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Buccleuch Bridge open

In a significant milestone for infrastructure development within the City of Johannesburg, Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) has officially reopened the rehabilitated Buccleuch Bridge and the Far East Bank roads, marking an important step forward for transportation safety and flood risk management in Region E.

Transport MMC Kenny Kunene, alongside the JRA Board, and CEO Zweli Nyathi, officiated the ribbon-cutting ceremony that celebrated the culmination of extensive efforts to bolster road safety in the area.

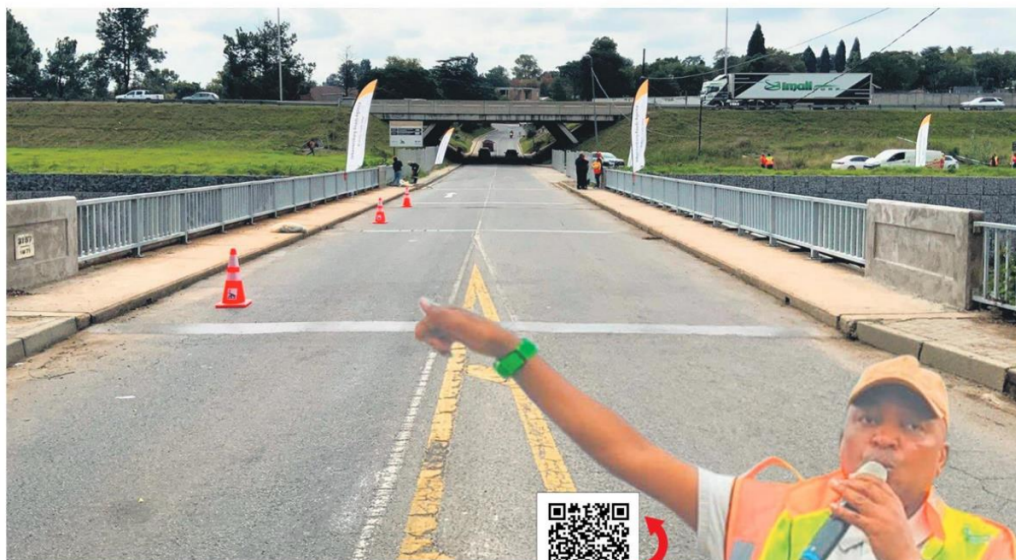
The Buccleuch Bridge, which serves as a vital connection over the Jukskei River between Wards 32 and 109, underwent significant rehabilitation following severe weather events in late 2017 and early 2018 which led to substantial embankment erosion.

JRA allocated R56m from its capital expenditure budget (CAPEX) to effectively address the damages.

Ward 109 councillor Lori Coogan said: "I am happy with both the cleaning out of the blocked culverts of the bridge and the securing of the river banks of the Jukskei River adjacent to the Buccleuch Bridge.

"The widening of the Jukskei River near the Buccleuch Bridge has also assisted in ameliorating flooding upstream, which is a risk due to the increase in hard surface runoff, additional precipitation due to climate change, and the narrowing of the river before the Marlboro Drive bridge, with industrial-scale construction rubble dumping."

Nyathi said: "The rehabilitation of Buccleuch Bridge is a significant achievement. The project included the rehabilitation of the damaged bridge structure, widening of the Jukskei River channels to 32.9m, construction of river embankment erosion protection, and repairs to construction joints. This now ensures safe passage for vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists."



Buccleuch Bridge is renewed.

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The project commenced on December 8, 2023, and has successfully reached completion. In addition, the Far East Bank rehabilitation project focused on upgrading roads and enhancing the storm water drainage system to alleviate flooding concerns.

The undertaking affected several critical roads, including Phil Machitela, Freedom Charter, Medal, South Africa Boulevard, Award, Chariots of Fire, Lenin Drive, Andrew Radebe, Moeketsi, Martin Mabitsela, and Tsutsumani streets.

The scope of work included relocating existing services, installing storm water pipes, constructing manhole and kerb inlets

and outlets, creating gabions, surfacing with asphalt, marking roads, establishing speed humps, and upgrading universal access, alongside finishing road reserves and shoulders.

The project began in March 2024 and concluded in December 2024, with a total expenditure of over R22m.

Kunene said: "These projects have had a significant positive impact on the community. We are pleased to report that the initiatives created employment opportunities for two community liaison officers (CLOs), approximately 83 local labourers, and 11 small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs) for civil engineering works.

MMC for Transport Kenny Kunene at the opening of Far East Bank roads.

"Furthermore, accredited training was provided to SMMEs and expanded public works programme (EPWP) members, enabling them to become self-employed and independent."