



City of Johannesburg
Johannesburg Roads Agency

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Media Release

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For Immediate Release

JRA Invest R20m in Bridge Expansion Joints

Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) has invested R20 million in the replacement of bridge expansion joints across the city. The repair and replacement of bridge joints forms part of JRA's maintenance and upkeep of the City's infrastructural assets in ensuring safety of road users.

The rapid expansion of the city over the last 50 years has had a severe impact on the city's aging infrastructure due to the increase in road traffic and population. Older bridges therefore require continuous monitoring and planned inspections to ensure their structural integrity.

JRA Head of Infrastructure Development, Mpho Kau, said, "The rehabilitation and replacement bridge of joints plays a vital role in the maintenance of the City's bridges. Bridges are designed to allow for movement within predefined limits. The increase in traffic, environmental factors and accidents have a severe impact on the rate at which bridge components deteriorate. JRA therefore carries out routine and scheduled inspections for the implementation of maintenance, repair and rehabilitation to preserve the existing infrastructure."

The Science behind Expansion Joints

Kau said the replacement of 42 expansion joints have been complete on 16 bridges as part of the 2016/2017 infrastructure and planning budget. Bridge expansion joints are designed to allow for continuous traffic between structures while accommodating movement, shrinkage/expansion, and temperature variations on reinforced and prestressed concrete, composite, and steel structures. They stop the bridge from bending out of place in extreme conditions. In bridge construction there are various types of expansion joints, which can accommodate movement range from 30mm to 500 millimetres.

Chairman: S Tshabalala,
Executive Directors: S Phillips - Managing Director, G Mbatha - 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

A total of R14.4m has been spent on the replacement of expansion joints on the listed bridges:

1. Anerly Road Bridge over the M1
2. Ballyclare Drive over Braamfonteinspruit
3. Jan Smuts Avenue River East
4. Melrose Street Bridge
5. William Nicol Bridge
6. Olifant Road Bridge
7. New Canada Road near Main Reef
8. New Canada Road over N17
9. Buccleuch Drive Over River
10. Rabie Street Bridge
11. Mangan Street Bridge
12. Main Reef near New Canada Road
13. Main Reef near Turbine Road
14. M1 near Joe Slovo
15. Conrad Drive Bridge
16. New Canada Road near Railway

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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.