



Work finally begins on the ``Nelson Mandela Highway'...

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A road construction company, M Civils Makali Civilcon Joint Venture (JV) is poised to start upgrading work on the Mahikeng to Lichtenburg road. The company has handed over the site in November 2016 for the multi-million rand project which will be done in three phases.

The more than R127m first phase on the notorious and pothole infested section in the vicinity of Rooi Grond prison was expected to commence before end of this month.

Dubbed the ``Nelson Mandela Highway" the new-look 28.5km road project was officially unveiled to the public on ``Mandela Day" by the Premier of the province, Supra Mahumapelo in 2016

The envisaged new-look Nelson Mandela Highway is technically an extension of the of Nelson Mandela Street from Mahikeng inner city towards Lichtenburg:

From Danville township until Rooigrond Prison area, a new carriage way is on the cards to enable two vehicles to travel in one direction in separate lanes both ways, which suggest the road will be broadened to also accommodate increased traffic volumes leaving or entering Mahikeng town.

A traffic circle is part of the mix for free-flow traffic also from the direction of Bophelong Hospital. The traffic circle itself is envisaged to have captivating themes like a fountain and decorations that talk to Mahikeng as a city of goodwill in order enhance its status as seat of the provincial government.

The decision to plan this mega upgrade and generate so much interest is this is a strategic road for the economy of Mahikeng, and situations permitting, three years is the projected period for the completion of the Nelson Mandela Highway

Rehabilitation and upgrades to the ``Nelson Mandela Highway" have also prompted improvement plans for other feeder roads around Mahikeng.

Plans were announced to upgrade the from Setlopo, through Mantsa to Mareetsane (41km) the road from Lokaleng (Mmabatho Unit 2) to Tlapeng (29km), Nooitgedacht to Kaalpan Road (16km) half of which will be regavelled. The department of Public Works and Roads is in the process of appointing engineers to design the latter road.

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