities in the Emirate; determine the locations where these facilities are installed; supervise and control them; and perform the necessary maintenance thereto;

11. classify Roads in accordance with the rules and standards adopted by the RTA in this respect;
12. establish and update, in coordination with the DM, the Road naming and numbering system; and communicate the same to federal and local government entities for implementation;
13. issue the permits required for performing any works within Rights of Way, in accordance with the applicable legislation of the RTA in this respect;
14. issue the permits required for making Traffic Diversions on Roads, whenever such Roads or any lanes thereof are to be fully or partly closed, in accordance with the processes, conditions, and procedures adopted by the RTA in this respect;
15. determine temporary and permanent entrances and exits of buildings, land plots, projects, or events where such entrances and exits directly lead to a Road;
16. determine speed limits of all types of vehicles on Roads;
17. determine the times when, and the places where, trucks or buses are not allowed to run on Roads; and determine the axle loads of heavy vehicles; and
18. exercise any other duties or powers vested in the RTA under the legislation in force, as required for managing Roads in the Emirate.

**Management of Roads within Free Zones and  
Special Development Zones  
Article (6)**

- a. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article (5) of this Law, the authorities supervising free zones and Special Development Zones will perform all works related to Roads and Rights of Way within the boundaries of the zones they supervise.
- b. In exercising the functions referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article, the authorities supervising free zones or Special Development Zones must:
  1. obtain the prior approval of the RTA to the designs and plans of Roads and Rights of Way; and obtain the approval of the entities in charge of providing Public Utilities within such Roads and Rights of Way;
  2. perform all works related to Roads and their maintenance, and all works required within Rights of Way, in accordance with the applicable legislation, specifications, and requirements of the RTA in this respect;

3. ensure that all works related to Roads and their maintenance, and all works performed within Rights of Way, are carried out by prequalified contractors and consultants, in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate;
  4. perform all corrective and preventive maintenance works of Roads as required by the RTA;
  5. enable RTA employees and authorised representatives to supervise and monitor the implementation of the works performed on Roads and within Rights of Way and to record committed violations, in accordance with the applicable legislation of the RTA; and
  6. enable the RTA to conduct studies on traffic congestion and safety on the Roads located within the zones they supervise.
- c. The authorities supervising free zones and Special Development Zones may authorise the RTA to perform their functions, with respect to implementing works related to Roads and their maintenance and to Rights of Way, pursuant to an agreement concluded with the RTA in this respect, which provides for the rights and obligations of the parties, including the charges for implementing these works as well as any supervisory and administrative fees.

### **Claiming Compensation Article (7)**

Except for the compensation for expropriation of property for public interest, or for any material damage to property or harm to persons, no compensation may be claimed from the RTA for any harm sustained by the members and various segments of the community due to the public-benefit works and projects implemented by the RTA with a view to developing, constructing, and maintaining Roads or other works related to Rights of Way, Operational Facilities, or relevant services.

### **Issuing Implementing Resolutions Article (8)**

The Director General will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of this Law. These resolutions will be published in the Official Gazette of the Government of Dubai.

**Repeals**  
**Article (9)**

- a. The above-mentioned Law No. (7) of 2002 is hereby repealed. Any provision in any other legislation will also be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.
- b. The resolutions, bylaws, and instructions issued in implementation of the above-mentioned Law No. (7) of 2002 will continue in force to the extent that they do not contradict this Law, until new superseding resolutions, bylaws, and instructions are issued.

**Publication and Commencement**  
**Article (10)**

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

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

Issued in Dubai on 3 March 2021  
Corresponding to 19 Rajab 1442 A.H.