



a world class African city



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JRA'S INTERVENTION TO CURB VANDALISM AND THEFT OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS INFRASTRUCTURE

The Johannesburg Roads Agency's (JRA) partnership with the Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) to intensify law enforcement on the City's roads through increased police visibility in hotspot areas is one of the key interventions in place to curb the scourge of the theft and vandalism of roads infrastructure.

Two (2) suspects posing as JRA technicians were arrested at the weekend and detained at the Linden Police Station for the theft of batteries from the traffic lights on Malibongwe Drive and Republic Road. This area is one of the City's busiest intersections with high traffic activity.

Vandalism and theft are major causes of extended traffic signal outages, through the theft of copper cable, metal fittings, electronic components, UPS units and batteries. These activities are conducted by major criminal syndicates as well as opportunistic criminals. Power cable theft, in particular, causes outages which take time to repair. The JRA has undertaken additional intervention measures to deal with this issue.

To minimise the opportunity for theft and vandalism, the JRA has resolved to replace critical infrastructure with material of lesser resale value. For example, the aluminium and steel traffic signal heads and back boards have all been replaced with the nylon plastic types.

Another key measure to tackle cable theft is through the use of cable(s) with a reduced copper content. This is achieved by reducing the thickness of the copper wire from 2,5mm² diameter to 1,5 mm² diameter. Alternative cables such as the Copper Cladded Aluminium (CCA) cables, which have no resale value, were installed at high theft sites. These, however, cannot be installed at all sites as the cables are not very rugged and will break due to excessive bending.

The JRA also has a no-joint policy to mitigate problems caused by faulty joints. This entails the installation of a stubby (connection box), where the cables from the controller are connected to the stubbies and then a smaller cable is used from the stubby to the poles. This eases maintenance and fault finding in future, where a pole can be easily isolated if there is a collapsed pole or a cable/electrical fault on the pole.

The stubby covers are however being stolen and therefore the JRA will advertise a design and manufacture tender to ensure a different material or design will reduce theft.

Chairman: Dr. A Mokoena

Executive Directors - Chief Executive Officer: S Monakedi, Chief Financial Officer: D Thindisa

Non-Executive Directors: L Mdluli, H Mtimkhulu, F Ntsandeni, L Ndlovu, N Mila, T Seemela, T Tshitangano, Y Ngxabazi, S Chiloane-Nwabueze, E Mtshali, S Ralegoma
Company Secretary: P Majola

Albeit, the JRA still urges community members and road users to assist in combatting this scourge by reporting the perpetrators to the City of Johannesburg's Call Centre 0860 562 874 or report these criminal activities to the South African Police Services (SAPS) or JMPD.

(See addendum 1 attached with images)

ENDS

Website: www.jra.org.za

- Twitter: @MyJra
- Facebook: Johannesburg Roads Agency,
- Email hotline@jra.org.za
- JRA Find&Fix mobile app

About the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA)

The JRA is a City-owned agency responsible for the maintenance, repair and development of Johannesburg's road network and storm water infrastructure, including bridges and culverts, traffic lights and signage. The organisation is committed to providing quality roads that are accessible, safe and liveable for our communities.

Issued by:

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Addendum 1



The picture is of a recent arrest made with support of JMPD

Below is a picture of recabled intersection

