

eBRT²⁰³⁰ 



RIMINI



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“ The eBRT Metromare is part of the planning of the modernisation and improvement of the territory in general. Just as the horse tram in 1843 and the trolleybus in 1921 accompanied the development of Rimini in the last century, in our times, the eBRT is important for the successful implementation of the “Piano Strategico” and the “Parco del Mare”. More public and higher-level mobility contributes to the objectives of these projects both in Rimini and Riccione. ”

Eng. Roberto D'Andrea,
Patrimonio Mobilità Provincia di Rimini (PMR)
Heritage, TRC & Special Projects Department





A coastal trolleybus improving multimodality and tourism

Since 2019, in the Province of Rimini, tourists and commuters can hop onto the **'Metromare', an electric trolleybus rapid transit (eBRT)** that runs on a segregated 9.8km road with 17 bus stops next to the beach between Rimini and Riccione. The line has enhanced the **multimodality** of the transport network by connecting train stations, bus terminals, shared mobility hubs, and Rimini's airport. It also provides a fast, safe, reliable, high-frequency, high-capacity, and low-emission transport option for users. Following the success of the first line Rimini-Riccione, two more lines are planned in the coming years. The construction of the extension to Rimini Fiera started while the third section from Riccione to Cattolica is being planned.

eBRT as an integral part of urban redevelopment

Hand in hand with this mobility revamp, the municipality of Rimini is redeveloping the urban fabric of its coastal area. The Metromare is incorporated into the city's latest Strategic Plan, the 2018 Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan and the "Parco del Mare", an urban regeneration project on the seafront. What does this mean for users? For example, cyclists can bring their bicycles on board of the Metromare, hop off, and cycle along the more than 130km of bicycle lanes in Rimini which are being expanded in the car-free promenade of the Parco del Mare.

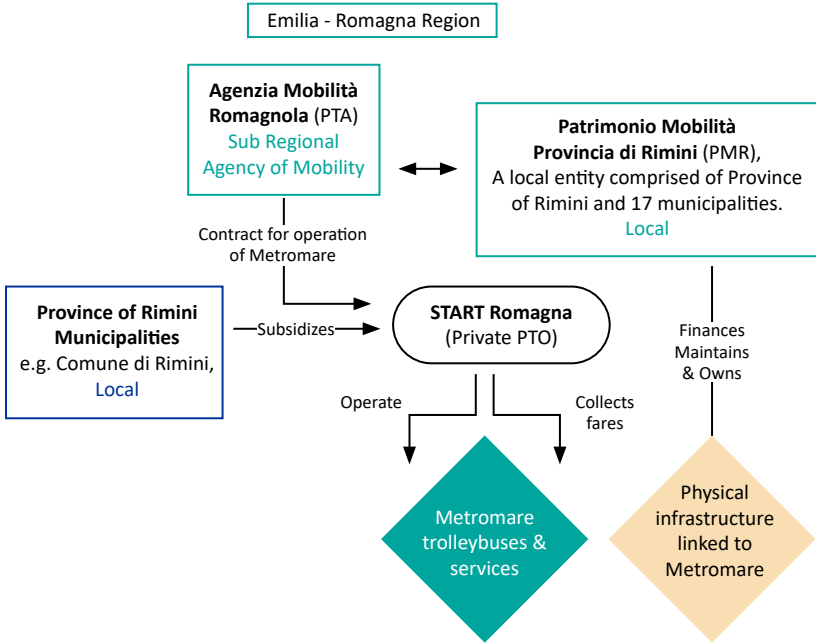


'It takes a village' to raise an eBRT

Setting up the Metromare required the involvement of all scales of governance, including local, metropolitan, regional and national public authorities, as well as private stakeholders. Without a doubt, a success factor of this project has been their strong and committed support and coordination.



European Union
 NextGeneration EU Funds
Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance
 National funds



For the first line Rimini - Riccione, the state administration funded 60% of the project, while the remaining 40% was financed by local and regional authorities. The second line Rimini FS -Rimini Fiera is fully financed with NextGeneration EU funds.



From contestation to valuing innovation: a gradual shift

Establishing a new transport project does not come without its contestation. As the first eBRT in Italy, the MetroMare faced its fair share of mobilisation, electoral politicisation and public reluctance. The reasons? Amongst others, NIMBYs (Not In My Backyard), displacements, changes in the public transport network, expropriation of private property and construction costs. This situation highlighted the importance of public participation processes. PMR, a local entity working on the Metromare, organised public debates to give people the opportunity to get their voices heard.

Once the first phase of the eBRT was completed and users saw its benefits (including higher frequency and speed, reliability, comfort, better passenger information, improved security and safety), the public was much more in favour of the project and vision. In fact, one of the main lessons learnt by the local stakeholders is that there is inevitably a period of adaptation to change and innovation.

Rimini's recommendations to other cities

1. Evaluate the keys of the transport system
2. Integrated design approach (urban planning, mobility, services, social and economic system...)
3. Involvement of local and national authorities
4. Public debate with stakeholders and citizens



D'Annunzio Nord

Alba

Dante

Porto

Ceccarini Riccione
Station



Rimini as an eBRT2030 demonstration

The eBRT2030 project will support Rimini in improving the “MetroMare” line through an efficient program of predictive maintenance based on an ITS system and data input from onboard and offboard sensors and transferred via LTE/5G or WiFi along the track or in the depot. Ultimately, this predictive maintenance aims to advance emissions reduction, customer experience, and safety and cost-efficiency.

eBRT2030 is a Horizon Europe project coordinated by UITP (the International Association of Public Transport) which aims to demonstrate the applicability of a new generation of eBRT systems in different urban contexts with innovative solutions that are economically viable and enhanced with new automation and connectivity functionalities.



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