

Projects Pinboard

Compiled by Mark Botha, EE Publishers



New precinct for OR International

The Paragon Group will build the ACSA western precinct offices, a new, turn-key commercial development situated adjacent to OR Tambo International Airport. The building comprises a 5-storey parkade for use by both the public and western precinct tenants. The parkade forms the base of a landscaped podium level, upon which three sculptural building forms are located. These building forms provide white-box office space for the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA); the South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and a future tenant. The building will aim for a 4 Star Green Building rating from the Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA). The objective with these buildings which form separate multi-tenant spaces, is to turn the precinct into the neighbourhood's new landmark while maintaining visual harmony with the surrounding environment. ♦

Accolades for Grayston Bridge

The Grayston Pedestrian Bridge forms part of a pedestrian and cycling corridor built to connect residents of Alexandra to Sandton. The "Great Walk" project includes integrated bus rapid transit systems and provides unobstructed movement for the 10 000 people making their journey via the 289 m long cable-stayed pedestrian bridge. The bridge, commissioned by the Johannesburg Development Agency and built by Royal HaskoningDHV, was crowned overall winner in the Transportation Engineering Division Award. This win comes on the back of successes at the SAICE Johannesburg Regional Awards held in Midrand, where the bridge was awarded the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement – Community Based Category. It was also awarded the Most Outstanding Project in each SAICE Division – Transport Engineering Category. It came second in the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement – Technical Excellence Category, and third in the Most Outstanding Project in each SAICE Division – Structural Engineering Category. ♦

KwaZulu-Natal highway upgrade

Tourism and business in KwaZulu-Natal's Mtunzini-Empangeni area will receive a much-needed boost from a R1,4-billion N2 highway upgrade, expected to be complete by the end of June this year. The project, which began in March 2016, will see the 34 km stretch of N2 freeway between Mtunzini and Empangeni transformed into a 14 m wide dual carriage highway which will enable the road to cope with increased traffic volumes. According to SANRAL Eastern Region Project Manager Corné Roux, the first section of the new northbound road was opened on 12 January to enable repair work on the existing road to commence. He says the rest of the road will be opened once the entire new northbound carriageway is completed. Conor Infrastructure, the company contracted to SANRAL for the completion of the project, said work entailed extending over eleven main bridge structures, including two large bridges and four overpass bridges, and required more than 20 000 m³ concrete and 2307 tonnes of steel reinforcing. ♦

Transmission system for Mozambique

Trans-Africa Projects (TAP), a joint-venture between Eskom and Fluor, provided engineering, procurement, and construction management for a high-voltage transmission project for Mozambican transmission company Motraco. The project involved the construction of two greenfield substations, four substation extensions and two 40 kV transmission lines to provide power to a smelter in that country. TAP managed five transmission line construction contractors and seven transmission substation contractors in completing the work. TAP was responsible for conceptual design; detailed engineering; procurement; construction; testing and commissioning of the transmission system to the Mozal Smelter. The JV completed five transmission line sections over approximately 600 km. These are the 400 kV Arnot-to-Maputo and Camden-to-Edwaleni lines; the 275 kV Maputo-Infuleni line and two 132kV lines from Maputo to Mozal. The JV also completed six substations, the 400 kV Arnot extension to Maputo; the Camden 400 kV Extension to Edwaleni II; the Maputo 400/275/132 kV substation; the 275 kV Infuleni Extension to Maputo, and at the Edwaleni II substation). ♦

Bridges for Phase 2 of Lesotho Highlands Project

The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority has appointed Aurecon Lesotho to design and supervise the construction of the major bridges to be built in Phase II of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. The major bridges project also includes the realignment of the A1 national road in the vicinity of the bridges. Lesotho-based White Life Consultants and Leporogo Specialist Engineers of South Africa are sub-consultants. Construction of the bridges is expected to be completed in early 2024. Three major bridges spanning the Polihali reservoir, the Senqu, Mabunyaneng and Khubelu bridges, will be constructed on the existing A1 national road between Oxbow in the Buthe-Buthe district and Mokhotlong in the north-east of Lesotho where the Polihali Dam and Polihali Water Transfer Tunnel will be constructed. The bridges will restore the A1 access that will be lost as a result of reservoir inundation. The Senqu Bridge will be over 100 m tall and almost 600 m long. ♦

Suspension bridge for Eastern Cape

The tender process for the Msikaba Bridge, which forms part of the N2 Wild Coast Road project, has been reopened. On completion, the bridge will be the longest cable-stayed suspension bridge in South Africa and the second longest in Africa after the 680 m Maputo-Catembe Bridge currently under construction. The 580 m Msikaba Bridge, situated 23 km outside Lusikisiki in the Eastern Cape Province, will cross the 195 m deep Msikaba River gorge. This project by SANRAL is one of government's 18 strategic integrated projects (SIPs), overseen by the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission. Direct job creation on the N2 Wild Coast Road greenfields projects has been estimated to provide 8000 full-time equivalent jobs over four to five years. Over R400-million will be allocated to wages for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers employed Wild Coast Road project, and a further R1,5-billion is earmarked for local SMMEs comprising local contractors and suppliers. ♦