FREE STATE LEGISLATURE

REPORT OF THE JOINT PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS, INFRASTRUCTURE, ROADS, TRANSPORT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE REGARDING OVERSIGHT VISITS CONDUCTED TO THE WATER AND SEWER PROJECT IN PHOMOLONG LOCATION, HENNEMAN, LEJWELEPUTSWA, AND THE OVERSIGHT VISIT CONDUCTED TO THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT BETWEEN STEYNSRUS AND KROONSTAD IN FEZILE DABI DISTRICT

22 SEPTEMBER 2026

REPORT PROFILE

Report of the Joint Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Infrastructure, Roads, Transport and Human Settlements and Public Accounts and Finance regarding the oversight visits to the Water and Sewer project in Phomolong Location, Henneman, in Lejweleputswa District and the Road Infrastructure Project between Steynsrus and Kroonstad in Fezile Dabi District.

The Joint Portfolio Committee would like to extend its appreciation to the HOD of Human Settlements, the HOD and Deputy Director General of Community Safety, Roads and Transport, and Senior Officials of the Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport and Human Settlements for their presence, presentations, and for responding to questions raised by Members during the oversight visit conducted on 28 and 29 May 2026, respectively.

Chairperson and Members of the Joint Portfolio Committee:

KHOABANE, MD
CHAIRPERSON

VAN VUUREN, D
CHAIRPERSON

CLOETE, A

FOKO, MJ

GAREKOE, NJ

LEECH, D

Mc KAY, D

MKHABELA, S

MEEKO, TP

MOKOENA, J

MSIMANGA, MJ

NDUNGANE, N

SIGWEBELA, Z

PRETORIUS, W

TSHABALALA, MA

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Report for tabling in the House on: 22 September 2026

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Joint Portfolio Committees on Public Works, Infrastructure, Roads, Transport and Human Settlements and Public Accounts and Finance conducted oversight visits to the Water and Sewer Project in Lejweleputswa District and the Road Infrastructure Project in Fezile Dabi District.

2. MEMBERS OF THE JOINT PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

The Portfolio Committee comprises the following Honourable Members:

Van Vuuren, D	(Chairperson)
Khoabane, MD	(Chairperson)
Cloete, A	(Member)
Foko, MJ	(Member)
Gaorekoe, NJ	(Member)
Leech, D	(Member)
Mc Kay, D	(Member)
Meeko, T.P.	(Member)
Mokoena, J	(Member)
Mkhabela, S	(Member)
Msimanga, MJ	(Member)
Ndungane, N.	(Member)
Pretorius, W	(Member)
Sigwebela, Z.	(Member)
Tshabalala, AM	(Member)

3. PROCEDURE OF THE JOINT PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

The Joint Portfolio Committees on Public Works, Infrastructure, Roads, Transport and Human Settlements and Public Accounts and Finance conducted oversight visits to the Water and Sewer Project and Road Infrastructure Project in Lejweleputswa and Fezile Dabi Districts on 29 May 2026 in line with Section 114 (2) (a)(b),115 (a)(b), and 116 (6) of the Constitution.

Programme of Oversight Visits:

Oversight and follow-up Visit by Joint Committee on Public Accounts and Finance and Public Works, Infrastructure, Roads, Transport and Human Settlements			
Date	**Time**	**Activity**	**Venue**
28 May 2026	10h00 – 11:00	**Water and Sewer Project**	Henneman
28 May 2026	12:00 – 14:00	**Follow-up oversight visit Kroonstad – Steynsrus**	Kroonstad - Steynsburg

4. OVERSIGHT VISIT TO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS CONDUCTED IN LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT AND FEZILE DABI DISTRICT: -

The oversight visits focused on, amongst others, the following: -

- Progress of the projects,
- Budget of the projects,
- Job creation, especially for designated groups such as youth, women and people living with disabilities,
- Contractor, BEE status/ sub – contractors,
- Skills transfer

4.1 OVERSIGHT VISIT TO WATER AND SEWER PROJECT, HENNEMAN, LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT

PROJECT BACKGROUND

1. The project aims to install internal water, sewer, roads, and stormwater services for 1 642 stands in Phomolong X5 & X6 in Henneman.
2. The project is implemented through a turnkey contract.

3. Gap Infrastructure Cooperation (GIC) is the implementing service provider.
4. The project is 80%.

PROJECT OVERVIEW & SCOPE

Item	**Details**
Project Name	Henneman SEP Project (Extensions 5 & 6)
Location	Henneman / Phomolong area, Lejweleputswa District
Scope of Work	Servicing of 1,642 stands, including sewer, water, gravel roads, and in-suite stormwater channels.
Contract Value	R186 million (for both extensions)
Construction Start	June/July 2024
Projected Completion	September 2026 (originally August 2026, delayed due to financial constraints)
Contract End Date	January 2027 (but contractor expects to finish earlier)
Current Progress	Approximately 70-75% complete
Engineer	Afi Consult
Health & Safety	Safety Compliance
Environmentalist	EMG Group (Environmental Management Group)

4.1.1 OBSERVATIONS / CHALLENGES

1. The Committee is concerned about the lack of water in Phomolong location, Henneman.
2. The Committee is concerned about the status of the road in Phomolong.
3. The Committee is concerned that the Matjhabeng Local Municipality did not attend the oversight visit even though they were invited.
4. The Committee is concerned that the contractor did not employ youth and people living with disabilities.

5. The Committee is concerned that the department did not start the stormwater drainage before the beginning of the project.
6. The Committee informed the department that they should ensure that the bulk infrastructure is in place before building low-cost houses.

4.1.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The department must submit a detailed report on the money that was paid to the contractor and the estimated time for the completion of the project, and submit the report within 30 days after the tabling of the report.
2. The department should ensure that the 1% of social responsibility is used to benefit the community of Phomolong location.

4.2 FOLLOW-UP OVERSIGHT VISIT TO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT BETWEEN KROONSTAD AND STEYNSRUS IN FEZILE DABI DISTRICT

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE OF P23/1 (R76): KROONSTAD-STEYNSRUS ROAD PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Main Contractor	**OVOSCAPE PTY LTD**
Project Scope	**Special Maintenance**
Tendered Project Value	**R 124 170 613,31(incl. VAT)**
Revised Project Value	**R 147 829 686.36 (incl. VAT)**

Approved Variation Order Amount	**R 23 659 073.05**
Main Activities Summary	**Reconstruction of G5 Subbase, G1 Base, 20/10 Double Seal, Bypasses, Reseal, Asphalt overlay, Patchwork, Roadmarkings and Roadsigns**
Local Sub-Contractors Participation:	**Steynsrus: 11 Appointed; Kroonstad: 10 Appointed**
30% Subcontract Amount	**R29 182 282,80**
Project Duration	**18 Months Original and Revised 20 Months**
Contract Signed Date	**19 December 2024**
Start Date (Project Handover Date)	**31 January 2025**
Construction Permit Approved	**13 March 2025**

Anticipated Completion Date	**30 July 2026 Original & Revised 30 September 2026**
Total Length	**46km**
Actual Physical Progress	**90,32%**
Financial Progress	**84.54%**
Total Job Creation Planned	**380**
Total Job Creation To Date	**418**
Status	**Ongoing**

4.2.1 OBSERVATIONS / CHALLENGES

1. The Committee commended the department for employing more women on the project.
2. The Committee is concerned about the department's planning of the project.
3. The Committee is concerned that the department failed to submit the report to the SIU concerning the first contractor.
4. The Committee is concerned that the potholes that were fixed are starting to open again.
5. The Committee is concerned that the lifespan of the project is five years.
6. The Committee is concerned that the department has exceeded the budget for the maintenance of the road.

4.2.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The department must submit the report on SIU concerning the first contractor on or before 30 days after the tabling of the report.
2. The department must ensure that the directors of Sedrate are all blacklisted and are not involved in tenders, and report back to the Committee 30 days after the tabling of the report.
3. The department must submit a detailed plan on the maintenance of the road and report back to the Committee 30 days after the tabling of the report.

5. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Departments must address all the challenges, findings, and observations of the Committee.
2. A progress report on implementation thereof must be submitted within 30 days of the tabling of the report.
3. That the House adopt the report.