



Publication: Dobsonville Urban News - Main
Title: JRA to erect R41.9m culvert bridge in Zola
Publish date: 27 Oct 2023
Page: 4

Reach: 32666
AVE: R 26096.04
Author: Karabo Xaba



At the sod-turning event

JRA to erect R41.9m culvert bridge in Zola

Karabo Xaba
karabox@caxton.co.za

The Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) has embarked on a R41.9 million reconstruction of the flood damaged Maphumulo culvert bridge.

This comes after it was damaged when the Klip River flooded during the 2017-2018 rainy season in Zola.

To mark the commencement of the project, the JRA acting CEO, Zweli Nyathi and the JRA Board held a sod-turning ceremony on October 18, at Maphumulo Street.

The media release detailed that the culvert diverts the river under Maphumulo Street which connects the communities of Zola North, Zola South and the northern and southern portions of Jabulani.

The JRA's head of department, Kwazelela Mcetywa said the purpose of the gathering was to officially kick-start the project.

"We're going to be upgrading the culvert structure. Whenever it rains, motorists can't use this road because it gets flooded with water since the bridge structure is not adequate to cater for the flow of the water due to the small size of the existing pipes.

We've conducted a design for a bigger structure and flooding will be eliminated," said Mcetywa.

He added that the project will also benefit the community with temporary job creation through subcontracting.

Six small businesses and 26 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) will be appointed to work on the project and training will also be provided.

Reconstruction work will include the installation of new culvert structures, gabion earth retaining structures and erosion protection along the water course.

The reinstatement of road layers, signage, road marking and guard rails over the newly rehabilitated culvert will also take place.

Community leader, Andrew Tyolo said residents are dissatisfied with how the project is being handled.

"As a community we have decided to stop the project up until things are done in a correct manner. We want transparency, we also want to be informed about all the processes done in this project and we demand that everyone in Ward 46 must benefit from this project," said Tyolo.