Municipal council gives green light to 153 recommendations

TDT | Manama

Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture, announced approving 153 recommendations and decisions put forth by the Capital Municipality and other municipal councils, during the first session of the sixth municipal session.

The most prominent areas covered by these recommendations include urban planning, road design and maintenance, municipal regulations, and public services and utilities.

Minister Al Mubarak emphasised that the Ministry collaborated closely with relevant government entities to implement the recommendations and transform them into actionable municipal programs and plans.

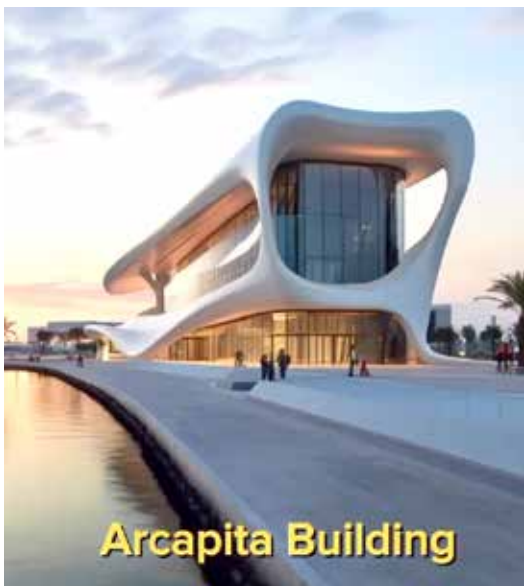Twenty percent of the requests were for urban planning and design, while the same percentage was also dedicated to road maintenance and development. Proposals for regulations and decisions accounted for 19% of the total requests, while 16% were directed towards municipal services and utilities, including the development of parks, walkways, markets, and other facilities.

The rest of the recommendations pertained to the establishment of housing or educational projects, public health, electricity, water affairs, and the organisation of places of worship.

Throughout the first session, which operates under the framework of Article (20) of the Municipal Law, the Capital Municipality Council and the municipal councils of the Muharraq, northern, and southern regions collectively presented 274 decisions and recommendations. Only a minor portion, comprising 19%, was rejected, signifying a robust acceptance of the proposed measures.

Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak

Bahrain's iconic buildings reimagined through the vision of Zaha Hadid spark online debate

Seen in pictures above are some of the reimagined and original versions of the iconic buildings in the Kingdom

TDT | Manama

What if some of Bahrain's iconic buildings were designed by the one and only Zaha Hadid?

Interesting, isn't it?

But, is it even possible?

If the answer is "nay," wait a minute, as mish3alyousif has already done that!

Reimagined versions of some of the Kingdom's iconic landmarks through the eyes of Zaha Hadid are already making the internet explode with frenzy.

For those who don't know who Hadid is: Zaha Hadid, in full Dame Zaha Hadid, is an Iraqi-born British architect known for her radical deconstructivist designs.

In 2004, she became the first woman to be awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize. Hadid's extraordinary accomplishments were all the more remarkable considering she was working in an industry largely dominated by men.

The reimagined versions of the Bahraini landmarks take into account this prowess of Hadid, with a pinch of magic.

But, as in all cases, the coin has two sides.

While some see it as an insult to the original designers, others are full of praise, calling the designs "inspiring" and cool.

Whatever the internet says, one would have to say that the futuristic makeover has given the icons a newfound verve, which is also attracting tons of comments.

The buildings that were part of Zaha's imagination are Arcapita Building, Bahrain National Stadium, Bahrain International Circuit, Four Seasons Hotel, Bahrain World Trade Centre, United Tower Bahrain, Clock Roundabout, Bab Al Bahrain, Bahrain Financial Harbour, Seef Mall, and Al Fateh Mosque.

The video garnered several thousand likes and interesting comments.

"Zaha forms an inspiration in architecture. She is one of the best. The Arab world should be proud. Sad she had to pass before she was accepted in the Arab world," reads a comment.

Yet another wrote: "Most of them look like melted versions due to the summer heat..."

"Love them all, looks amazing," a user wrote.

"Kinda disrespectful for the original designer, if you think about it. Every architect is unique in their own way, and they wouldn't want their designs to be redone to look like someone else's," reads another comment.

Now, it's your turn to tell us what do you think about it.