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## Islamabad Plans Major Traffic Relief Projects

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– Categories: Real Estate



The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has approved two major infrastructure initiatives aimed at easing persistent traffic congestion across Islamabad. The projects include a flyover on GT Road and an underpass at Shaheen Chowk, both intended to improve traffic flow to key arteries, including the Islamabad Expressway and 9th Avenue.

Both developments are being financed through funds generated from CDA's recent commercial plot auctions, part of a self-reliant funding

model. This approach allows the authority to avoid external borrowing while investing directly into the city's growing infrastructure needs.

CDA Member Engineering Syed Nafasat Raza confirmed that technical bids have been received for both projects. The PKR 1.3 billion Shaheen Chowk underpass attracted three competing firms, while the PKR 1.4 billion GT Road flyover saw interest from two companies. The underpass will feature a top slab connecting 9th Avenue to the surrounding service roads, aiming to reduce traffic pressure on Margalla Road. The flyover, meanwhile, is designed to facilitate uninterrupted movement for traffic heading towards Lahore and other parts of Punjab.



Construction timelines are also notably short, with the underpass scheduled for completion in 150 days and the flyover within 180 days. The CDA has emphasized timely delivery to minimize disruption to residents and commuters.

These infrastructure upgrades are expected to benefit thousands of daily commuters, commercial transporters, and businesses operating between Islamabad and Punjab's industrial centers. Beyond easing congestion, the projects are also likely to improve the city's economic efficiency and property accessibility in the long term.

Urban planners have noted that such strategic infrastructure plays a crucial role in improving the quality of life, reducing travel time, and supporting sustainable city growth. As Islamabad continues to expand, CDA's model of reinvesting auction proceeds into essential urban projects may serve as a blueprint for other growing metropolitan regions in Pakistan.

While the immediate goal is traffic relief, the long-term impact could be more transformative, encouraging smarter city planning and increased investor confidence in Islamabad's urban future.

