1. Upgrading Public Transport Infrastructure – Bus Stops and Shelters

Project Summary

As part of the broader effort to strengthen Cyprus's public transport system and the new concession contracts that aim to deliver improved and expanded services, the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works (MTCW) is advancing the upgrade of public transport infrastructure — with a particular focus on bus stops and shelters.

Bus stops and shelters are a critical component of the overall passenger experience and play an important role in encouraging citizens to choose public transport as a primary mode of travel.

This upgrade initiative aligns with the strategic planning goals of the Republic of Cyprus — including those of the MTCW, the Deputy Ministry of Tourism, and local municipalities — and forms an integral part of the country's transition toward sustainable mobility and green development.

To this end, the Public Works Department (PWD) of the MTCW has undertaken a series of actions to modernize bus stops and shelters across Cyprus, including:
a) signing Memoranda of Cooperation with municipalities and communities,
b) mapping and assessing all existing stops and shelters nationwide,
c) designing new modern types of stops and shelters,
d) securing funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in October 2022, and
e) launching a public tender for implementation.

The Bus Stops and Shelters Project

The upgrade of bus stops, shelters, and their surrounding infrastructure will be implemented under a 15-year contract, awarded through a two-stage tendering process (Pre-qualification + Award Stage).

In Stage 1, 11 economic operators expressed interest, of which 8 were pre-qualified for Stage 2. Four of them submitted bids, which were evaluated, and on **October 5, 2023**, the contract was officially signed at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works. The project provides for the installation of **4,450 new bus stops and shelters** and the **renovation of 1,000 existing ones** across Cyprus.

The contract was awarded to the most economically advantageous bidder based on price and compliance with all technical specifications.

Project Budget: €60,000,000 + VAT

- 5-year Main Implementation Phase: €35,000,000 + VAT
- 10-year Maintenance Phase: €5,000,000 + VAT
- Optional Additional Orders (by Contracting Authority): €10,000,000 + VAT
- Optional Orders by Other Entities: €10,000,000 + VAT
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The project includes the construction, installation, and refurbishment of stops and shelters across Cyprus, specifically:

- 350 Smart Stops (pillar type)
- 1,350 New Small Shelters
- 650 New Large Shelters
- 100 New Large Shelters for mountainous areas
- Refurbishment of 600 existing large shelters
- 2,000 Simplified Stops
- Photovoltaic systems
- 500 electronic passenger information boards
- 450 waste bins
- 200 bicycle stands and 20 bicycle stations
- Foundation works and pavement improvements around stops

The project is co-funded by the **European Regional Development Fund (THALEIA Programme)** at **65%** and by **national funds** at **35%**.

Design of Stops and Shelters

The design of the new stops and shelters was undertaken by **Demades Design Ltd**, following an open tender process by the PWD.

The new designs take into account local conditions and spatial constraints within the road network. The shelters are designed for uniformity, accessibility for persons with disabilities, safety, and protection from weather conditions. They incorporate renewable

energy sources, lighting, and electronic passenger information displays with audible bus arrival announcements.

Type A – Smart Stop (Pillar):
Used where space constraints do not allow for a shelter.
Key Features:

- Metal frame with aluminum panel cladding
- Photovoltaic panel for energy autonomy and optional connection to the grid
- Full LED lighting coverage
- Illuminated box for route and schedule information
- Electronic ink-paper display showing real-time bus arrivals

Type B – Small Shelter:
Used where space is limited or passenger volume is low.
Key Features:

- Metal frame with aluminum panel cladding
- Photovoltaic roof for energy autonomy and grid connection
- LED lighting throughout the structure
- Illuminated information box and ink-paper display
- Wooden seating on metal framing

Type C – Large Shelter:
Key Features:

- Metal frame with aluminum panel cladding
- Photovoltaic roof with optional grid connection
- LED lighting throughout
- Rear glass panel
- Illuminated information box and ink-paper display
- Double-sided advertising panel
- Wooden seating on metal framing

Prototype Samples

For quality control, material testing, and demonstration purposes, three prototype shelters were constructed and installed on **Makariou Avenue** in central Nicosia.

Investment Plan & Implementation Milestones

The installation of the new bus stops and shelters will follow a **five-year investment plan**, prioritizing areas with high passenger traffic based on data from the **"Motion" Telematics System**, as well as the physical condition of existing infrastructure and the commercial importance of each area.

Third-Party Investment Opportunities

Approved third parties may also purchase or order additional shelters within the scope of the project, subject to approval by the Contracting Authority. Eligible entities include:

- Other government departments or organizations (from own or co-financed budgets)
- Municipalities and communities
- Public transport concessionaires
- Department of Town Planning and Housing (for urban projects)
- Municipal Tourism Development & Promotion Companies
- Educational institutions of any level
- Foundations
- Private developers (in projects where public transport infrastructure is required)
- Private entities with approved stops serving their developments (e.g. malls, airports, ports)
- Other social or private stakeholders wishing to contribute to the improvement of their surrounding public transport environment

The **Bus Stops and Shelters Upgrade Project** is now under full implementation following the signing of the relevant contract.

2. **Construction of Bus Lanes along the Future Tram Corridors in Nicosia (€5 million)**

Project Summary

To support the gradual implementation of the Nicosia Tram system, in line with guidance from the **European Investment Bank (EIB)** and **JASPERS**, a first-stage project is proposed for the development of **dedicated bus lanes** along the future tram corridors, as well as the expansion of related services.

Designs and tender documents are being prepared within the framework of the **Nicosia Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP)**, signed on **November 19, 2021**, with implementation planned between **2023 and 2026**.

3. **Construction or Improvement of Bus Stations across Cyprus**

Project Summary

This project foresees the completion and improvement of infrastructure across **15 bus stations** islandwide, including the installation of **charging infrastructure for electric buses** and **solar energy generation through photovoltaic systems**.

The design and contract preparation are being carried out by the **Public Works Department**, in cooperation with the **European Investment Bank**.

Tender documentation is expected to be finalized by **2025**, with full infrastructure upgrades completed by **the end of 2029**.