



a world class African city



City of Johannesburg
Johannesburg Roads Agency

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MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

JRA WARNING ON HEAVY FLOODS

Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) is calling on all road users to exercise caution and patience when travelling. Heavy rain has been reported over the weekend and continued into the early afternoon across most parts of the city. As a result, a number of bridges and storm water drains have been reported to have sustained damage and sink holes have occurred in high traffic areas.

“Areas reported to have recurring blockages are considered as flooding hotspots, JRA officials are monitoring low level bridges prone to overtopping during heavy downpour. Our Depot Managers across the seven regions are regularly updating the JRA Control Room to alert us to major damage and traffic signalling issues. Maintenance teams have also been deployed to areas where sinkholes have been reported, to close the road or secure the area to ensure safe passage of motorists. Maintenance is also being carried out to remove rubble that may be preventing flow into the stormwater drainage system. We urge motorists to monitor JRA updates and use alternative routes where required.

Report on Flooding Hotspots:

- Sinkhole in Houghton Drive, Houghton between Joe Slovo and Louis Botha Avenue: Region E Maintenance team have secured the area but have closed this road until repairs are undertaken. The public will be notified once the road is reopened. An investigation is underway to establish the cause, however, preliminary inspections suggest the cause

Chairman: J Manche,
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Company Secretary: K Mills

Registration No. 2000/028993/07

may be a result of a burst stormwater pipe which may have caused severe erosion or undercutting of the road base. Motorists are advised to use alternative routes such as Joe Slovo, Carse o Gowrie Road or the M1 South to enter the city.

- Sinkhole reported on Muller Street South in Buccleuch, at the corner of Blenheim and Argyle Street in Kensington
- Sinkhole reported in Thembelihle Township next to Lenasia X9
- Inner City Flooding: Siemmert Road Bridge, Bree and Von Willigh streets, Wolmarans and Klein as well as Cumberland Road Bridge leading towards Kensington and Double Decker Bridge
- In Cosmo City, South Africa Drive is flooded close to the Spar
- Uys Krige Street Bend in Florida X11 has been flooded
- In Ward 46: Vundla Drive Culvert Bridge, stormwater culvert in Molapo and S Outlet along Koma in Jabulani Township have been flooded
- Corner Malibongwe Drive and Wikoppen, Malibongwe and Riverbend have been flooded next to Engen Garage

Motorists are urged to obey road signs, traffic signals and especially road closures due to flooded bridges or unsafe driving conditions which are unsafe to traverse. In the event of a flash flood, or where residents are at risk, it is advisable to immediately evacuate the area and seek a place of safety.

Residents and road users are encouraged to report all road and storm related emergencies to 0860 562 874/ hotline@jra.org.za / twitter @MyJra or JRA Find&Fix mobile app.

Flash Floods

Flash floods occur within few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall. This may be caused by a blocked stormwater drain or a dam failure or a severe and heavy rainstorm. Nearly half of all flash flood deaths are auto related, so never drive or let anyone drive through flood waters! Roads could be washed out under the strong currents. And if your car stalls in just two feet of moving water, the water will have enough force to lift up your car and carry it away!

If a flash flood warning has been issued for your area, act immediately! You may only have seconds before flood waters appear. Read through the list of flood safety rules in this brochure. Adhere to them during a flood warning in order to save your life and that of others.

Pedestrian Safety

- If you are outdoors and flash flood is likely, get to higher ground immediately! You cannot outrun a flash flood.
- Keep out of places that are likely to flood such as ditches or dry stream beds.
- Avoid already flooded areas and high velocity flow areas.
- Never attempt to run across flooding water when the water is above your ankles.
- Do not walk into or near high water.
- Keep children from drainage ditches and open stormwater drains.

Motorist Safety

- NEVER drive into water covering the road. You do not know how deep it is or if the road is washed away.
- Turn around and go the other way!
- Look out for flooding at highway dips, bridges and low areas.
- If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Be cautious, especially at night when visibility is impaired.
- Do not park your vehicle along streams, particularly during threatening conditions.

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