

To: Public

15 August 2023

Hoedspruit

The Limpopo MEC of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Nkakareng Rakgoale accompanied by the Maruleng local Municipality Mayor Cllr Tsheko Musolwa and Councillors from both the local municipality and the Mopani District Municipality on MEC project launch for road D1909 from P17/4 to Timbavati and SOD Turning of Phase II.

Maruleng local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Tsheko Musolwa in his welcome speech indicated that the road plays a huge role of economy in Hoedspruit and the municipality as it is used by tourists on daily basis to and from the airport. The Mayor appreciated the good work done by the department and its entity, Road Agency Limpopo.

Limpopo MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Nkakareng Rakgoale said the department and its entity Roads Agency Limpopo are determined to ensure that the existing roads infrastructure in the province are maintained and drivable. She was speaking at Hoedspruit in the Maruleng Municipality, where she was handing over a newly rehabilitated D1909 road, which links the R40 and the Eastgate Airport.

Road D1909 Preventative Maintenance Project is a vital initiative aimed at enhancing the road infrastructure within the Maruleng Local Municipality, in the Mopani District. Phase one of the preventative maintenance which was six kilometers has been completed and the department has achieved a significant milestone in its objective to provide efficient and reliable road network in the area.

The MEC also conducted a SOD-Turning ceremony for Phase Two on the 17 kilometers stretch of the road, which will further bring improvements to the crucial transportation corridor that provides easy access to, amongst others, the Eastgate Airport that is essential for the tourism and agricultural economy in the area.

MEC Rakgoale says the department is determined and working tirelessly to service the motoring public and general members of the public.

“Am delighted that we have managed to improve the condition of the road here, as you can see it carries a lot of traffic volume from the airport. This is indeed a strategic economic route which services among others, farming and tourism communities in this area. The department is hard at work servicing our communities and we have demonstrated today that we are indeed determined to provide improved roads infrastructure in the province.” Says MEC Rakgoale.

Meanwhile some of the community members that utilises the road say they appreciate the improvements done on the road.....

“Am a farmer in Hoedspruit and I want to thank the authorities for having touched us in terms of rehabilitating this road. We are now one community and things are coming together and there is hope. We would like to thank everyone for the efforts that have been made, the road was in a terrible state, hopefully with these improvements more business will come in and we will be able to create more jobs”

Roads Agency Limpopo, which is an entity of the Department is expected to complete the second phase of the project by February next year.