



the dr&pw

Department:
Roads and Public Works
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PRESS RELEASE

The Honourable Premier Sylvia Lucas and MEC Dawid Rooi from the Department of Roads and Public Works launched the newly resealed Nieuwoudtville to Loeriesfontein Road.

The construction on the Nieuwoudtville to Loeriesfontein Road project commenced on 29 April 2014. For a duration of 8 months, through government's initiative of job creation, local families could earn an extra income. The project completed on 4 December 2014. The contractor, Tau Pele Construction (Pty) Ltd ensured the use of local labour. Close to 60 job opportunities were created, with 26 being youth, and 11 female. The total length of the road is approximately 66km.

The main construction activities included:

1. Patching
2. Fog spray
3. Treatment of an existing surface exhibiting certain defects (Texture Slurry seal and screed of slurry)
4. Warning roadsigns were replaced
5. Drains were cleaned
6. A single seal was applied: which ensures that all the layers of the road are protected, adding a few more years to the lifespan of this road.

Provincial challenges

In the Northern Cape Province the infrastructure sector is characterised by serious challenges, which limits the full potential of the provincial economic growth. This challenges include, but is not limited to:

- Inadequate investment in economic infrastructure which have resulted in backlogs and Ageing infrastructure.
- Loss of skilled internal capacity to the private sector.
- Inadequate availability of highly graded and competent contractors in the Province.
- The vast travelling distances against the available operational budget

Despite the above mentioned challenges facing the Northern Cape Province, I am proud to announce we are the province with the highest visual condition index in the country. There is no doubt that there has been an improvement in condition of the paved road network, and the DRPW should keep up the good work to ensure the preservation of this very important asset.

Other projects in the Namaqua Area

Currently the Department of Roads and Public Works is implementing the following projects in the Namaqua Area:

- Garies-Hondeklip Bay Road - R 58.2 million
- Theekloof Pass - R 22.4 million
- Regraveling of the Williston-Sutherland Road - R 7 million
- Rehabilitation of bridges – R 35 million

Budget

As highlighted in the Budget Speech of honourable MEC Dawid Rooi, this financial year the total allocation for roads infrastructure is R 1, 016 million which is 75% of the departments total budget.

The Provincial Roads Maintenance grant is R 822 million, and the purpose of the grant is to supplement provincial roads investments and support preventative maintenance on provincial road networks; and to ensure provinces implement and maintain road asset management systems.

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