



DEDICATED: Annette Deppe at the construction site.

The bridge gets fixed

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GREAT progress has been made on work at the intersection of the K60 and Rivonia Road, Sunninghill.

A month ago the municipality, supported by the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) began to open drains and fix culverts and drainage structures at the intersection.

The work, now a week from completion, will make the intersection safer, especially during the rainy season, when debris and water flow

onto the bridge and become a hazard to motorists.

"We met to discuss securing the catchment area by the bridge and city council responded with great efficiency," said councillor Annette Deppe,

Vincent Serema of Vaja Construction, granted the tender for the project, said there was a team of 30 on the project - 10 of them, women.

"We have built gabions to stop the flow of water and debris onto the bridge and debris has been removed," he said.

"It is physically hard work

but we know that what we are building will protect the community.

"We work long hours, starting work at 7.30am, but our biggest challenge has been getting through the traffic in the mornings."

Deppe commended the JRA, specifically Vusi Sikhakhane, JRA's business planning and development operations manager.

Sikhakhane said the complaint had been long outstanding and the commencement of the project was a victory for the JRA, local ward officials and residents.

Klein Jukskei cleared

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AFTER a four month battle, the debris from a low lying bridge across the Klein Jukskei River in Jukskei Park has finally been removed, thanks to the help of the Region E Urban Management team.

"Continued escalation of these problems has resulted in resolution," said Ward 115 councillor Susan Mottram.

Mottram said the debris in the river almost touched the underside of the bridge and was removed over a period of four days, with the last load taken out just before a storm hit the area.

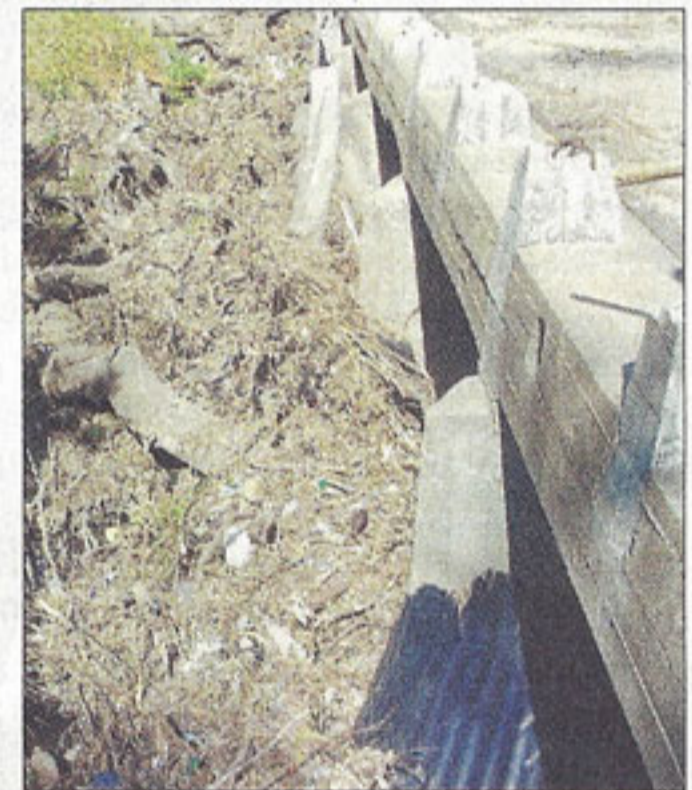
"Had the river not been cleared, there would have been flooding and, with it, the destruction of the bridge structure," said Mottram.

Region E operations manager Marelda Mostelmann, took it upon herself to spend four days supervising the contractors clearing the bridge and called in regional manager of Urban Management, Gideon Cruywagen to make sure the correct equipment was brought in.

"It is not their responsibility to stand on site at projects," said Mottram. "They facilitate the resolution of complaints from the municipal offices in Sandton for the whole of Region E, so we are very fortunate to have them on our team."

"That we got this bridge cleared at all is testament to our combined commitment," said Mottram.

The bridge was one of three to be cleared across all the wards in Region E.



BEFORE: Before the clean-up.



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