

Welcome

 to this month's newsletter

Welcome to our September 2009 issue of the Bahrain Bay Newsletter, in which we'll be updating you on all the progress that has been made this month. Despite the summer's energy-sapping temperatures, I am happy to report that work on-site has continued on schedule

The most significant sign of Bahrain Bay's development is the rapid progress of Arcapita's headquarters building, which is quickly taking on its final appearance, with 90% of its external cladding now complete. With much of the cladding in place, one has a true sense of how special this building will be once it is complete.

Our third party developers are building momentum with an additional two projects having recently received Detailed Design Approval and we expect another two to gain approval by the end of the month.

The all important infrastructure for Bahrain Bay continues apace. As you know, we are dedicating a lot of time and effort to ensure that we deliver world class infrastructure for Bahrain Bay, to enable our development partners to create outstanding commercial and residential developments. Work is well underway on the two road bridges over the canal and on the bridge to the Four Seasons Island, all of which are due to be completed by the end of the year. The construction of the Manama High Street "trough structure" through Raffles City is now complete, with construction of the road progressing well. Complementing the progress of the Raffles City road, the first areas of kerb and asphalt road surfaces have also been laid in a number of areas across the development, giving an increasing sense of the layout of the Bahrain Bay community.

We have also seen substantial progress in terms of water, power and cooling across the project this month. The civil works for the two large water reservoirs have been completed with pump and electrical work well underway. Our two on-site substations have reached structural completion with electrical installation work progressing. We have now completed the installation of 60% of Bahrain Bay's district cooling pipe requirements with the necessary chillers having also been installed in the District Cooling Plant. Work on the Sewerage Treatment Plant is progressing on schedule.

A noteworthy accomplishment is that even with 2,606 workers on site during August, 4,945,000 man hours have been completed without a reportable accident. I would like to congratulate once again Nass Murray & Roberts and AMA Group who follow Bahrain Bay's philosophy that every accident and every injury is preventable. Thanks to a stringently monitored safety environment which adheres to international standards of health and safety regulations this has remained the case.

LOOKING AHEAD

To date, the year has been one of uncertainty. Although the effects of the global economic crisis are still being felt within the region and across the world, we are seeing an increase in the confidence of the business environment as each month passes. The local and regional governments and financial institutions are taking the necessary measures to maintain the performance of their economies. Although the short to medium term will be challenging, the issues that need to be addressed are being tackled and this is providing an important base of confidence for the Bahraini and regional markets. Bahrain is a country that has positioned itself well for the growth cycle as it returns over the next few years, and it will have at its commercial heart an outstanding waterfront community for the families and businesses that will support the next phase of Bahrain's growth: Bahrain Bay.

Bob Vincent

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BAHRAIN BAY

BBD CEO TOUCHING BASE - September 2009

Construction progress gallery



Industry news

WORLDS' LONGEST BRIDGE: QATAR – BAHRAIN FRIENDSHIP CAUSEWAY WILL BE 40KM LONG

The Minister for Works & Housing, H.E Fahmi bin Ali Al Jowder has announced the Qatar-Bahrain Friendship Causeway, a 40km long marine causeway connecting the west coast of Qatar to the east coast of Bahrain, is scheduled to begin construction in 2010 and is expected to take four and a half years to complete.



He has advised that negotiations are still under way regarding cost and are expected to be finalised by the end of the year, but initial estimates hover around the \$3 billion mark. Bahrain and Qatar have already allocated a budget of \$500m to start the project.

The beginning of the causeway in Qatar will be located at the Ras Ashairij area, five kilometers South of the city of Al Zubara, and a similar spot will be located North of Askar village in Bahrain. The link is expected to consist of a number of bridges combined with roads constructed on causeways and will be a natural extension of the King Fahd Causeway that connects Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, thus linking the entire region.

When completed, the causeway will be the longest in the world and will also boast a 13 metre wide railroad bridge. Travel time to Bahrain by car is expected to be reduced from four-and-a-half hours to around 30 minutes.

According to an estimate, the volume of traffic on the causeway is expected to be around 10,000 to 12,000 vehicles a day.

Article sourced from:

www.impactlab.com via MENA Infrastructure
September 27th, 2009

View full article:
www.impactlab.com/2009/09/27/worlds-longest-bridge-
qatar-bahrain-friendship-causeway-will-be-25-miles-long