



Publication: Mpumalanga News - Main
Title: R1.95B ALLOCATED FOR CONSTRUCTION
Publish date: 21 Jun 2023
Page: 4

Reach: 7755
AVE: R 20803.10
Author: Staff Reporter



MEC Mandla Ndlovu and Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane.

R1.95b allocated for construction

MBOMBELA - The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport has allocated a total of R1.95b for the construction, upgrading and maintenance of the provincial road network.

This was officially announced by the MEC responsible for this department, Mandla Ndlovu, during his budget speech for the current financial year last Tuesday.

Ndlovu announced that a number of multiyear projects will commence in the current financial year, like the construction of the Driekoppies Dam Bridge, the road over Rail Bridge on the P100 in eMalahleni, the rehabilitation of the P216/1 from eMbalenhle to Secunda, the rehabilitation of the tourism road, the P171/1 between Lydenburg and Roossenekal, and the upgrading of the Gedlembane road in Pienaar.

Other notable roads to receive facelifts include the tourism road, the P33/4, between Hazyview and Sabie and the D4382 between Belfast and Justicia.

“The department always works very hard to deliver preventative and routine maintenance on the provincial road network. For the 2022/23 financial year, a budget of R281m is allocated for regional infrastructure maintenance, which increases to R336m for the 2023/24 financial year. The department acknowledges everyone speaks about the

potholes on our roads. Government is at the stage where it is intensifying its maintenance activities. Sanral is tasked to lead the labour-intensive national programmes, called S’hamba Sonke and Vala Zonke,” said Ndlovu.

“Mpumalanga had the privilege of hosting the minister of transport, Sindisiwe Chikunga, during her oversight visit on these two programmes. The minister has encouraged the province to identify roads to be handed over to Sanral. Among these roads are the P130/1 from Mkhondo to Mahamba, the D526 from Mkhondo to eSwatini, the P180/1 from Machado to eManzana, as well as the P26/4, 5 and six in Ermelo/Carolina and the Machado road. At a provincial level, the department is supporting districts and local municipalities with road infrastructure planning and yellow fleet management strategies to augment municipal capacity gaps.”

It is a classic case of the District Development Model at play. We have already distributed the four mechanical pothole patching vehicles to regional maintenance teams in support of our intensified war against potholes. Our expectation is that here in Mpumalanga when we wake up every day, we should work very hard to close potholes.”

