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Title: Residents demand completion of road

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Residents demand completion of road

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FRUSTRATED residents of Tshirolwe, Matsa and nearby villages along the D3741 are calling on Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) and the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure to complete phase two of the road rehabilitation project.

They say the road's current condition poses serious challenges for motorists and has become a safety hazard for all who rely on it.

According to residents, only 1.2km of the 15km stretch was tarred back in 2017, while the remaining 13.8km was merely covered with concrete-like rocks, leaving the road nearly impassable.

Motorists and emergency services have repeatedly raised concerns about the state of the road, describing it as "unusable".

Community representative Stanley Mudzhambi said residents are disillusioned with government's failure to fulfil promises made years ago.

"Since 2017, all we've received are empty promises. The uncompleted road is affecting development in our villages.

"Nobody wants to invest in a place with no reliable infrastructure." He added

that residents are growing increasingly frustrated and may consider boycotting next year's election if no progress is made.

He said several letters have been written to both the department and RAL, but no tangible results have followed.

Local motorists echoed the concerns.

Samuel Denga described the project as a "white elephant", saying it was supposed to be completed in 2023.

"The hazardous potholes are costing us dearly.

"We constantly have to replace tyres, shocks and ball joints. Most of the accidents on this road are because of these potholes," he said.

Residents added that they feel neglected by the government. They believe the road should have helped stimulate local economic growth and improved access to essential services, but instead, it has become a burden.

Department spokesperson Emmanuel Mongwe commented on the matter:

"As a rural province, we have many kilometres of gravel roads, and to tar all these roads would require a substantial amount of money, which we currently do not have.

"We, however, remain committed to delivering drivable roads to the people of Limpopo."



Residents express frustration over the poor condition of the unfinished D3741.