



a world class African city



City of Johannesburg
Johannesburg Roads Agency

66 Pixley Seme
Cnr. Rahima Moosa Str.
Johannesburg
2001

P/Bag X70
Braamfontein
South Africa
2017

Tel +27(0) 11 298 5000
Fax +27(0) 11 298 5178
www.jra.org.za
www.joburg.org.za

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

M1 FREEWAY GETS A R210M UPGRADE

The City of Johannesburg is to spend a total of R210-million to give the M1 freeway bridges and associated stormwater drainage system a new lease of life.

The project, which starts today (Monday November 16), forms part of the City's R365-million programme that commenced in August 2015 to upgrade the M1 and M2 freeways and the Soweto Highway, rehabilitate ageing infrastructure and enhance road safety to improve mobility.

The entire project - overseen by the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA), the City's entity responsible for roads and storm water infrastructure development and maintenance - is expected to take 15 months to complete.

"The rehabilitation of the City's ageing roads infrastructure cannot be delayed any longer," says Mpho Kau, JRA's Acting Managing Director.

Johannesburg residents have been urged to budget more time for their daily travels in the wake of the extensive repair work to be carried out on the M1.

"JRA will strive to keep disruptions to a minimum, improve traffic management and provide information that enables consideration of alternative routes while repair work is under way," says Kau.

"Please be patient, remain courteous and obey traffic signs during this short period of disruption. The long-term benefits of a world-class M1 freeway bridge network will far outweigh the temporary inconvenience during the rehabilitation phase," says Kau.

About R127-million of the R210-million capital budget will be spent on repair work on the Oxford and Federation bridges. Their rehabilitation is expected to take 15 months. During the reconstruction, residents will receive regular updates and be informed in advance when the number of lanes will be reduced and carriageways closed.

Also getting a makeover will be the 1km dual carriageway between Rockridge and Federation roads. The 3km stormwater drainage system on the freeway between Rockridge Bridge and Federation Road Bridge will be replaced, as well as on Oxford and Federation roads below the freeway.

Directors:
Chairman: J Manche, Acting Managing Director: M Kau, CFO: G Mbatha
Non-Executive Directors: M Ramasia, J Maina, A Torres, N Msezane, E Ngomane,
L Mashamaite, L Nxumalo, H Mashele, Company Secretary: K Mills

Registration No. 2000/028993/07

Just over R82-million has been budgeted for the Double Decker Bridge repairs on the M1 between Carr and Anderson streets in the city centre. This includes resurfacing and rehabilitation of structural members of the bridges and the expected completion date is 15 May 2017.

In August, Johannesburg Executive Mayor Cllr Parks Tau announced that JRA had been given a R1.4-billion capital budget to overhaul roads infrastructure, repairs and upgrades of storm water drainage systems and bridges in the 2015-2016 financial year.

The City will be spending R110-billion on key infrastructure, including roads, over the next few years as part of its 2040 Growth and Development Strategy.

Residents can contact JRA's Customer Call Centre on 0860 562 874, hotline@jra.org.za, www.jra.org.za or @MyJra for an update on the affected routes during construction.

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. ***The JRA encourages residents to report road and storm water issues to 0860 562 874/ hotline@jra.org.za / twitter @MyJRA so that we may be of service.***

Issued by:

Bertha Peters-Scheepers

Ops Manager: Marketing and Communications

Johannesburg Roads Agency

Tel: 011 298 5023 / 079 510 4186

Email: bscheepers@jra.org.za