



## UPGRADE OF MONONTSHA ROAD ON TRACK

6 February 2013

The upgrading of Monontsha road in Qwaqwa is progressing well according to the plan. Monontsha road upgrading is one of the success full projects of the Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport.

The project entails the upgrading of the existing gravel road from Hlatseng, the most south western rural residential area in Qwaqwa, to Caledon river which forms the border between South Africa and Lesotho.

In general the road is winding mountains pass for 4.2 km up to a high point where the Monontsha Border post is located, and then winds down the mountain for 2.4 km to the Caledon river crossing.

The project has been divided into two phases:

Phase 1: From the Monontsha Border Post to the Caledon River

Phase 2: From Hlatseng Primary School to the Monontsha Border Post

Monontsha road is an Expanded Public works programme (EPWP) project which means it is very labour intensive. Most of the work on the project is done manually. Construction work on Monotsha road started in 2008 and the project will be completed in 2014 if everything goes according to the plan. The budget for the project is R90 700.00 and R36 700 000 is of this budget has already been spend on the project. About 1 300 job opportunities have been created.

The improved road will be valuable for tourism in the area and it will also provide better access between Lesotho and South Africa.

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