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## JDA REFLECTS ON THE ROLE OF ENGINEERING IN BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE JOHANNESBURG



The [Johannesburg Development Agency](http://www.jda.org.za) (JDA) joins the global community in marking World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development, commemorated on 4 March 2026.

Recognised by UNESCO, the day underscores the vital contribution of engineers in tackling some of the world's most pressing challenges, including climate change, rapid urbanisation, and the pursuit of sustainable development.

This year's theme, "Smart Engineering for a Sustainable Future Through Innovation and Digitalisation," highlights how engineering expertise continues to shape resilient, inclusive, and forward-looking infrastructure across the City of Johannesburg.

### Building a better city

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As the City's infrastructure development agency, the JDA plays a central role in planning, designing, and delivering catalytic development projects that transform urban spaces and enhance the quality of life for residents.



These efforts are made possible through the innovation, technical skill, and commitment of engineers who turn development strategies into functional, impactful infrastructure that supports communities and drives economic growth.

A key example of engineering-led development is the ongoing expansion of the [Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit \(BRT\) network](#), including improvements along the Sandton corridor. These interventions—such as dedicated public transport lanes, upgraded road infrastructure, and enhanced pedestrian and cycling facilities—are designed to strengthen connectivity, ease congestion, and promote more sustainable modes of transport.

The JDA is also progressing with critical social infrastructure projects aimed at reinforcing community amenities and services. Developments like the [Bertrams Multipurpose Centre](#) showcase the application of engineering and construction excellence in delivering modern public facilities that support social development and community wellbeing.

In addition, the agency continues to implement refurbishment projects in municipal housing and upgrades to public infrastructure across Johannesburg. Through thoughtful design, structural rehabilitation, and sustainable construction practices, these initiatives contribute to safer, more functional, and more resilient urban environments.



Reflecting on the observance, the JDA emphasised the essential role of engineering in shaping cities that can meet current and future challenges while promoting inclusive growth.

“Engineering is fundamental to the development of sustainable cities. Through the expertise of engineers across our projects, the JDA can deliver infrastructure that improves mobility, supports community development, and contributes to building a resilient and future-ready Johannesburg,” the agency said.

As Johannesburg continues to grow and evolve, the JDA remains committed to advancing engineering innovation, smart design, and sustainable infrastructure solutions that help create a more connected, liveable, and globally competitive city.

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