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Islamabad to Go Cashless with CDA's Digital Payment Plan

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The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has unveiled plans to turn Islamabad into a cashless city, beginning with the digitization of key civic services. This move is part of a broader strategy to modernize governance, improve transparency, and enhance service delivery in the federal capital.

The initiative was announced during a high-level meeting chaired by CDA Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa. Under the new plan, residents will be able to pay for services

such as taxes, utility bills, land transfers, and parking fees using QR codes or mobile apps, eliminating the need for cash transactions and in-person visits.

“This shift to a cashless system will not only enhance transparency but also improve the speed and efficiency of public service delivery,” said Chairman Randhawa. “Our goal is to make Islamabad a truly digital capital smart, efficient, and citizen-focused capital.”

To achieve this, the CDA is partnering with leading financial institutions to develop a secure, user-friendly digital infrastructure. The system aims to streamline processes, reduce long queues at service centers, and curb opportunities for corruption by limiting cash handling.

The transition will begin with selected services and areas during a pilot phase. If successful, the model will be rolled out across the city. CDA officials confirmed that the long-term goal is to enable full digital transactions across all departments.

Experts have welcomed the initiative, noting its alignment with Pakistan's national vision for digital financial inclusion. Analysts believe the move could cut through bureaucratic delays, boost public trust, and create a more accountable governance framework.

“This effort is about making life easier for citizens,” said a senior CDA official. “Imagine paying your water bill or property tax from your phone, no queues, no paperwork. That's the experience we're building.”

As Islamabad advances toward a digital future, this cashless initiative marks a significant milestone in making the city more citizen-centric, efficient, and responsive.