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MEDIA RELEASE

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JRA CONDEMNS SHAMEFUL ATTACK IN RIVONIA AND RECKLESS DRIVING IN LINDEN AS OFFICIALS FACE INCREASING VIOLENCE

The Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) is outraged by a series of violent incidents and reckless behaviour targeting its staff, including a racial assault in Rivonia and a serious hit-and-run incident in Linden today.

The JRA strongly condemns a violent assault and the use of racial slurs against its officials while they were performing essential road maintenance in Rivonia, Region E, on Friday, 23 January 2026.

The incident occurred at 12th Avenue, between Gemsbok and Cawly Road, where a team was clearing vegetation in preparation for pothole repairs. A motorist, reportedly frustrated by the temporary maintenance work, physically assaulted the officials and subjected them to derogatory, racist language. The team was forced to abandon their scheduled service delivery to report the incident at the nearest police station.

In a separate and harrowing incident on Monday, 26 January 2026, a JRA worker was seriously injured at the corner of 4th and 7th Avenues in Linden, Region B. The official was part of a team painting road markings when a speeding driver crashed into him.

The worker sustained severe injuries and was admitted to the hospital for urgent medical treatment. A criminal case has been opened with the South African Police Service (SAPS) to ensure the driver is held accountable for their reckless actions.

The JRA views these acts not only as a violation of the basic human rights of its employees but as a direct threat to the provision of essential services.

“The uncontrolled anger and the blatant disregard for human life we are witnessing is unacceptable,” says **JRA Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Zweli Nyathi**. “Our officials should be able to carry out their

Chairman: SC Clarke
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Company Secretary: P Majola

Registration No. 2000/028993/30

duties without fear of victimization, abuse, or being struck by speeding vehicles. Those caught engaging in acts of violence or reckless driving will face the full might of the law.”

The JRA urges all road users to exercise caution, patience, and empathy when encountering maintenance sites.

The Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Transport in the City of Johannesburg, Cllr. Kenny Kunene, expressed his deep concern. “We advise road users and the public at large not to interfere with maintenance works and to respect the safety of those working on our roads. We cannot allow our staff to be put in harm's way while trying to improve the city's infrastructure,” said Cllr. Kunene.

The JRA remains committed to the safety of its workforce and wishes the injured official in Linden a speedy recovery.

ENDS

The Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) is a municipal-owned entity responsible for the maintenance, repair and development of Johannesburg's Road network and storm water infrastructure, including bridges and culverts, traffic signals and signage. The organisation is committed to providing quality roads that are accessible, safe, and liveable for our communities. Stay in touch with JRA via 0860 562 874/ hotline@jra.org.za /twitter [@MyJra](https://twitter.com/MyJra) /Facebook: Johannesburg Roads Agency so that we may be of service.

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