

Rehabilitation of Umzimkhulu River Bridge to resume: Duma has engaged provincial treasury and managed to fast-track payments

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

15 August 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: I wish to announce that following my meeting with Provincial Treasury, the contractor responsible for the rehabilitation of Umzimkhulu River Bridge has been paid.

Many other contractors have been paid.

We have received more than R800 000 million from our budget.

As pointed out a few weeks ago, as the Department of Transport we experienced difficulties beyond our control.

The National and Provincial Treasury's Basic Accounting System, which is used to process payments, was disrupted by the transition from SCOA 5 to SCOA 6.

In addition, our payment system was also disrupted by the re-channeling of money to the Department of Education for the payment of educators as governed by the National Norms and Standards for School Funding.

The contractor is on site and will be moving the machinery back to continue with this important assignment.

We have agreed that the contractor must aim to finish the rehabilitation of the bridge by the 2nd December.

In our engagement with Provincial Treasury, it was agreed that our invoices from contractors will be prioritised.

We appreciate messages of support from all stakeholders in the face of challenges that were beyond our control.

Finally, we wish to apologise for the inconvenience caused to residents and the business community across all sectors.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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