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SERVICE DELIVERY

## uMngeni selected for national infrastructure pilot project

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THE uMngeni Local Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal is among three municipalities selected for a groundbreaking national infrastructure pilot project aimed at improving service delivery and cutting delays in infrastructure rollout.

Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Dean Macpherson on Friday signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with uMngeni in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, Metsimaholo in the Free State, and Govan Mbeki in Mpumalanga as part of the pilot phase of the 'Adopt-a-Municipality' initiative.

The initiative, a first-of-its-kind, was adopted by the Presidential

Infrastructure Coordinating Council last year and is spearheaded by Infrastructure South Africa (ISA).

Macpherson said the initiative is designed to address the persistent failures in municipal infrastructure delivery.

"The initiative will help us address the often checkered track record of infrastructure delivery at local government level across South Africa, to ensure effective spending of infrastructure budgets, that projects are properly prepared, that project cost overruns are avoided, and poor workmanship addressed," he said.

Each MoU will be in effect for 24 months and outlines ISA's involvement, which includes project planning, streamlining regulatory approvals, developing bankable business cases to attract funding, and establishing monitoring mechanisms to ensure accountability.

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