



Publication: Midrand Reporter - Main
Title: Gravel road changed to surfaced road
Publish date: 16 Aug 2024
Page: 3

Reach: 28150
AVE: R 53249.39
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Week ending August 16, 2024

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The newly upgraded Bulelwa Makomane Street in Mayibuye.

Gravel road changed to surfaced road

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"We do not want to see car washes on this street; we do not want to see individuals washing laundry and throwing water on this road. Because when you do so, you are going to create potholes, and we are not coming back, you will drive on those potholes for the next 20 years."

This was a statement made by Kenny Kunene, the MMC for the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport during the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly developed Bulelwa Makomane Street in Mayibuye on August 8.

This road, which was once gravel, has now been beautifully transformed into a surfaced road, designed to meet standard specifications and equipped with significantly improved storm water infrastructure.

The area had been severely impacted by floods, leading to substantial damage where the entire roadway had washed away, creating a dire need for reconstruction.

The extensive project, which cost about R15m, commenced in September last year and was completed on June 14 this year.

This initiative involved the construction of 170m of new road. Additionally, it included the installation of essential storm water pipes, culverts, and other critical infrastructure necessary for improved drainage and road safety.

Moreover, this project has provided valuable employment opportunities, benefiting 33 participants of the Expanded Public Works Programme. It also supported three local small, medium, and micro enterprises engaged in civil works as well as one community liaison officer who played a crucial role in the communication between the community and the project team.

The Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) CEO Zweli Nyathi, along with his board members, joined Kunene, ward councillor Angie Mphahlo, and the acting regional director Hlobohang Gamede at the opening of this significant infrastructure project. Kunene said, "While we celebrate this



Acting regional director Hlobohang Gamede, JRA CEO Zweli Nyathi, Ward 110 councillor Angie Mphahlo, and MMC for Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport Kenny Kunene cut the ribbon.

remarkable achievement, we are deeply disappointed by the ongoing challenges presented by illegal dumping and encroachments on the city's road infrastructure."

He elaborated on the problem of improper waste disposal, stating, "There have been instances where some households have carelessly dumped waste materials, including damaging diesel spillages, onto the newly resurfaced roadway."

"The Mayibuye community has long faced numerous challenges due to the poor state of Bulelwa Makomane Street, including considerable difficulties in accessing essential services, particularly emergency vehicles which are vital during crises."

Nyathi said, "we are thrilled that today we have been able to provide this community with a better roadway, enabling them improved access to essential services, especially emergency services which can be life-saving."



Crum workers keep the road clean.



Bulelwa Makomane Street in Mayibuye is completed.

Finally, the JRA is strongly encouraging all community members and road users to actively report any illegal activities that may threaten the integrity of the new road.

They can do so by contacting the city's dedicated call centre at 0860 562 874, or by reaching out to SAPS or JMPD to report any wrongdoing or suspicious activities.