

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### R9 Million Earmarked to Resolve Majakaneng Water Problems

North West Premier Supra Mahumapelo on Saturday announced a R9 million cash injection to develop water infrastructure in Majakaneng. He said a contractor was already on site and would work together with Magalies Water, Sedibeng Water, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Madibeng Local Municipality and Bapo-ba-Mogale Tribal Authority to ensure that water is restored by the end of next week.

The Premier was speaking at a meeting with the residents of Majakaneng to discuss feasible solutions to the service delivery challenges which led to a week-long protest by the community. Residents barricaded the N4 between Rustenburg and Pretoria and prevented learners from attending school. He pleaded with the community to cooperate with the appointed contractor, saying the provision of water in the area will be done in phases. The second phase will be implemented through the R9 million that has been set aside.

The Premier was accompanied by the MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements, the Mayors of Bojanala Platinum District and Madibeng Local Municipality, as well as the Chief Executive Officer of Bapo-ba-Mogale Tribal Authority.

Responding to some of the service delivery challenges raised by the community, the Premier announced immediate interventions, which he said were earmarked for Majakaneng only. He said the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality will lead a process to make relevant resources available for the access roads project to commence. Due to commence on 10 February 2015, this project will prioritise roads leading to service delivery sites such as schools and health facilities...

Source: [SAnews.gov.za](http://SAnews.gov.za), 08 Feb. 2015

### Context

Majakaneng is just one community hit by violent protests, along with Malamulele, Soweto and Mamelodi where law enforcement officers have had their hands full. Police are

investigating an attack on two of Moto-Tech's workers in Majakaneng, near Brits in North West at the weekend.



Over the past two weeks, Majakaneng residents have been protesting over water services they claim not to have received in 10 years. Majakaneng is the latest township near Brits to face protests, following Mothutlung, where soldiers intervened last year to provide water after pump failures were blamed for taps running dry.

Source: [Business Day](http://Business Day), 10 Feb. 2015

In order for service delivery solutions to achieve greater results, government and the private sector need to combine their efforts and capabilities to provide infrastructure and the management thereof that would ensure the delivery of quality water services. It has been found however, that simply repairing dysfunctional infrastructure is not sufficient or sustainable, if operations and maintenance (O&M) functions are ignored.

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