

Ministry of Works and Transport

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE REHOBOTH BYPASS ROAD

Date: 25 March 2025

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, Fellow Citizens, and Road Users,

The Ministry of Works and Transport acknowledges the concerns raised by Rehoboth commuters regarding the newly constructed one-way bypass road following the damage to the Windhoek-Rehoboth bridge caused by the recent heavy rains. I equally wish to make particular reference to the article published in the Namibian newspaper of today, titled "Rehoboth residents not happy with newly built bypass road". We recognize the inconvenience that this has caused and appreciate the patience of the affected residents as we work towards a permanent solution.

We assure the public that the Government, through the Ministry of Works and Transport and in collaboration with the Roads Authority (RA), is committed to addressing these challenges promptly and efficiently. The construction of the 350 meters long one-way bypass was an emergency measure aimed at ensuring continued connectivity and access for road users in the wake of the bridge damage.

However, we acknowledge that the one-way bypass has led to increased travel time, congestion, and safety concerns. In response, we are pleased

1.1

to inform the public that the Roads Authority is currently engaged in the construction of a permanent two-way bypass, which will significantly ease traffic congestion and improve road safety. This construction is progressing as planned, and we anticipate completion within the next three weeks.

Furthermore, to address concerns regarding dust and road conditions on the temporary bypass, the Roads Authority has implemented regular road maintenance measures, including wetting the road surface to reduce dust and enhance driving conditions. This will ensure a safer and more comfortable travel experience for all road users.

The Ministry urges the public to remain patient and to exercise caution while using the temporary bypass. We are working tirelessly to ensure that the permanent solution is delivered within the stipulated timeframe, bringing relief to all commuters who rely on this critical road link.

On behalf of the President of the Republic of Namibia and the entire leadership of Namibia and SWAPO Party, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the men and women who worked and are continuously working tirelessly to ensure the safety and completion of the Windhoek-Rehoboth bypass.

To the road- users, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we continue to monitor and improve travel conditions. Our commitment remains steadfast in ensuring the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of Namibia's road infrastructure. Remember, your concerns are our concerns. Your cries drive us to solve your problems. Lastly, I am urging our colleagues in the media to spread this message with the utmost positivity.

I thank youl

Hon. Veikko Nekundi, MP

Minister of Works and Transport