

MEDIA RELEASE

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GOVERNMENT HANDS OVER CONTRACTOR FOR THE R450 MILLION ST ENGENAS ZCC INTERCHANGE

R450 million project to improve road safety, ease congestion and create economic opportunities along the R71

The Limpopo Provincial Government, in partnership with the National Department of Transport, has taken a significant step towards the construction of the much-awaited St Engenas Zion Christian Church (ZCC) Interchange at Boyne on the R71, within the Polokwane Local Municipality, following the formal handover of the appointed contractor by Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba and Minister of Transport Ms Barbara Creecy.

The handover marks an important milestone in the implementation of the project, which is expected to improve traffic flow, enhance road safety and provide a safer and more efficient route for motorists and thousands of worshippers travelling along the R71, particularly during major church gatherings.

The appointed contractor, Raubex Construction, was formally presented to the Bishop of St Engenas ZCC, Right Reverend Bishop Dr Engenas Lekganyane. The company was represented by Mr Geoffrey Molala and Mr Anton van der Walt, while the Project Manager is Mr Riaan Oerlemans.

Bishop Dr Lekganyane welcomed the development and expressed his happiness at the formal introduction of the contractor.

“I am so happy today that this bridge will be constructed,” said the Bishop.

Minister Creecy said the project would take approximately 18 months, with construction expected to commence in November 2026, subject to the conclusion of outstanding processes.

“The project is set for 18 months from November 2026. It will have, amongst others, the construction of flyover bridges. The contract value is R450 million, with Limpopo Provincial Government contributing R125 million through Roads Agency Limpopo,” said Minister Creecy.

She added that the project would also create opportunities for local businesses and communities to participate in the construction programme.

“R130 million is for those who will supply goods and services, including local entrepreneurs and the church community. We will be recruiting labour from surrounding communities that will be trained to build their lives and those of their families,” she said.

Premier Dr Ramathuba said the handover demonstrated government's commitment to fulfilling its undertaking to the church and road users.

"We are bolstered by this progress that will see us honour our previous commitment to the church and the road users of the R71. It gives us great joy to face the Bishop and hand over this contractor that we shall monitor to make sure they complete it within the stipulated time," said Premier Dr Ramathuba.

The Premier emphasised that the provincial government would work closely with the national Department of Transport, Roads Agency Limpopo and other stakeholders to ensure that the project is implemented efficiently and delivers the intended benefits.

The interchange is expected to contribute significantly to improved traffic management and road safety, particularly during peak periods when large numbers of worshippers travel to the St Engenas ZCC headquarters.

The project will also provide opportunities for local labour, suppliers and emerging businesses, ensuring that infrastructure investment contributes to economic development and livelihoods in surrounding communities.

While the contractor has been formally handed over, the project still requires the conclusion of outstanding environmental approvals and the resolution of matters relating to land parcels under the control of different stakeholders.

Government will continue engaging relevant stakeholders to address these requirements and ensure that the construction process proceeds in accordance with applicable legislation and project timelines.

A stakeholder and community engagement structure will also be established to strengthen communication, coordinate participation and address concerns throughout the implementation process.

The provincial government has called on all stakeholders, community members and road users to cooperate with the project team and refrain from any actions that may disrupt or delay construction.

The project will be closely monitored to ensure compliance with the agreed timelines, quality standards and commitments relating to local economic participation.

The Limpopo Provincial Government remains committed to working with national government, the church, local communities and the private sector to deliver infrastructure that improves mobility, promotes road safety and supports economic growth.

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