



City of Johannesburg Johannesburg Roads Agency

75 Helen Joseph Street Cnr. Harrison Street Johannesburg 2001 P/Bag X70 Braamfontein South Africa 2017 Tel +27(0) 11 298 5000 Fax +27(0) 11 298 5178 www.jra.org.za www.joburg.org.za

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TRAFFIC ADVISORY: HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODING

Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) is calling on all road users to exercise caution and patience when travelling on roads and across bridges. Heavy rain has flooded bridges and roads across the city of Johannesburg.

The M1 North and South Double Decker Bridge was flooded earlier today and was inaccessible. The bridge has since been opened and accessible.

Officials of the JRA are monitoring low level bridges prone to overtopping during heavy downpour. Low-lying bridges pose a risk during heavy rain and flooding.

Tips for motorists and residents on how to survive the heavy rains.

Flash Floods

Flash floods occur within few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall. This may be caused by a blocked stormwater drain or a dam failure or a severe and heavy rainstorm. Nearly half of all flash flood deaths are auto related, so never drive or let anyone drive through flood waters! Roads could be washed out under the strong currents. And if your car stalls in just two feet of moving water, the water will have enough force to lift up your car and carry it away!

If a flash flood warning has been issued for your area, act immediately! You may only have seconds before flood waters appear. Read through the list of flood safety rules in this brochure. Adhere to them during a flood warning in order to save your life and that of others.

Pedestrian Safety

- If you are outdoors and flash flood is likely, get to higher ground immediately! You cannot outrun a flash flood.
- Keep out of places that are likely to flood such as ditches or dry stream beds.
- Avoid already flooded areas and high velocity flow areas.
- Never attempt to run across flooding water when the water is above your ankles.
- Do not walk into or near high water.
- Keep children from drainage ditches and open stormwater drains.

Motorist Safety

- NEVER drive into water covering the road. You do not know how deep it is or if the road is washed away.
- Turn around and go the other way!
- Look out for flooding at highway dips, bridges and low areas.
- If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Be cautious, especially at night when visibility is impaired.
- Do not park your vehicle along streams, particularly during threatening conditions

ENDS

Follow the JRA for the latest developments, journey planning tips, alternative routes, and traffic advisory via:

Website: www.jra.org.za

■ Twitter: @MyJra,

- Facebook: Johannesburg Roads Agency,
- Email <u>hotline@jra.org.za</u>,
- 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:

Sanele Zondi

HOD: PR & Stakeholder Engagement

Johannesburg Roads Agency Email: szondi@jra.org.za