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City of Johannesburg
Johannesburg Roads Agency

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Media Release

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For immediate release

M1, OXFORD AND FEDERATION BRIDGES REHABILITATION ENTERS FINAL STAGE

The **Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA)** today announced construction on the M1 freeway's Oxford and Federation bridges is set to enter its final stage from early May 2017 with a lane switchover and new traffic implications for road users.

JRA Managing Director, Dr Sean Phillips said, "The R127-million project is now 75% complete with the majority of fill and stabilization of underground conditions completed on the south-bound section, a 3km storm water drainage system on the freeway between Rockridge Bridge and Federation Road Bridge is receiving a new lease of life, as well as on Oxford and Federation Road Bridge below the freeway. The application of protective coatings is also underway, and work will now move to the north-bound section of the M1 necessitating a switchover of lanes and further traffic disruptions should be expected."

Traffic counts indicate approximately 4100 vehicles travel northbound on the M1 during peak hour on a daily basis and 4700 southbound between Jan Smuts and Oxford Road just before the construction site. Approximately 120 vehicles exit at the Oxford Road off ramp during the morning peak hour. These vehicles will be affected during this last phase of the construction programme as the Oxford road off ramp on the northbound carriageway will be closed.

Prior to the start of construction approximately 5300 vehicles travelled northbound and 5800 vehicles travelled southbound at this road section during the peak hour. This indicates a 23% reduction in the northbound direction and 19% reduction in the southbound direction during the morning peak.

Chairman: S Tshabalala,
Executive Directors: Dr. S Phillips - Managing Director, G Mbatha CA (SA) - Chief Financial Officer
Non-Executive Directors: L Mashamaite, Q Buthelezi, S Thunzi, P Govender, M Tshetshe, T Magerman, K Sihlali, A Torres
Company Secretary: K Mills

Registration No. 2000/028993/07

“We are extremely grateful to Joburg road users who have responded positively to the rehabilitation construction over the past year by adjusting their travel times and even traffic patterns making use of publicised alternative routes and also public transport” confirmed **MMC for Transport, Councillor Nonhlanhla Makhuba** “Joburgers have also displayed patience and courtesy whilst driving in the construction zone and now that the countdown to completion has started we request extra caution and reduced speeds.”

”This section of freeway is a key arterial route through the heart of Johannesburg and on a daily basis carries approximately 80 000 private cars, commercial traffic and public transport – such as buses and taxis – all vital to stimulating economic development and attracting investment towards achieving one of the City’s target priorities of 5% economic growth with the aim of reducing unemployment amongst our residents.”

TRAFFIC IMPLICATIONS

As from the beginning of May:

- Two lanes in each direction (north and southbound) will remain open on the M1.
- The Ettrick Road on-ramp (Southbound direction) will reopen, the Oxford Road off-ramp (Northbound direction) will close.

Follow JRA for the latest developments, journey planning tips, alternative routes, and traffic advisory via:

- Website: www.jra.org.za
- Twitter: @MyJra
- Facebook: Johannesburg Roads Agency
- Email hotline@jra.org.za
- JRA Find&Fix mobile app

ENDS

About the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA)

The JRA is a City-owned agency responsible for the maintenance, repair and development of Johannesburg's road network and storm water infrastructure, including bridges and culverts, traffic lights and signage. The organisation is committed to providing quality roads that are accessible, safe and liveable for our communities.

Issued by:

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