The Rizhskaya hub will become one of the largest transport hubs in Moscow

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A new major passenger transport project is being implemented in Moscow: the Moscow Central Diameters (MCD). It is one of the main projects of the new Moscow transport framework. The Rizhskaya hub will become one of the largest hubs in Moscow, it will consist of three above-ground metro lines, two underground metro lines, suburban railway transport and in the future first Russian high-speed railway (HSR).

«The Rizhskaya hub will improve transport accessibility of the 3 Moscow metropolitan areas: Meshchansky, Alexeyevsky and Maryina Roscha. Residents will have convenient interchanges between these 3 regions, passengers in turn will have fast and comfortable interchanges between different modes of transport. This hub will emerge through the formation of a new transport framework that we are creating on behalf of the Moscow Mayor», – noted Maksim Liksutov, the Deputy Mayor of Moscow for Transport.

The hub will solve several questions: it will provide comfortable and convenient interchanges between the 3 regions, as they are separated by the highway and railway. Passengers will be able to make interchanges quickly and comfortably between different modes of the transport using the covered above-ground crossing: Line 6 and the Big Circle Line (BCL), MCD 2, MCD 3, MCD 4 and surface transport. The MCD stations include elevators, escalators, and cash registers for the low-mobility passengers. The surrounding area will be renovated: taxi and public transport parking facilities will be available. The Rizhskaya hub will be realized by forming a new transport frame.

The interchange is based on a «dry feet» principle. Surface transport routes will be available, which in turn will take passengers to the Moscow international business center «Moscow-City». With the MCD 4, passengers will be able to reach 7 Moscow terminals without interchanges. It will also become one of the stations of the prospective high-speed railway «Moscow – Saint Petersburg». Travel time will be reduced by 2.5 hours. The length of the route will be 680 km. The approximate maximum speed that the train will develop is 400 km/h. However, the Rizhskaya hub will become not only a stop in the city, but also an initial and final point for some high-speed trains. This will unload the area of the three railway terminals.

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The development pace of the railway transport in Moscow (20.3 million people) is one of the highest in the world. Due to the large population, it is passengers request to construct new stations near the residential area and workplaces. The above-ground metro is the fastest and most accessible way to create a new railway transport network in the metropolitan area.

The MCD is an above-ground metro which is considered an analogue of Crossrail in London and RER in Paris. It allows passengers to travel from the suburbs to the city center and back. Passengers can switch to the metro, the Moscow Central Circle (MCC) and surface transport. MCD consists of 60 stations with 21 interchanges. The launch of the future MCD 3 is planned in 2023. The new Diameter will include 43 stations and its length will be 82 km. The MCD 4 is scheduled to be launched in 2023. There will be 18 transit stations with 35 options for interchanges to the metro, the Moscow Central Circle and other diameters. MCD 5 launch is planned on the 2025. Completion of the Big Central Line is planned for 2022. The total length will be 70 km, it will include 31 stations and it will also provide transfers to all radial metro lines, MCC and MCD. Paying for travelling becomes simpler. Passengers used to buy a separate ticket, and now there is a single payment system for all modes of public transport.