

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

FOR

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

THE PROPOSED RIDGE ROAD UPGRADE

City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality:
Roads and Storm Water Department



REF: 002/20-21/E0013

Prepared by: Tholoana Consulting



Details of Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

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1. Details of the Background Information Document /Introduction

The City of Ekurhuleni (CoE) has a Road Masterplan (ERMP) whose purpose is to guide the basic planning and development of roads in the CoE. The CoE and the Gauteng Province are busy planning for an airport city (Aerotropolis) built around the OR Tambo International Airport involving the development of industrial and commercial land uses offering businesses fast connectivity to suppliers, clients and partners nationally and world-wide.

In terms of transport infrastructure, the ERMP identified several routes that need to be upgraded to serve the Aerotropolis. In terms of planned activities, the Ridge Road is to link with several other roads, such as the Atlas road, Bonanza road; Jan smuts road, Leith road, Trichardt road and Edwin road.

2. Location of the Proposed Ridge Road

The project is located in Boksburg between Rondebult road and Atlas road. The road upgrade commences at the interchange of Tajlaard Road and Yaldwyn Road and runs in the easterly direction towards Atlas road. A portion of the road runs adjacent to the OR Tambo International Airport.

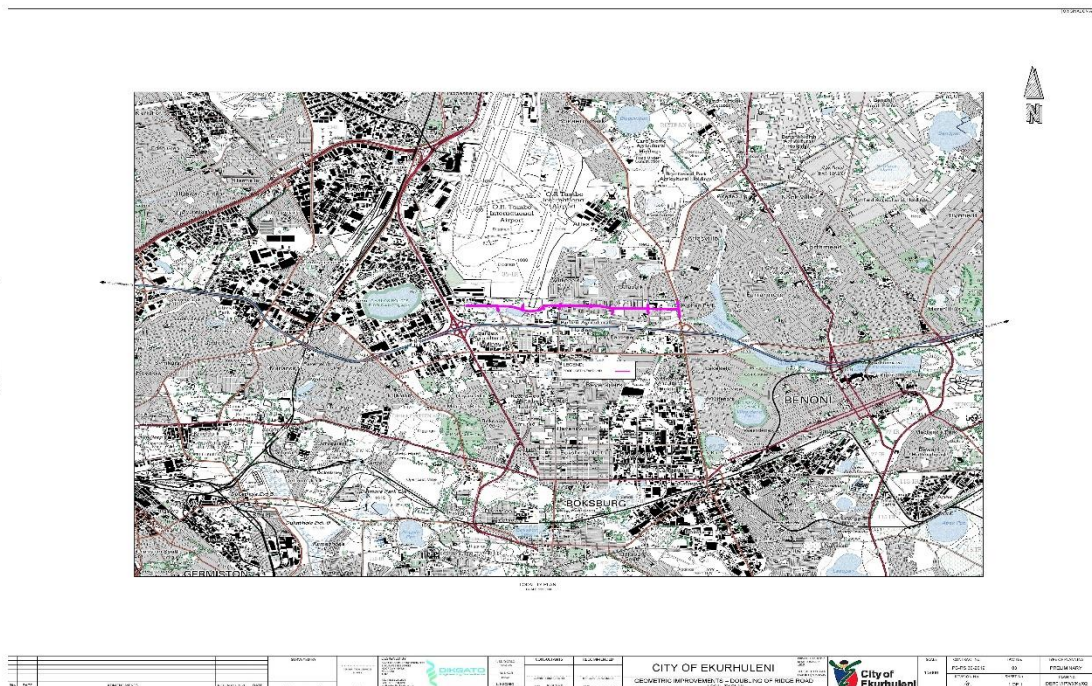


Figure 1: Ridge Road Project Locality Map

The coordinates for the study area limits are as follows:

Table 1: Study area coordinates

Coordinates	Start:	26°10'04.23"S	28°15'17.24"E
	Middle:	26°10'06.62"S	28°16'14.29"E
	End:	26°10'06.78"S	28°16'45.12"E

3. Project description

Dikgato Engineering Consultants has been appointed by the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (Applicant) to provide engineering services for the proposed project. The project entails the doubling of Ridge road, from a single carriageway to a dual carriage way and installation associated stormwater. The total estimated length of the roads is approximately 4 km

- ❖ The doubling/upgrading of the Ridge Road, which is a local road. The road is currently a single carriageway, with the proposed/planned upgrade to a dual carriageway.
- ❖ Upgrading of the following intersections; Atlas road Intersection with N12 which National road; Intersection with Ridge Road; Intersection with Edwin road; Intersection with Leith street; Intersection with Ridge road; Intersection with Trichardt street; Intersection with Bonanza street; Intersection with Elizabeth street; Intersection with Jan Smuts Street.
- ❖ Installation/construction of a storm water system on the upgraded road.

Ridge Road is categorised as a class 2 road, which is the main access road between Rondebult road and Atlas road. The proposed activities area identified by the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality Road Masterplan, which provides details on planned activities and developments in relation to road upgrades. As a result of the planned airport city

The table below shows the design parameter used for the Ridge road planned as a class 2.

Table 1: Ridge Road Intersections

Road Name	Approximate length of road - m
Doubling Ridge of Road	
Ridge Road	4250
Intersections	
Atlas Road	600
Edwin Road	300
Elizabeth Road	600
Bonanza Road	220
Trichardt Road	600
Leith Road	300
Jan Smuts Road	300

A formal storm water system will be constructed along the road, with roadways forming part of the storm water management system. The proposed system is a storm water pipe and concrete channel system. The following materials are proposed, where pipes will be required:

Where pipes are required the following will apply:

- ❖ Concrete pipes of the following classes are to be used:
 - Under roads: 600mmØ (min) class 100D
 - Under sidewalks, parks and servitudes: 600mmØ class 75D
- ❖ Manholes will be of brick with concrete slabs.
- ❖ Kerb inlets and grid inlets will be of brick with concrete slabs.
- ❖ Field inlet will be of brick with concrete slabs
- ❖ Wingwall outlet will be of concrete.

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4. Need for Ridge Road Upgrade

The proposed Ridge road upgrade will reduce traffic congestion for road users. The upgrades will also result in improved motorist, pedestrians, and public transport commuter's safety. The road upgrade will improve socio-economic contribution for both the locals, road users and businesses. The Ridge road upgrade will also improve storm water system of Ridge road.

5. Environmental Legislation Requirements

Ridge Road triggers the following EIA regulations 2014 (as amended)

- Listing notice 1, Activity 19, The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;

- Listing Notice 3, Activity 4. c (iv)
The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13, 5 metres.
c. Gauteng
iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans.

- Listing Notice, Activity 14. (ii)(iii)(vi) & (xii) – The Development of -
(ii) channels exceeding 10 square metres in size;
(iii) bridges exceeding 10 square metres in size;
(vi) bulk storm water outlet structures exceeding 10 square metres in size; (xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;
c. Gauteng
iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans.

- Listing Notice 3. Activity 18 c. (iv), The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.

c. Gauteng

iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;

- Listing Notice 3, Activity 26 - Phased activities for all activities— i. Listed in this Notice and as it applies to a specific geographical area, which commenced on or after the effective date of this Notice; or where any phase of the activity (may be) was below a threshold but where a combination of the phases, including expansions or extensions, will exceed a specified threshold

a. National Environmental Management 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment to be followed:

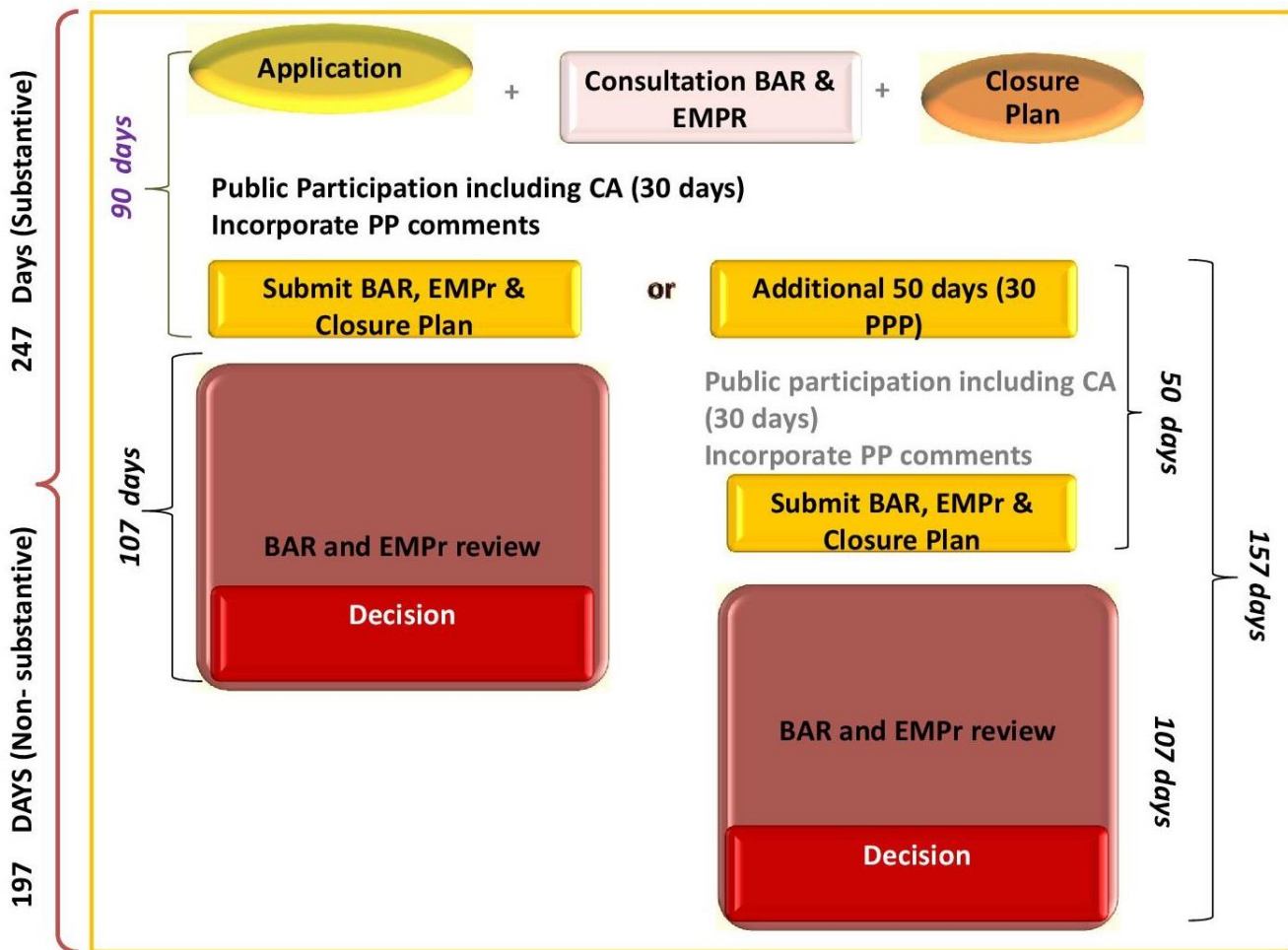


Figure 2: Basic Assessment process

- The Basic Assessment process takes approximately 197 days from lodging an application for authorisation with the Competent Authority.
- Once an application is submitted to the Competent Authority the EAP should within 90 days, submit the final Basic Assessment Report, which has been subjected to a 30 Days Public Participation Process to the Competent Authority for a decision on the Environmental Authorisation.
- The Competent Authority has 107 days to decide on the application from the date of submission.
- Once a decision has been issued, an appeal process should then be undertaken.
- This Public Participation Process forms part of the 30 days Public consultation process as required in the EIA regulations 2014, as amended.

6. Public Participation process

This process aims to provide all interested and affected with an opportunity to comment on the proposed project. The public participation process is one of the most important process where Interested and Affected parties (I&AP's) get an opportunity to make comments/issues which are taken into consideration during decision making processes. This is because people have a right to be informed about decisions taken, thus need to be given a chance to influence those decisions.

To ensure that you are identified and registered as an Interested or Affected Party, please submit your name, contact details, indication of your interest in Ridge Road upgrade in writing to:

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

CONTACT PERSON: Mr Bonginkosi Hlongwane

E-MAIL: bonginkosi@tholoanaconsulting.co.za

PHONE: +27 11 704 5071 FAX: 011 704 5130

Postal Address: P.O. Box 1549, HONEYDEW, 2040.

The Public Participation Process will start from the 17th November 2020 end on the 7th January 2021 of which will be (30 days) starting from the day of conducting Public participation (17th November 2020). Tholoana Consulting will be pasting site notices on proposed Barry Marais road street poles, shopping centres notice boards. The Environmental Basic Assessment Report

including specialists' studies and Environmental Management Plan reports will be accessed from drop box link and one drive online link that will be requested from the EAP. Details of the EAP are provided above. The newspaper advert will be made on the Boksburg Advertiser.

Note: Please see attached registration form, kindly complete the form and return to Tholoana Consulting.

Interested and Affected Parties Registration

You are invited to register as an interested or affected party of the proposed development

Registration and Comment Sheet – Ridge Road Upgrade	
Name & Surname	
Organisation	
Tel Number	
Cell Number	
Email	
Fax Number	
Postal Address	
Physical Address	
Preferred Language	
Would you like to receive reports once available?	
Please indicate your interest on Ridge Road Upgrade	
Please indicate any issues you wish the Environmental Basic Assessment to address.	

Please note that this registration form should be completed and sent back to Tholoana Consulting either by fax, Email or Post.