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INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Minister Macpherson unpacks construction challenges

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PUBLIC Works and Infrastructure Services Minister Dean Macpherson says while the construction industry is facing challenges, including the threats of the construction mafia and inefficiencies in public-sector procurement, it must work with the government to deliver tangible projects.

The minister was addressing the gathering of the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession in Durban on Monday. He said the sector is faced with key challenges that must be dealt with head-on.

"I want to discuss not only the challenges we face as a sector but, more

importantly, the solutions we can work on together. It is no secret that the construction industry is under pressure. From the disruption caused by the so-called construction mafia to the impact of competitive fee tendering and the inefficiencies within public-sector procurement, these challenges hinder our ability to deliver the infrastructure South Africa so desperately needs," he said.

He said the quantity surveying profession represented the technical expertise and the ethical backbone that can help the government to overcome these hurdles and build a future where infrastructure drives economic growth, creates jobs, and improves the quality of life.