

Damaged water pipes fixed at Protea Magistrate's Court

Nhlanhla Khomola

The water supply crisis which has been causing the Protea Magistrate's Court to not function to its full potential and disrupting court proceedings has been dealt with.

According to Tsietsi Malema, the Regional Head of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development in Gauteng, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI), has managed to resolve the water problem in court.

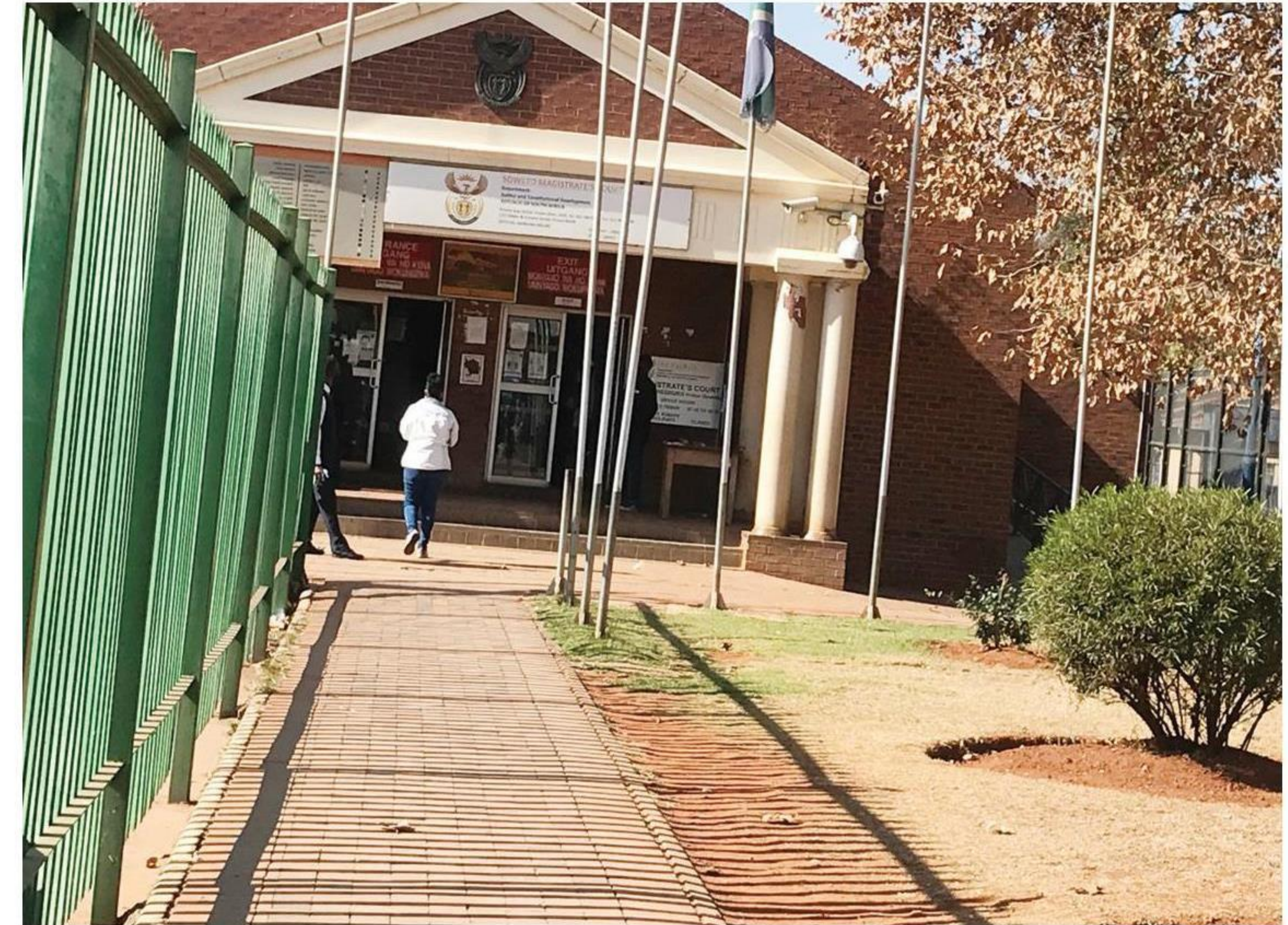
Despite this issue being dealt with last week, the court could not operate fully on Thursday. "As of last Friday, all the courts are back into full operation. Our major problem now is COVID-19 infections that are affecting the whole of Johannesburg and we decontaminate as and when there are new positive cases on a daily basis," said Malema.

The water crises had persisted at the Protea Magistrate's Court for a few months, causing postponements of some cases. The issue was brought to the attention of the Department of Public Works.

"At first they thought that the problem was the water pump on the reservoir. The water pump was then purchased and installed, but the problem still persisted. Some days the court would have water and sometimes it wouldn't," said Malema.

The Department of Justice got a report on June 11 that a guessing system had been used to detect what the problem could be. It was discovered that the pipes around the court were badly damaged and rotten, hence the water would slip out resulting to poor supply inside the court.

"In the evening, the court would tend to have water due to less usage and demand," Concluded Malema.



Protea Magistrate's Court.