Tehran towards Prosperity and Equity
in the name of God
Urban management must bring peace and welfare to the society in a promising way. We are after promoting our citizens’ quality of life so that they could carry on the course of development and excellence.

Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf
Mayor of Tehran

Public and International Relations Department of Tehran Municipality

Collaborators: Mohammad Hossein Hashemi, Masoud Abedi, Morteza Derakhshan
Artistic Director: Hooman Anasori
Photo: Fereydoun Ghorbani, Hamed Farjallah, Mohsen Zomorodian, Amir Hadidi, Majid Hosseni, Mohsen Gitinavard
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A City of Eight Million People

Tehran is the largest and the capital city of Iran. Its population is close to 12 million during daytime and over 8.5 people at night. This has made it the world’s 18th most populous city. The span of the capital city of Iran is 730 square kilometers and with such an area it is one of the largest cities in West Asia and the 27th largest city in the world. The altitude of the city in the highest northern parts is two thousand meters and in the south one thousand and fifty meters above the sea level. Tehran is limited to mountainous areas in the north and to desert in the south, therefore, it has different climates in the north and the south. Northern areas have cold and dry weather while southern parts are warm and dry.

Prior to the widespread migrations to Tehran, main residents of the city were Persians but after the migrations in the late 1340s (1960s) as well as in early 1350s (1970s) other tribes such as Gilak, Mazandarani, Armenian, Arab, Azari, Kurdish and Lor were settled in this city. Estimates suggest that the population density in Tehran is between ten thousand and seven hundred to more than eleven thousand per square kilometer. Now Tehran has 22 districts and the city is known as the political and economic capital of Iran. The people of the city are mostly young and their education with regard to more than 200 universities and colleges in the city, is at higher level.
Meanwhile, in order to create better living conditions for Asian nations, Tehran Municipality proposed the idea of holding a meeting of Asian mayors. In this meeting urban managers of Asian cities would discuss and exchange views over living condition of Asian citizens.

During the past years Tehran has managed to receive many international awards; from Tehran mayor honored as the eighth top mayor of the world up to the election of Tehran as a city working to promote standard of living for its citizens.
Efforts to Improve Standards of Living in Asia

Efforts to improve citizens’ standards of living in Asian cities and increasing the level of cooperation and exchange of information and experience between these cities with regard to issues that are necessary for Asian cities with the time requirement, is the reason underlining importance of joint coordination and mutual cooperation among them. For this reason, the idea of a meeting of Asian mayors was proposed by Tehran mayor. The Permanent Secretariat of the meeting is in Tehran and its first forum was held in the Iranian capital city in the calendar year 1387 (2008-2009) with the motto “Asia for Citizens, Integration for a Better Life.” The second session was held in Istanbul in 1389 (2011-2012) and its third session is expected to be held in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition, this year Tehran would host the UN Habitat 2012 global conference – yet another great event to be held in IRI.
World’s 8th Top Mayor

Election of Tehran mayor as the eighth top mayor of the world in 2008 was one of the glories of Tehran. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf in an opinion poll for election of top mayors in the world which started from 2007 and left behind an 18-month process was elected the eighth top mayor of the world from among 820 mayors who participated in the opinion poll. This project was conducted by the City Mayors website and in its first stage 74,000 people participated in the voting. Voters were required to provide documents and reasons for their vote. Experts of the site from July up to September reviewed the votes and opinions received from around the world and eventually prepared a final list of 11 top mayors of the world in 2008.
Tehran’s subsequent success was to receive the award of top cities of the world in development of sustainable transportation. The award was presented to Tehran Municipality for designing and implementing BRT bus lines, development of underground transportation, metro, and application of smart systems in traffic management. The award has been initiated by the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) and election of top cities is conducted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development of Transportation Aggregate Resources, the German Society for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the International Association of Public Transport (UATP) and a number of other institutes.
A
other global award presented to Tehran was in the year 2011. The United Nations as well as a number of other international associations praised Tehran’s efforts in improving its citizens’ living conditions and presented the special metropolis award to the IRI capital city. The award, which was presented for expanding BRT bus lines as well as bicycle lanes, could be considered the most important global award in the field of urban management. The prize was awarded to Tehran by a board comprising prestigious international institutes, including the International Association of Public Transport (UITP), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), GTZ Institute and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
Tehran’s Activities on Environment Honored

The Global Energy Foundation award in 2012 is among international awards presented to Tehran. The prize was awarded due to the activities of Tehran Municipality in the field of the environment, use of clean energy and establishment of green management.
Prior to construction of Milad Tower, Tehran’s symbol was Azadi Tower, a tower which was built 42 years ago by using a combination of architecture belonging to the time of the Achaemenid, the Sassanid and the Islamic era. Its height is 45 meters above the surface and 46 thousand pieces of stones have been cut and used in the building. But, in the aftermath of construction of the sixth tallest communication tower in the world, the symbol of Tehran was challenged as well. Milad Tower of Tehran with a height of 435 meters was inaugurated in the middle of the calendar month of Mehr 1387 (October 2008) and ever since its facilities have been completed to such an extent that now it is one of the most beautiful tourist centers in the capital city. It has 13 thousand meters floor area and the expansion of the installation on top of the tower ranks first among all communication towers in the world. Some 315 meters of the tower structure belongs to the concrete shaft and the remaining 120 meters to its antenna. The tower weighs 161 thousand tons and its floor area is 5.5 times bigger than a soccer field. The building on top of the tower is a 12-storey complex with different functions. This building after implementation of the main body of the tower was constructed up to the surface of more than 315 meters and was installed above the main body. The central part of the structure on top of the tower is made of concrete which has previously been implemented along the main body of the tower from level 247 to level 315. But, since two years ago, in addition to various functions anticipated for the tower, its cultural application was also considered. To this end, Milad Tower is currently one of Tehran’s cultural attractions as well. On its 292 meters height, it has a VIP restaurant and an open view platform. On its 280 meter height it has a gallery and a landscape platform. The rotating restaurant as well as a space named “Dome of Sky” where artistic works of the Iranian history have been put on display.
The issue of justice in the city depends on a large number of components. In this regard, perhaps enjoying equal facilities is one of the most important components for institutionalization of justice in the city. Division of municipal facilities in the past decades has been such that northern and western areas got more while southern and eastern regions gained less. This was an event that persuaded urban management to adopt policies for reducing the distance between the north and the south. Therefore, during recent years grounds were prepared to fill the gap by taking the following measures among others:

- Establishment of local councils and further participation of people in administration of the city through developing plans such as neighborhood management by citizens in the smallest units of urban management, that is to say 374 neighborhoods in Tehran;
- Creating structures for direct communication between people and managers. Drawing the comprehensive and detailed plans of Tehran,
- Providing easy access of citizens to information,
- Opening of more than 200 garden parks in the south of the city,
- Establishing development and transportation infrastructures, including expansion of BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) lines, creating cultural spaces, including four cinema houses,
- Launching community centers in each neighborhood as neighborhood dwellings and houses of culture and,
- Beginning construction of new subway lines in this part of the city.
Since the year 1386 (2007-2008) two hotlines have been set up to enable citizens contact the Municipality and facilitate their access to municipal managers, participate in urban management and provide a fair condition for managers to discuss problems and find immediate solutions. Each day over thousands of Tehran citizens contact the two hotlines, namely 1888 which has been devoted to registering criticisms and complaints of citizens from the Municipality as well as solving urban issues; and 137 which is considered an operational station and responsible for solving problems at neighborhoods and districts. These systems work online and receive information and make arrangements for dealing with them. In the two systems which work round the clock over hundred people are busy responding to citizens and all their demands. Relevant follow ups would be saved in an electronic file in the two hotlines to be referred to whenever necessary.
Tehran Municipality possesses a website at www.tehran.ir which is somehow considered a data bank on urban management and providing services to citizens electronically. In this website available in Persian and English languages, citizens of Tehran could meet their demands in the field of urban management. The online map of Tehran traffic, registration for and purchase of traffic zone permit in Tehran, atlas of metropolitan Tehran, instantaneous public utility bills inquiry system, electronic payment of motor vehicle annual taxes, electronic payment of renovation charges, electronic payment of motorcycle taxes, viewing urbanization file, inquiry of construction permit and financial report of the Municipality are among links of the website. Nearly 170 sub-portals are connected to the site each meeting various demands of citizens. www.tehran.ir which attracts 18 thousand visitors on average daily was inaugurated upon an order from Tehran mayor in the calendar month of Tir (June - July) in 2006 with an aim to realize the electronic city and optimize the transition process. One of the sections of the website covers news related to urban management which includes over 2,500 reports since the start of its operation. This site is accessible through 2,700 plus links in a virtual space. The sections with highest numbers of applicants are traffic zone entrance permits and map of Tehran.
Development of a transparent management system is not a management approach but the right of citizens. One way to institutionalize justice in the city is to put financial information at the disposal of citizens and their awareness of financial issues. Since five years ago, Tehran Municipality began a process according to which, micro revenues and costs of urban management was accessible through the website www.tehran.ir. Citizens of Tehran could now visit the site and by clicking the ‘financial reports’ link of Tehran Municipality gain access to mid-term financial reports of the Municipality on a monthly basis. In this report the amount of assets and liabilities of the Municipality, the amount of earnings of urban management and turnover of municipalities in different districts are put at the disposal of citizens in the form of tables, maps and charts to enable them to extract the information they may be interested in.
Tehran towards Prosperity and Equity

Tehran Detailed Plan

The Detailed Plan of Tehran which has become operational upon an order by Tehran Mayor since the beginning of the current calendar year (March 21) is the first document for administration of the capital city. It should be noted that for the first time in calendar year 1349 (1970-71) Tehran was expected to have its comprehensive plan. But, with the growth in the number of migrants to Tehran, rising oil prices in 1972-77 as well as the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979 its implementation was not realized. Later, in 1371 (1993-94) another plan was drawn up for the capital city which again failed to be put into operation due to lack of coordination between the then Ministry of Roads and Urban Development and Urban Management Organization.

But, for the first time a comprehensive plan was formulated through cooperation of the government, the Municipality, the Islamic City Council and Consultant Engineers in the calendar year 1387 (2008-2009) and upon a decision adopted upon an order by the High Urban Development and Architecture Council, Tehran Municipality was commissioned to prepare the detailed plan. This plan is now expected to be implemented. It is a plan that contrary to previous approaches which were mostly fixed and prepared on the basis of estates and their plaques has taken advantage of international experience and considered a collection of properties in an area and assessed their reciprocal effects.

It should be noted that in this plan four main zones have been considered for Tehran: Zone R or residential; Zone M or mixed place of residence and activity; Zone S or work and activity; and Zone G for preservation of green and open spaces. These zones have 55 sub-zones and citizens by filing the number of their block and property on the website of Tehran Municipality (www.tehran.ir) could be informed of the status of their estate.

According to this plan the living zone constitutes 39 percent, mixed zone 10 percent, work and activity zone 28 percent and green and open zone 21 percent of Tehran which underlines the attention paid to green and open air spaces in the capital city.

The plan is expected to be carefully studied, monitored and assessed and its possible flaws removed this year. Meanwhile, it is possible to make changes in the plan every five years to remove bottlenecks. However, the important thing for now is that for the first time Tehran would have a document in which all the issues have been specified.
Development of Public Sports, Easy Access of Citizens to Sports Facilities

Construction of more than 600 artificial grass pitches and over 30 pools, equipment of all garden parks with sport sets, construction of special stadiums for the disabled and for women, building 50 multi-purpose stadiums in the neighborhoods all indicate to the efforts that have been made in the past six years in the area of public sports in the capital city. Over the years, the per capita space for sports in Tehran has shown an outstanding increase. This, in addition to the dramatic rise in youths’ interest in sports has compensated for the shortcomings in the area of sports. On the other hand, events that have taken place in the area of sports in Tehran have enabled all residents to gain access to sport spaces. Such access is either free of charge or at low costs.
Imam Reza (AS) Stadium is a multi-purpose complex which has been constructed in one of the marginal and most deprived points of the capital city Tehran. The complex has been built in an area of 44,200 square meters and has a capacity of 10,000 people. In this complex, in addition to soccer pitch, athletics tracks specially speed track, as well as tracks for cross motorbikes, climbing walls and other ancillary spaces have been built. Offering free of charge or low cost services are among characteristics of this complex with beautiful architecture in the most deprived region of the city.
Janbazan Sports Complex has been built in south of Tehran and in one of the most deprived corners of the capital city. The complex which occupies an area of over 18 thousand square meters is equipped with specialized and modern facilities, especially for physically disabled athletes so that they could easily use all the facilities without anyone helping them. In addition to sports and recreational services they could meet all their movement and treatment needs. Multi-purpose sports halls, ball sports halls, shooting halls, gyms, hydrotherapy pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, wheelchair track, etc. are among facilities of the complex. This is the first complex with such a dimension which has been built for the disabled. Two artificial grass football pitches as well as cultural spaces have been built beside the stadium. Meanwhile, sports and recreational facilities have been established for families and companions of the disabled.
During the past six years Tehran has been witness to an outstanding growth in construction of garden parks and this has further attracted public attention towards green spaces in Tehran. Efforts made for promotion of sports culture among citizens was an issue which drew the attention of Tehran Municipality in recent years. For this reason, today in more than 1,800 garden parks in the 22 districts of Tehran Municipality park sports facilities have been installed so that citizens could use them without paying any cost. These facilities which are mainly in the area of public sports have been installed as such they could be used by people of all ages. Today, almost in all green spaces of Tehran free sports facilities are at the disposal of people and this has been remarkably welcomed by citizens.
Since the calendar year 1384 (2005-2006) an increase in per capita sport space in Tehran has been put on the agenda of urban management as a serious issue. On this basis during these years, more than 50 equipped water sports complexes, over 200 multi-purpose sports stadiums for sports such as futsal, volleyball, basketball, handball, etc. nine natural grass fields, over 200 open fields and 600 artificial grass fields have been added to the sports facilities of the city.
Citizens of Tehran are dynamic and art loving people. They are both interested in culture and arts. For this reason, each activity which has been conducted in the city of Tehran in cultural and artistic fields has in a short period of time attracted the attention and welcome of citizens. However, expansion of cultural spaces in Tehran in the mid years of the 1370s and 1380s (1990s - 2000s), for various reasons, was not in accordance with the population growth in the city. For this reason, the need to develop cultural spaces such as cinema and theater houses, culture centers, cultural houses, etc. was strongly sensed. Therefore, construction and per capita increase in cultural spaces was seriously followed by Tehran Municipality.

During these years, for the first time in Iran, Cineplex which include several screen halls, centers for purchase of cultural products and galleries were added to the city of Tehran. With the opening of the Cineplex of which so far eight have become operational, 27 movie theaters with over 6,700 seats have been added to the number of Tehran cinemas.
Cinema Pardis (Cineplex) is a name introduced by Tehran Municipality some seven years ago into Iran’s movie industry. Cinematic complexes which in addition to several screening theaters, also have facilities such as galleries, exhibitions, and shops selling cultural product so that they could meet needs of the city for modern cinemas and at the same time provide an appropriate atmosphere for leisure time of citizens. During these seven years, the Mellat Cineplex with five halls and 1159 seats, Azadi with five halls and 1400 seats, Raga with three halls and 800 seats, Tamasha with three halls and 800 seats, Zendegi with five halls and 1200 seats, Razi with four halls and 600 seats and Cinematograph with one hall and 250 seats as well as the 3-D Eivan-e Shams with 500 seats have been built by Tehran Municipality. All these movie theaters enjoy the latest facilities and equipment of screening and since their construction up to the present time millions of Tehran citizens have watched movies there every year. The cinemas have mainly been constructed in deprived areas where per capita cultural spaces were low.
Perhaps before construction of Mellat Park Cineplex, this title was unknown to many residents of Tehran as well as other Iranians. However, after the construction of the complex in the calendar month of Aban 1387 (October - November 2008), the title “Cineplex” has now become a well-known term for the people. Mellat Park Cineplex which occupies six thousand square meters of land is located in District 3 of Tehran Municipality in the southwest end of Mellat Park. With regard to its location in the Park campus, it enjoys all its facilities. This complex is equipped with four movie theaters with a capacity of 280 spectators and a small theatre hall with a capacity of 30 people. It addition to screening spaces, restaurants, coffee shops, book and cultural shops, and administrative and service buildings should be also added which could handle a population of 2,500 at peak hours. In order to watch films in this movie complex you should take Vali-e Asr Avenue or Kurdistan Highway to Niyayesh Highway where you would find the entrance to the complex.
One of the needs of Tehran was to increase theater halls. To this end, Tehran Municipality put the issue of building theater halls at the top of its agenda. Iranshahr Theater was the first hall built by Tehran Municipality. Iranshahr Theater has two halls with a total of 400 seats. Furthermore, the present largest theater center is under construction in the south of the city. The Professional Theater Center of Tehran has a span of 27,960 meters with 16,437 square meters of floor area and four halls each with a capacity of 150 seats and a puppet show hall with 120 seats. This hall which has a special architecture could be turned into a center for holding international theater festivals. On the other hand, a center named ‘Center for Ritual Plays’ with a span of 5,987 square meters and 16,118 square meters of floor area has two halls with a capacity of 600 seats. This center is allocated to ritual and traditional ceremonies and has been built as such that the screen would move with regard to the position of the audience in order to provide the possibility for performance of plays in different scenes.
Tehran Professional Theater Center

Tehran Professional Theater Center is under construction in an area of 27,960 square meters and under construction surface of 16,437 square meters adjacent to Khavaran Culture House. This center is equipped with a theater with a capacity of one thousand seats which is the largest in the country. It has also four experimental theater halls with a capacity of 150 seats. Meanwhile a 120-seat puppet theater is also under construction at this center. Facilities at the center could attract the attention of every artist and those interested in theater and would certainly be turned into the most exclusive theatrical center in the Middle East region. The center is equipped with one thousand square meters of workshop for making decorations and a sewing workshop. Also, three thousand square meters have been allocated to behind the stage and rehearsal salons. Specialized library, different galleries, workshop and educational spaces with an area of close to four thousand square meters as well as other recreational spots such as restaurants, shops, children’s playground and stands for selling cultural products are among other facilities of the center which have the potential to host international festivals.
Tehran Center for Ritual Performances with an area of 5,987 square meters and under construction area of 16,118 square meters is equipped with two theaters with a capacity of 600 seats designed and established according to the latest international standards.

The center provides the possibility for performance of ritual-Iranian plays under the best conditions. The first trait which distinguishes the center from the previous theaters is its proximity with a giant fountain, a natural environment and a vast area devoted to it. In addition, this center with regard to its interior design has fundamental differences with the interiors of other theaters. The theater of the center has been designed as such that it is completely underground and glass walls separate its different parts so that spectators could see the players during their practice, make-up or at the time of coming to the stage.

Also, it is interesting to note that displacement of spectators with regard to the stage takes place automatically and use of special lighting and sound equipment is among features of the center.

On the other hand, the stage of the center is placed on cubes which move vertically and horizontally and provide the possibility of any change simply and automatically.

The center is situated on Shariati Avenue, above Qolhak Street and would be soon turned into a place to perform ritual programs.
Tehran towards Prosperity and Equity

Tehran is a city with its own complexities. It is a place where for different reasons offering services is in need of different strategies. Under such circumstances, making efforts to turn the city into an intelligent metropolis wherein information would be constantly updated has been considered one of the most important requirements of the capital city in the past decade. This issue consequently attracted more attention from the middle of the 1380s (2000s). Now, with the passage of little more than half a decade, Tehran has been able to play its role in various fields as a smart city: An event which - although far from ideal - has been able to meet the basic needs of the city and its people.

Tehran a Smart City
Tehran towards Prosperity and Equity

A Center to Monitor and Control City Traffic

Tehran Traffic Control Center, affiliated to Tehran Municipality, is considered the first step to create a smart Tehran. A center whose responsibility is to monitor streets of the Iranian capital city every second and by controlling all the events and significant traffic incidents, makes remote monitoring possible in this area. This center, by establishing an integrated structure as the command center of the town, provides for administrative measures with regard to the events and different incidents in the city. Tehran Traffic Control Center as the largest center in the region was launched in the calendar year 1376 (1997-98) but was expanded in recent years and can now monitor the entire Tehran. The center monitors traffic round the clock and under specific conditions such as snow and rainfall rushes to help the urban management in order to enable officials to make the best decisions in the shortest time possible. In this center, in addition to agents of Tehran Municipality, traffic police are also present so that whenever necessary, they would take necessary decisions with regard to the type of the event which is relayed by one of the 750 cameras, deployed throughout the city, to the center.
Organization of Crisis Prevention and Management was launched in Tehran in the calendar year 1378 (1999-2000). But since then until the past three years, this organization was in need of an operational and efficient center for critical conditions. This need was met in that year with the opening of the most equipped and largest command center and crisis management headquarters of the country the technology of which is in possession of just a few countries. However, Iran could gain access to the knowhow through efforts of its experts and with cooperation of universities and research centers. This center which monitors Tehran with its modern equipment, under critical conditions could supervise the zone under its management. The command center and crisis management headquarters building has a span of about 2,500 square meters of floor area and has been built in three stores. The center comprises sections such as the command room, room of operational experts, spaces for deployment of electronic, telecommunications, satellites and computer systems. This center provided an opportunity for the management system to be activated rapidly and prevent mistaken operations, recurrence, disturbance and congregation of forces at the scene and wastage of energy and operational potential. The multiple systems deployed at the center are such that they would relay seismic data within a radius of 150 km in less than 20 minutes for information of the authorities.
Electronic Services Bureau

Offering fast and quality services to citizens, simplifying administrative procedures and services, avoiding multiple trips within the city, providing the possibility for offering distance e-services for realization of electronic city besides facilitating and expediting services in the field of urban management led to the opening of Electronic Services Office of the city by Tehran Municipality. In these offices which are present in more than 120 points of the city, all the affairs pertaining to services and urbanization areas of the Municipality ranging from annual Municipality charges to obtaining necessary documents and inquiries for construction take place. Now more than 30 services in urban areas are offered to citizens in these offices and the number is expected to increase to 50.
One of the measures considered an important step in making Tehran a smart city is using electronic cards. These cards are presently being used in the subway network, bus network and parking machines and are expected to be used widely in a near future. In an effort to encourage citizens to use the cards and promote the culture in this regard, some incentives have been considered such as discounts in charges for traveling around the city by subway. According to estimates which have been made in this field, now over 60% of Tehran citizens are using the cards for metro and BRT. These cards are offered to citizens in over 1200 points of the city. Obtaining detailed statistics on the number of passengers as well as preventing paper consumption for tickets is among benefits of these cards.
One of the events that would become operational in Tehran this year is the city’s observatory. This observatory somehow shows future of Tehran and whatever that had happened or would happen in the city for visitors. The city observatory displays a replica of Tehran’s future for visitors and familiarizes them with what is happening in the city in the horizon of Tehran Perspective.
To achieve global standards in the area of green space could perhaps be considered one of the biggest developments in Tehran in the area of environment. Over the past six years, 750 local, regional and trans-regional parks have been opened in Tehran. The parks could have compensated for the shortcomings in Tehran in this area and increase the per capita green space from half a square meter in the past 26 years to 15 square meters last year. Furthermore, Tehran in the past years has experienced clean energy as one of the basic issues in urban management. Paying attention to convertible energy as well as use of available capacities in the city for generation of energy is among the most important issues which have been paid attention to over the past few years in Tehran.
Building 750 Garden Parks within Six Years

Prior to the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Tehran had only 65 garden parks which by considering three forest parks in the city, raised the total green space area to 3,400 hectares. In the post-revolution era, up to the calendar year 1365 (1986-87), due to different reasons such as the Iraqi imposed war (1980-88), only 900 hectares were added to the green space area of the city. This increased the per capita green space area to half a meter. Since then until 20 years later, each year only 42 cm was added to the green space area for every citizen of Tehran so that the half a meter record increased to 9 meters during the mentioned 20 years. However, this figure with regard to the population of Tehran was not acceptable at all. For this reason expansion of green space areas in the city took a new momentum since 1385 (2006-2007). Such speed would cause increase of per capita green space area in the city to 15 meters by the end of the current year for every citizen regardless of the areas planted with grass and flowers so that both Tehran could reach the world standards and a big step could be taken for minimizing air pollution.
If you see aerial images taken of highways in Tehran, you would notice that the main passages in the capital city are placed among dense clumps of trees and plants. Now on the margin of Tehran highways several hectares of green space have been developed that are called ‘highway green space’ and are primarily composed of evergreen plant species. On the other hand, in the middle of these spaces, carpets of flowers have been created bearing the names of prominent religious figures or depict a beautiful picture of the nature. Urban furniture and large statutes are among other features which have been used on the margin of the highways in the capital city Tehran.
Since the past two years four seasonal flowers and plants exhibitions have been held at the permanent international exhibitions site of Tehran Municipality every year. In these flower exhibitions domestic and foreign producers of flowers and plants offer their latest products in order to create an opportunity for economic and competitive activities and provide a colorful and comfortable environment for citizens. But since the calendar month of Khordad 1390 (May - June 2011) a side activity has been added to this exhibition called “flower carnival”. The carnival which passes throughout the city when the exhibition is being held has been warmly welcomed by citizens ever since the first time it appeared in the public.
Emphasizing on preservation of non-renewable energy resources and making efforts for using clean energies are among the most important issues Tehran Municipality has paid attention to. To this end, during the past few years, activities have been conducted such as establishment of six energy garden parks with an aim of familiarizing citizens with applications of new energies, especially solar energy, equipping urban furniture with solar system, equipping lighting system of over 100 buses, one thousand traffic lights, 100 flyovers, etc., with solar energy and using solar water heaters in the capital.
Some seven thousand tons of garbage is produced daily in Tehran and therefore the issue of collecting and disposing this much waste has become a matter of concern for the capital city. To this end, since the past six years it has been thought to develop a mechanism for not disposing the waste into landfills in Tehran. This led to setting up of a plant for separation of waste and turning it into compost. Establishment of the factory in 2011 resulted in halting waste disposal into landfills in Tehran and taking a significant step for preservation of the environment. However, in the current year a new development is expected to occur in this field as well. Tehran Municipality is due to convert the wastes into energy. To this end, three plants which generate wastes into electricity are under construction which would become operational before the conclusion of the year. These factories have the capability to convert four thousand tons of the total seven thousand tons of wastes into energy and the remaining three thousand tons would be converted to compost.
An Artificial Lake for Citizens of Tehran

Existence of an artificial lake in Tehran has been a 44-year dream of residents of the capital city - a dream to be realized with the opening of the largest artificial lake in the country this year. Citizens of Tehran could thus experience a new atmosphere which is highly interesting for them. Construction of this lake, with an area of 140 hectares, has gone through numerous complexities. As an example, water stop in an area of 140 hectares was a unique experience in the country. On the other hand, perhaps one of the most challenging issues about Chitgar artificial lake is its water supply. The main water requirements of this lake are supplied by Kan River, a north-south river in Tehran originating from Alborz Mountains and after about 20 kilometers flowing into the basin in south Tehran. The water quota of Chitgar artificial lake from Rive Kan is five million cubic meters annually. The lake which observes all environmental regulations as a “man-oriented” project in a near future would be turned into a unique recreational environment for citizens of Tehran to enjoy fresh air in Tehran metropolis.
These days a different garden park is under construction in Tehran which citizens have not experienced yet in their city. No doubt, after inauguration, it would welcome an impressive number of visitors. It is a bird-oriented garden park. The garden park has a span of 22 hectares where birds can freely fly with no obstruction. Different species of tropical, hunting, ornamental and desert birds would be kept in this garden and in an effort not to harm the environment entry of motor vehicles to the park would be banned. The birds would be naturally nested in their stone houses which resemble parts of the mountain.
Due to being located on the slopes of Alborz Mountains, Tehran is a source of water that is flowing from this mountain range. For this reason, there are small and large river valleys in this city each of which direct parts of the water to southern areas. However, among those river valleys the two valleys of Kan and Farahzad are more important than the others. In the past, location of these river valleys has practically turned them into defenseless points in the capital of Iran wherein different crimes and misconducts were committed. Therefore, purging these areas seemed an impossible mission. This was the main reason for Tehran Municipality to implement a plan for these river-valleys and convert the prevailing threats into opportunities. Now, by converting these environments into large garden parks and purging them of wrongdoers, the Municipality has turned them into spaces for recreation and fun of citizens.
Nahjul Balagha Garden Park is the name of a recreational place which was opened in the calendar month of Azar 1388 (Nov - Dec 2009) along Farahzad river valley in order to exclude the area from the list of defenseless spots in the capital city. The garden park, the second phase of construction of which is currently underway, occupies an area of 35 hectares. The first phase of the park covers an area 1.5 km long and 300 m wide. The difference between the surface and the ground of the garden park is 55 meters with a slope of 10 to 35 degrees. The garden park has eight trusts for walking with a length of 1,200 meters, three walking trusts of 300 meters, nine meters along bicycle running tract, 1,800 square meters for public sports and 80 alcoves. For building of the garden park which was launched in the calendar month of Farvardin 1388 (March - April) 2009, 1.5 million man/hour work has been done. The second phase has a length of 1200 meters, a width of 350 meters and a depth of 60 meters.
Existence of a beautiful waterfall in the semi-arid Tehran is somehow unbelievable. But this has occurred in Tehran and it is now considered one of the most beautiful tourist attractions of the city. Tehran’s waterfall with a span of 70 hectares was built in the heights of Alborz Mountains in a period of two years. The complex possesses a variety of plant, flower and tree species, ponds and several waterfalls. This collection, together with bicycle running tract, recreational complex for children, adolescents and the elderly provides outstanding facilities for the leisure time of all age groups. The complex, being matched with the green space and using a combination of rocks and mountains with flowers and trees, is considered the unique feature of Tehran waterfall. Building of the complex started in the second half of the calendar year 1388 (2009-2010) and was completed on 15 Oct. 2011. The complex possesses eight ponds with a span of 7500 square meters, bicycle running tracks with a length of 1.5 km, artificial waterfall, Persian gardens, children’s playing grounds, special walking trusts and 50 special alcoves. In this project, natural materials have been used while preserving ecology of the land and employing clean energy. Some 85% of Tehran waterfall outing include green space and the remaining 15% are ponds, waterways, waterfalls, tourism and recreational facilities and passages.
Tehran towards Prosperity and Equity

A 67-Hectare Recreational Area in Memory of Famous Iranians

The second garden park which was opened on the sideline of Tehran river valleys is called “Java-nmardan” Garden Park. This 67-hectare park which has been built along Kan river valley is equipped with different facilities such as a field for rope sports, sports of the disabled, special conference rooms each with a capacity of 1500 seats and a span of 2,400 meters with two scenes, walking trusts, cart driving routes, bicycle running tracks, tennis and other modern sports fields. In this phase of Javanmardan Garden Park, in addition to installation of statues of chivalrous Iranians at the entrance gates, sculptures of prominent personalities who have endeavored for the glory of Iran have also been installed.
Cultural, Recreational Centers Replace Prisons, Barracks

Paying attention to expansion of excursion spots in Tehran during the past years, and establishment of cultural spaces for citizens to pass their leisure time led to use of garrisons and prisons in the capital. That is to say, these locations were purchased by Tehran Municipality, destroyed and later reconstructed and were converted into recreational places for citizens.

So far, this has happened in two corners of Tehran and it is planned that in the current year another location would change application for this purpose. Velayat Garden Park in 1390 (2011-2012), Qasr Garden Museum in 1391 (2012-2013) and Evin Prison which was turned into one of the largest recreational spaces in the current year could be cited as clear examples.
A Garrison Turned into 70-hectare Garden Park

Qaleh Morghi Garrison which was a military complex belonging to the Air Force had mounted cold cement walls around southern parts of the city. This complex was purchased by Tehran Municipality two years ago and within 70 days was turned into a large 70-hectare garden park. The garden park, named “Velayat”, was the first step for converting garrisons and prisons into recreational sites. Construction of this garden park was started on 7 March when the Leader of the Islamic Revolution planted a tree there. After the elapse of 70 days and round the clock work in a span of 70 hectares on 23 May it was officially opened. The first phase of Velayat Garden Park includes a ring of seven km which is composed of special bicycle running tracks, walking trusts and cart riding routes. In addition, Velayat Garden Park possesses a sports town with different facilities such as karting and motor-cross tracks, wall climbing and bungee jumping tower. In this garden park, women in addition to using public spaces could use their exclusive spaces made for them. The Shahr-e Banoo complex of the garden park occupying an area of six hectares is equipped with different facilities such as football field, 1200 square meters of open sports field, five thousand meter karting space together with 18,000-meter bicycle track and outdoor pool.
After Velayat Garden Park in south of Tehran, now it is the turn of Qasr Prison in the center of the city to be converted into a place for recreation of citizens. Qasr Garden Museum was built in the location of a former prison of the same name. It occupies 70,400 square meters of land and has 19,520 square meters of floor area. This project is being built with an aim of creating a cultural-recreational center with permanent local-regional application which in historical terms could be considered a cultural center in national dimension. Familiarity with the history of Qasr gardens, introducing its architecture and historical developments, encouraging citizens and introducing the topic of renovation of old textures, improve urban image and bolstering cultural role at district and urban levels are among social and cultural functions of this complex which, in addition to developing an atmosphere of recreation in leisure time, could help remove the wrong mentality of the location of a prison in an urban fabric.
After construction of the 950-meter Resalat Tunnel in Tehran which took much longer than expected, a new way was opened for tunneling in the capital city. Building of the 4200-meter Towhid Tunnel which was all conducted by Iranian engineers was initiated just after Resalat Tunnel and was completed only within 30 months. However, construction of the tunnel had its own difficulties as it was placed in the center of Tehran and passed through the congested centers of the city. After completion of Towhid Tunnel construction of two more tunnels was launched in Tehran – Amir Kabir in the vicinity of the grand Bazaar which could ease the heavy traffic there; and Niyayesh, more than 10 km long combined. The two tunnels are expected to be opened this year. These tunnels have been confirmed by many foreign experts both in terms of construction quality and speed. They also demonstrate capability of Iranian engineers in this regard. However, perhaps building a tunnel for electricity installations on Sadr Highway in a period of six months to remove power masts in the highway could set the biggest record for Iran in tunnel building.

An Underground City in Tehran
The story of building the first highway in Tehran goes back to more than four decades ago when the comprehensive transportation plan was compiled for the city. At that time, projects for building about 10 highways in Tehran were discussed. However, many of those 10 highways were not built even up to the calendar year 1367 (1988-89). During that period Tehran was involved in building highways for transportation of vehicles, some years more and some years less. From 1350 (1971-72) up to 1384 (2005-2006) a total of 304 km of highways were built, that is to say an average of less than 9 km per year. But, between 1384 and 1390 (2011-2012) almost 170 more km were added to the highway network of Tehran. Bakeri, Sayyad Shirazi and several other highways are parts of the highways already mentioned. This shows a growth of 20 km per year. In continuation of this trend, the file of construction of all highways is expected to be closed this year. No more highways would ever be built in Tehran and by the end of the year the highway ring of the capital city would be completed. Therefore, east of Tehran would be connected to the west and south to the north and parts of the traffic bottlenecks would be resolved in the capital city. It is expected that with the completion of the remaining 26 km from the 35-km Imam Ali (AS) Highway, as a north-south highway which connects the southernmost part of the capital to the northernmost point, 15 km remaining from Azadegan Highway which is considered the transit highway of the capital in the south and a connection route for many surrounding cities, 5 km remaining from the 12-km Zeineddin Highway, 7 km of which was opened last year connecting east to the west with the help of Hemmat and Kharrazi highways with no traffic light, and 7 km of the 14-km Kharrazi Highway, 7 km of which was opened three years ago, the length of the highways in the capital city would amount to 550 km.
The first cable bridge was built in Tehran in the calendar year 1349 (1970-71). This bridge which is now known as Parkway has a length of about 500 meters and its deck is fixed by two pillars keeping the cables, each of which has been connected to the bridge by four cables from the right and four cables from the left hand side. This bridge for years was known to be the only cable bridge in the capital city until in the year 1389 (2010-2011) the second cable bridge was built in south of the city and was turned into a symbol of the city. This bridge which is dubbed as the most beautiful bridge in the Middle East is the first three-pillar bridge in the world. Meanwhile, since it is the entry of the railroad and also airplanes which enter Tehran pass over the bridge, it is somehow considered the gateway to the city. Javadiyeh Bridge, in addition to its all beauty, is among the three important symbols in Tehran. It is a bridge with a length of 210 meters of which 84 meters are the north-south slope and about 104 meters are suspended. The design of the bridge is derived from the needle of the railway track.

Javadiyeh Bridge which has been entirely built by Iranian engineers is earthquake resistant and could withstand even strong tremors. The bridge has been designed for traverse of six lines of motor vehicles with a safe margin and sidewalks each with a width of 2 meters on both sides. The number of railroads underneath the bridge is 6 lines which could be increased to 10. The main arch of the bridge is 126 meters which has been made of 10 pieces, each weighing about 70 tons. Some 15% of the weight of the components is because of the welding and for installation of each piece a 700-ton crane has been used. The number of cables used in the bridge is 12 which have been installed on a 126-meter deck with a height of 6 to 30 meters and controls 18 thousand tons of weight.

After completion of Javadiyeh Bridge, the third cable bridge in Tehran was opened in the current year. This bridge which facilitates access to the Milad Tower is 314 meters long and has an opening with a length of 74 meters. The metal deck of the bridge is 114 meters with 200 meters constructed with concrete. For building the bridge some 2,100 meters of road construction was implemented and 18 sets of cables together with a diagonal metal base with a height of 38 meters are keeping the bridge deck.
Resalat, the First Urban Tunnel in Tehran

The first urban tunnel in Tehran lies between Resalat and Shahid Hakim highways. Although construction of the tunnel took so long that upset Tehran citizens, however the tunnel was inaugurated in the first term of the new management, after 11 years. The 950-meter Resalat Tunnel has two sides, the first with a length of 822 meters and the second comprising a twin tunnel, with a length of approximately 160 meters. For the construction of the tunnel which has three lines forth and three lines back with a width of 5.13 m, some 750 thousand cubic meters has been excavated. Resalat is the first tunnel equipped with smart control of traffic in the Middle East. After the opening, it entailed a 19% saving in consumption of gasoline and 5 km increase in speed of vehicles. The tunnel is currently the route for transportation of 250 thousand vehicles per hour.
Towhid Tunnel with a length of 2,136 meters became operational after a period of 30 months. The tunnel, which has now become a symbol for progress in the field of tunnel building, connects the south to the north of the city. Opening of the tunnel with three lines going forth and three lines going back as well as two emergency lines, has decreased transportation time of motor vehicles from 45 minutes to less than 10 minutes. In comparison with other tunnels Towhid Tunnel enjoys three unique features: first construction of the twin tunnel with such dimensions and technical features was done for the first time in Iran and had no precedence before. Secondly, existence of half-tunnels before and after each line of the tunnel which has several advantages and while landscaping the entrance provides for U-turns in the surface passages. Meanwhile, it enables drivers to adjust lighting while entering into the tunnel. But, the most important of all is that Towhid has no incoming or outgoing points all throughout the tunnel and transportation in it is similar to transportation in the highway network. In fact, lack of such accesses would cause no sudden change in direction of transportation or increase or decrease of speed inside the tunnel and vehicles would not take negative acceleration. This tunnel is equipped with exclusive generators which would supply electricity inside the tunnel at the time of power cut. Meanwhile, to provide air conditioning, 70 jet fans and 11 exhausts have been installed in the tunnel. Also, employment of more than three thousand piles and 25 thousand concrete pieces and installation of smart system has made the tunnel resistant against earthquakes with magnitudes of 7 and 8 degrees on the Richter scale and therefore it could be used as a safe haven for settlement of citizens during earthquakes. According to studies, with the opening of Towhid Tunnel travel time has been reduced by 16% and improved transportation in the direction by 27%.
After construction of Towhid Tunnel in Tehran it was the turn of Niayesh Tunnel to be built in north of the capital city. Niayesh Tunnel is an east-west tunnel with a length of 10 km by considering its entrances and exits. For construction of the tunnel which is expected to be opened in calendar month of Bahman (January - February) some 10 workshops have been equipped each responsible for construction of parts of the tunnel. Niayesh Tunnel comprises two tunnels, outgoing and incoming, each with a width of 16 meters. Reducing air pollution through controlling the pollution caused by 75 million trips in Tehran annually, preventing dissemination of pollutants, increasing travel safety by reducing traffic interferences, providing a proper safe haven at the time of earthquake for 35 thousand citizens, facilitating transportation, reducing sound pollution and excluding traffic from urban texture are among the most important targets for building the tunnel. Over two thousand Iranian engineers and workers are active in the construction of the tunnel.
Amir Kabir, a Large Tunnel in the Heart of Traffic

The vicinity of the grand Bazaar of Tehran is one of the densest areas in the capital city. For this reason, Tehran Municipality initiated construction of Amir Kabir tunnel in the part of the capital regardless of the difficulties that building a tunnel may cause in an old architectural texture. This tunnel, with a length of 1,700 meters in two outgoing and incoming directions, each with three lines, would be inaugurated soon. In order to build Amir Kabir Tunnel six pieces have been considered. The first piece is 197 meter long and 8.16 meters wide, the second piece is 14.69 meters long and 8.18 meters wide, the third piece is 64.22 meters long and 5.8 to 7.8 meters wide. There are three floors of parking and four floors of shopping centers with the possibility of access to the tunnel. The fourth piece with an approximate length of 157 meters and relative width of 5.10 meters, the fifth piece with an approximate length of 860 meters and a width of 12 meters and the sixth piece with a length of 18.848 meters and a width of 12 meters are other parts of the tunnel.
Building Multi-Layered 10-km Highway in Tehran

The first multi-layered highway in the capital city which is over 10 km long is another project which is due to be inaugurated this year. This highway has a main bridge with a width of 7.22 meters with two incoming and outgoing lines, each line with two traffic lines and an emergency line. This highway has been designed as such that due to the placement of single bases in the middle refuge, the present level of service offering at zero surface would not be reduced. Traffic surveys and studies show that over 40% of the traffic in the highway over which this bridge is being constructed belongs to trans-regional transportations which could be reduced through the bridge. For implementation of the project more than five thousand pieces of pre-fabricated segments are needed out of which 3,340 pieces would be used in construction of the main bridge.
Protection of Environment by Dismantling Electricity Mast

Electricity masts that are located inside cities would cause many threats for citizens who reside around. To this end and because of construction of the multi-layered Sadr Highway which is the first of its kind in Iran, Tehran Municipality has built a 6-km tunnel devoted to passage of high pressure electricity cables of Sadr Highway in a period of six months. This tunnel which due to its speed and accuracy is very special could dismantle 77 masts on Sadr Highway and also provide the required atmosphere for transfer of other urban installations.
Establishing 100 km of BRT Lines in Tehran

The bus rapid transit (BRT) and development and extension of its lines is one of the main reasons for choosing Tehran as one of the top cities in the field of improving living standards of its citizens. It is a system which officially launched its operation in the calendar year 1386 (2007-2008) in order to encourage citizens to use modern buses for transportation. Tehran should possess 10 BRT lines with a length of 167 km. So far six lines have been activated which cover a length of 100 km. In the current year, 5.8 km more would be added to the system which belongs to Line 5. Statistics show that more than two million passengers are transported daily on 580 two-cabin and 660 single-cabin buses.
The subway these days has become one of the most important transportation means in Tehran. It is a means of which so far 140 km has been built in Tehran and has broken the record of two billion travelers a year. Currently, Line 1 of the metro with nearly 39 km long has 29 stations, Line 2 is about 26 km with 22 stations, Line 4 is 25 km with 21 stations and Line 5 is 43 km with 11 stations. The construction speed has taken a momentum in recent years by building 15 km of metro tunnel. Presently, with regard to the importance of building metro lines, two tunnel digging machines (TBM) are operating in order to accelerate building of this public transportation means. This is taking place under conditions that in the past development of subway was concentrated on the southern part of the capital. The number of stations which have been built in the deprived areas of the city in the past amounts to over 20. This has placed the city in the orbit of development of metro and social justice.
Tehran’s climatic condition is as such that riding bicycle is practically impossible in all the 22 districts of the capital city. However, in the city of Tehran these days, over 250 km of special cycling track has been built. Now there are 100 bicycle houses in the city to allow citizens to easily use them. This is one of the main policy lines of Tehran Municipality in the current year to develop bicycle running tracks and number of bicycles.
Making efforts to reach health standards has been one of the main issues Tehran Municipality has stressed on in the past few years in the field of health of citizens and has sought its improvement. On this basis, all throughout the 374 neighborhoods of Tehran health centers have become operational, centers which shoulder the responsibility of education and dissemination of information in the field of health. On the other hand in urban management the leadership council has been established which comprises prominent Iranian experts and physicians. Formation of physicians association in the neighborhoods of the capital, creation of mechanism for participation of citizens of each neighborhood in improvement of health standards of their neighborhood and, thematic activities on different diseases and disseminating information and education about them could be considered the most prominent municipal activities in the field of health.
Walking Nostalgia

Tehran in the distant past used to be a city where its residents due to the good climate and beautiful streets, preferred walking to other transportation means. For this reason, Tehran Municipality with regard to expansion of the city in the past years has tried to put on its agenda the issue of building sidewalks while preserving historical identity of the neighborhoods. The first sidewalk which was built in Tehran was in Vali-e Asr (S) Avenue, the longest avenue in the Middle East. The project, with a length of 36 kilometers, became operational in the calendar year 1385 (2006-2007) and was later implemented in many other streets such as Vahdat-e Eslami with a length of about 10 km, Enqelab with 8 km, and the Bazaar area which was faced with a traffic chaos for years. Now plans are underway to build sidewalks from Imam Hossein (AS) Square to Shohada Square in order to enable Muslim citizens to perform their religious programs there.
Lighting for Urban Beauty

The issue of urban lighting has become a matter of consideration in Tehran in the past few years. The most important objective of the lighting, in addition to city landscaping, is to bring Tehran streets out of darkness. Now, if you look at the pictures taken of Tehran at nights, you will notice calm accompanied by beauty. The present picture depicts 9th Day Square of Tehran, one of the most beautiful squares in the city which has been distinguished from its surrounding environment with two orange and green colors. Along the issue of lighting in the past few years, wall paintings have also been seriously pursued by Tehran Municipality.
The essence of the city, particularly traffic loaded and bustling metropolises is gray. The streets of this gray city would be boring for its citizen. This exhaustion after a while would lead to fatigue and as a result reduce citizens’ comfort and wellbeing in urban life. This is an incident we noticed in not a distant past; the weary faces of car passengers in the city.

Many experts believe that beautification of street surroundings and highways is one of the most influential factors in increasing citizens’ liveliness. An event we are witnessing in many streets of the city these days; images of noble martyrs of the revolution and the Sacred Defense (Iraqi war) up to beautiful designs with colors chosen by experts in different corners of the city. These days, wall painting has become a feature in Tehran’s landscaping with people saying these paintings have made Tehran more pleasant for them.

Wall Paintings
In the middle of Tehran, there is a hill with a span of 590 hectares. This hill, known as Abbaspah, in the past was expected to be turned into a royal promenade but was divided among government organizations after the revolution (1979) for administrative and residential applications. But, since 1386 (2007-2008) efforts were launched for changing the hill into a place for expansion of cultural and recreational spaces for citizens of Tehran.

This development entailed establishment of different garden parks of Ab-o Atash, Banader and Nowruz, the Planetarium Complex for observation of stars, the Sacred Defense Garden Park to remember bravery of Iranian combatants in the Iraqi imposed war, Bagh-e-Honar Cultural Complex, the Book Garden and, Tehran House of Quran. After completion of recreational and cultural complexes of Abbaspah hills, this part of Tehran would be converted into a special promenade.
A Memorial to Honor Bravery of Imposed War Combatants

Although Iraq’s eight-year war against Iran brought many losses but it proved that the valiant youth of this land are ready to stand forever in order to defend their country and their aspirations. Now, under the pretext of honoring these braveries, the Sacred Defense Garden Museum is ready for operation on the hills of Abbasabad. This complex has a span of 205 thousand square meters which, taking into consideration its landscaping, demonstrates a unique and spectacular complex. The Sacred Defense Garden Museum includes seven halls and an extension which is the memorial of the Sacred Defense and Khorramshahr Jame’ Mosque, in actual dimension, has been built in one corner of the complex. Different parts of the Sacred Defense Garden Museum have provided visitors with an opportunity to symbolize some spaces and battlefields in their real or symbolic dimensions, with real or simulated weapons. The technology employed here is such that in any hall everything is built from the scratch. The Sacred Defense Museum is a museum of history and different from other museums which are specifically devoted to depicting monuments and historical objects. In this garden museum, the story of the Islamic Revolution of Iran (1979), outbreak of the imposed war (1980 – 88), devotion of the people of Iran in the war, bravery of the youth of the land and their martyrdom has been depicted. In the southern part of the complex, the panorama museum of the Sacred Defense is under construction. The museum is involved in issues of struggle and defense, and occupation and liberation of Khorramshahr and is under construction in a span of 844 square meters with a floor area of 8,500 square meters. The panorama museum of the Sacred Defense is completely in 3-D style and composed of three sections: the main panorama hall, Beitul Moqaddas gallery and subsidiary spaces and has been built in two floors.
just on the southeastern side of the Sacred Defense Garden-Museum, the museum complex of Panorama Museum of the Sacred Defense dubbed “Beit-ul Moqaddas Panorama” is under construction. Construction started in February this year and would be completed in August.

This museum focuses on the issue of struggle and defense, occupation and liberation of Khorramshahr and is a complementary to the Sacred Defense Garden-Museum. The museum is under construction in an area of 3,844 square meters with 8,580 square meters of inbuilt area.

Upon arrival in this museum you will find yourself in a fully 3-D space of Iran’s Beit-ul Moqaddas military operations which led to liberation of Khorramshahr. Here you will witness bravery of men of the defense days.

The museum has three main sections, including the Panorama Hall, Beit-ul Moqaddas Gallery, and ancillary spaces which have been built in two floors.
The 24-hectare garden park of water and fire (Boostan-e Ab-o Atash) is another section of the complexes on Abbasabad hills of Tehran which was opened in the calendar year 1388 (2009-2010). In this garden park there are four fire towers and at nights which every few seconds fire flares up at them. In front of each tower there is a fountain which comes out of the ground in order to depict association of fire and water. There is a tent amphitheater with a span of 700 meters and 370 seats, bicycle riding tracks, skating routes, walking paths and carriage riding routes which are among other facilities of this garden park.
In the complexes on Abbasabad hills after Water and Fire Garden Park there is Banader (Ports) Garden Park. This garden park occupies an area of 24 thousand square meters. The symbol of this garden park is a white lighthouse which is located in the middle of the park and is visited by many citizens every day. Riding carriage is one of the special recreations of this garden park where many navigation symbols have been placed.
Cultural Projects in the Middle of Abbasabad Land

The project for converting Abbasabad lands into a tourism and cultural pole in the city of Tehran, with projects that would become operational this year, could be realized to a great extent. Tehran Book Garden is one of the mentioned projects. This project as a permanent book exhibition would put books on display all throughout the four seasons of the year. Tehran Book Garden is one of the mentioned projects. This project as a permanent book exhibition would put books on display all throughout the four seasons of the year. Tehran Book Garden occupies an area of 110 thousand square meters of which 54 thousand square meters have been devoted to exhibition building, conference and administrative halls and the remaining area to green space and an artificial lake. In addition to the green space, roofs of the Book Garden have been decorated with grass and flowers and therefore 25 thousand square meters would be added to the green space of the Book Garden. The interior space of the Book Garden comprises 16 exhibition halls each occupying 2,000 square meters. This space could receive 20,000 visitors per day and at the time of international exhibitions it could accommodate 500,000 guests. Iranian Art Garden is another project on Abbasabad hills. This garden which is located on the eastern part of Abbasabad hills occupies an area of over 47 thousand square meters. According to the Detailed Plan for Abbasabad lands, Tehran Art Garden or Ferdowsi Art Garden (as it is also known) has been launched as a cultural performance with major scientific and artistic orientation.
Nowruz Garden Park and Planetarium

Another tourism complex located on Abbasabad hill which is to be inaugurated in the current year is Nowruz Garden Park. This garden park is equipped with many facilities including skating and cycling tracks, etc., and the pond located in its middle is considered one of its most attractive features. Nowruz Garden Park occupies an area of 100 thousand square meters and its lake has a span of about 2.1 hectare. In this garden public recreational activities with temporary seasonal structures have been provided. Besides this garden park the planetarium complex of Tehran has been situated which is the world’s fourth largest facility to observe the sky. This would provide an expanded capacity for researchers in the field of astrology and other scientific branches: A complex through which attention has also been paid to other scientific fields such as physics, chemistry and biology. This complex occupied an area of 11 thousand square meters and its architecture suggests a spatial sphere with a diameter of 30 meters. In the middle of the sky dome there is a projector which comprises separate projectors for the sun, moon, planets and the stars. These projectors operate by accurate engines and if needed their speed would be increased or lessened. These projectors could be built as such that they could show the sky at night, at any time in the past or future.
The UN-Habitat and the Municipality of Tehran are holding an international conference on Sustainable Urban Energy in Tehran on the 12th and 13th of December 2012. The conference is intended to provide a platform to discuss innovations in waste to energy with the objective of recovering energy from the tens of thousands of municipal waste generated daily in the metropolis of Tehran. The event will also present an opportunity to promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in the wider field of sustainable urban energy.

The main theme of the conference is Transforming Municipal Solid Waste into Energy with particular focus on biogas systems. Local authorities and municipal waste experts from the region are invited to learn about the latest research, innovation and trends in the use of municipal solid waste to produce energy and address environmental and climate change concerns. In addition to the main theme, the conference will also focus on sub-themes including energy efficiency in the built environment, renewable energy in urban areas and sustainable urban energy planning. The first day of the conference will be dedicated to the main theme with the second day dedicated to sessions focusing on the three sub-themes.

### Sustainable Urban Energy

**Research and Innovation Festival**

‘Research and Innovation Festival on Urban Management’ is a program by Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center held with aim that Tehran Municipality’s scientific charter could be accomplished. Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center - considering its nature as a scientific and intellectual supporter for Tehran municipality and also as a role model for other municipalities – organized different programs to fulfill the objectives. From 2007 until now, 4 festivals have been organized and 11,000 scientific works in various formats such as research projects, scientific papers, theses, and books have been received. To highlight the importance of issue, festivals are being held in public halls of municipalities in the most appropriate way. The president of Tehran City Council, Mayor of Tehran, and head of the Center have attended the events and presented the selected projects with awards. The program gets broadcasted in national network TV and is also streamed online through the center’s website. All the received works are also being exhibited in a virtual space.

**Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center**

Since 220 years ago, Tehran has been the capital of Iran. Nowadays, with a population of above eight million people, it is one of the major metropolises in the Middle East and the political, economic, and cultural center of Iran. The only effective way to manage such a large, historical and complex city is through adapting to the model of sustainable development so that the demands of the existing and future generations of the city could be met. “Research” is the key factor in the achievement of sustainable development.

Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center was founded in 1974 as an institution to monitor and supervise over the expansion and development of Tehran. It started its new role in 2006 as a research institute for urban development focusing on five major issues namely: Environment, Society and culture, Economy, Spatial analysis, and Urban Management.

In 2010, the center was further inclined towards research activities and became a think tank for Tehran Municipality and other cities of the region. Besides identifying the opportunities and challenges in the city, some of its main objectives could be summarized as: Enhancing the quality of research projects; Rendering the research results effective and applicable in daily activities of Tehran municipality; Organization, Supervision, Planning, and Evaluation of the master plan and detail plan of Tehran; And expanding relationship with foreign partners and playing the role of a regional reference for other municipalities.

**Energy**

Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center - considering its nature as a research institution for urban development focuses on the objectives.

- Rendering the research results effective and applicable in daily activities of Tehran municipality;
- Organization, Supervision, Planning, and Evaluation of the master plan and detail plan of Tehran;
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Futuring for Sustainable Urban Development

Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center, as the regional secretize on strategic levers to proactively shape their future. In decision making processes, it strengthens the ability of cities to capitalize on their urban future and set realistic milestones for achieving it through innovation while minimizing risks. Based on a rigorous analysis of anticipatory futuring in urban management and governance to enable cities to better prepare for a complex, uncertain and rapidly changing global context. UN-Habitat has recently launched Futurban to integrate better futuring in urban management and governance to enable cities to anticipate and optimize future opportunities for sustainable growth and development while minimizing risks. Based on a rigorous analysis of anticipatory futuring, Futurban assists cities to envision their preferred urban future and set realistic milestones for achieving it through innovative and visionary strategies. By building foresight in policy and decision making processes, it strengthens the ability of cities to capitalize on strategic levers to proactively shape their urban future. Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center, as the regional secretariat of Futurban program will collaborate with UN-Habitat.

Settlement, Architecture & Urban Identity

The rapid pace of change from global to local levels and related complexities and uncertainties certainly necessitate cities to critically analyze and anticipate future trends, conditions and drivers of change. To become prosperous, innovative and competitive, cities need to critically examine possible and probable scenarios so as to work towards their preferred future. The future offers enormous potential for achieving sustainable development targets in cities as it can be shaped through actions and decisions taken today.

Globally, cities have engaged in futuring processes at different scales and in various urban sectors so as to design policies and interventions that take future opportunities and risks into consideration. The results of these processes have not been without challenges, especially when it comes to being translated into action. In many other instances, cities seldom engage in foresight exercises and may be more occupied with addressing current and immediate needs and challenges, especially in developing countries. There is thus a clear need to rethink the role of futuring in urban management and governance to enable cities to better prepare for a complex, uncertain and rapidly changing global context. UN-Habitat has recently launched Futurban to integrate futuring into urban policy and decision making processes. Futurban aims to assist urban policy and decision makers to apply futuring to anticipate and optimize future opportunities for sustainable growth and development while minimizing risks. Based on a rigorous analysis of anticipatory futuring, Futurban assists cities to envision their preferred urban future and set realistic milestones for achieving it through innovative and visionary strategies. By building foresight in policy and decision making processes, it strengthens the ability of cities to capitalize on strategic levers to proactively shape their urban future. Tehran Urban Planning and Research Center, as the regional secretariat of Futurban program will collaborate with UN-Habitat.

Atlas of The Middle East

The most important symbols of Iran is the ‘Persian Gulf’, in whose coasts, the history of settlement dates back to thousands of years; a history richer and more ancient than many other civilizations in the world based the discovered historical inscriptions and epigraphs. In recent years, and parallel with the development of the Arab countries of the southern coasts of the Persian Gulf and their political coordination, certain attempts have been made in order to change the authentic and historical name of the ‘Persian Gulf’. Due to the importance of the Persian Gulf, it is our national duty to protect the territorial integrity and cultural heritage, and develop the lands which we have inherited from our ancestors. To this end, the Atlas of Persian Gulf aims to record the historical contents of the Persian Gulf in whose coasts, the history of settlement dates back to thousands of years; a history richer and more ancient than many other civilizations in the world based the discovered historical inscriptions and epigraphs. In recent years, and parallel with the development of the Arab countries of the southern coasts of the Persian Gulf and their political coordination, certain attempts have been made in order to change the authentic and historical name of the ‘Persian Gulf’. Due to the importance of the Persian Gulf, it is our national duty to protect the territorial integrity and cultural heritage, and develop the lands which we have inherited from our ancestors. 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Neighborhood Orientation

These days the state of affairs in the city has been delegated to the people themselves. It is a policy that has been adopted and put into practice in the wake of administration of the incumbent urban management in Tehran. This does not mean that the city is not administered by urban managers. Rather, it means that in the dimension of neighborhood, citizens could make decisions for their neighborhoods and make efforts in line with implementation of their decisions. Members of neighborhood councils, each consisting of seven main and three auxiliary members, are elected by the people of the same neighborhood. These people, in addition to monitoring performance of the Municipality in local areas, would play the main role in the decision-making process of the Municipality.

ELECTING A NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGER IS AMONG OTHER DUTIES OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS IN ORDER TO DELEGATE URBAN MANAGEMENT TO THE PEOPLE. THIS WAY, WITH THE COOPERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND MANAGERS, GROUNDS WOULD BE PREPARED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING STANDARDS. TEHRAN MUNICIPALITY HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED A CENTER CALLED “NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE” WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE ESTABLISHED IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS BY THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR. IN THESE CENTERS CITIZENS COULD MEET PARTS OF THEIR CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND SPORTS NEEDS TO SOME EXTENT AND NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGERS COULD HOLD TALKS WITH RESIDENTS AND HEAR THEIR POINTS OF VIEWS AND PROPOSALS.