

Pay by Nol or credit cards on Dubai taxis

NEW PAYMENT MODES WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM APRIL

DUBAI

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Staff Reporter

Payment of taxi fares will become hassle-free in the next couple of months as the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) enables Nol card and credit card payments, *Gulf News* has learnt.

A senior RTA official told *Gulf News* that all taxis have been upgraded and the new payment modes will be introduced by April.

"We have already upgraded taxi meters and conducted tests, which have been very successful, so we will go with the launch by the beginning of the second quarter of this year," said Eisa Abdul Rahman Al Dossary, CEO of RTA's Public Transport Agency (PTA).

The new payment mode will accept all Nol cards, including Silver, Gold, as well as personalised Nol cards. However, the red tickets issued for buses and Metro will not be allowed on taxis.

According to Al Dossary, the additional payment options will help people greatly. "It will save people from the headache of keeping change as on many occasions the taxi drivers don't have change and customers have to go out looking for change. Nol and credit card payment options will add to people's convenience," said Al Dossary.

The project is part of the re-



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Eisa Abdul Rahman Al Dossary

cently introduced D8 system for taxis, which allows various functions to be added to taxi meters.

"The Dispatcher 8 (D8) has allowed RTA to implement many new functions and because of flexibility of the system, we are able to offer many different features to the customer and enhance our operational effectiveness," said Al Dossary.

He added that from Nol, both Visa and MasterCard could be used for payment in taxis, which is already the case on Water taxis. "The system will work with all types of cards supported by our payment provider namely Network International," he said.

Explaining the process of payment, Al Dossary said that unlike in buses and Metro, commuters won't have to tap



Hadrian Hernandez/Gulf News archives

The Nol Card

on the Nol reader as they get in.

"The taxis will run normally. At the end of the journey, the driver will provide payment options to the customer. i.e. cash, credit card or NoL. If the passenger uses the NoL card the driver will tag the card on the reader and it will deduct the value from the NoL card. With credit cards, the process will be similar to what it is currently available in retail outlets," he said.

HAVE YOUR SAY



Will you be taking advantage of this new method of payment? What more can be done to encourage people to leave their cars at home and use public transportation? Tell us at readers@gulfnews.com or post your thoughts on our Facebook page.