

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

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Report of the Standing Committee on Local Government on its oversight visit to Genadendal on Friday 12 February 2021 as follows:

Delegation

The delegation consisted of the following Members:

America, D (Chairperson) (DA) Maseko, LM (DA) Van der Westhuizen, AP (DA) Smith, D (ANC) Makamba-Botya, N (EFF) Baartman, D (DA) (Additional member) Marran, P (ANC) (Additional member) Marais, PJ (FF Plus) (Additional member)

1. Introduction

The Standing Committee on Local Government embarked on an oversight visit to Genadendal to inspect the repair work that was done to "Die Groot Brug" in Genadendal. Mr A Franken, Mayor of the Overberg District Municipality and Mr M van Eeden, Manager Roads Division, briefed the delegation on the repair work that was done to "Die Groot Brug" and accompanied it on a tour of the bridge.

2 Overview of the visit

"Die Groot Brug" is situated on a proclaimed provincial road near the LR Schmidt Moravian Primary School and Emil Weder Secondary School in Genadendal. In November 2020 a child fell of the bridge and fortunately sustained no serious injuries. Infrastructure remains a major challenge for the Municipality and with the assistance of the Provincial Government the Municipality could address some of the needs. The bridge was prioritised for repairs to ensure that no injuries occur to the people of Genadendal due to the state of the bridge.

3. Key issues discussed

It was highlighted by Mr Franken that the Overberg District has the best roads per kilometre in the country in relation to the budget they receive and that could only be achieved through good governance and management. The Overberg District Municipality maintains the provincial roads on behalf of the Provincial Government in terms of a Motion of Understanding.

This repair project entailed the upgrading and erecting of new guard railings, danger plates, painting of the road markings and the paving of the pavement to ensure the safe access to the surrounding schools.

The upgrading of the bridge commenced in January 2021 and was completed on 5 February 2021 with only a few minor tasks that still needs to be completed.

The Roads Unit of the Overberg District Municipality was the contractor and only internal resources were used to complete the project at an estimated cost of R60 000.

4. Recommendation

The Committee RECOMMENDED that the Overberg District Municipality and the Theewaterskloof Municipality ensure that additional fencing be erected along the river to ensure the safety of the residents and pedestrians.

5. Acknowledgements

The Standing Committee wishes to commend the Overberg District Municipality and in particular the Mayor, councillors and officials involved with the repair and upgrading of the bridge.

MR D AMERICA (MPP) CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DATE: 9 March 2021