**PROJECT NAME: EKURHULENI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY BRT**

**PROJECT LOCATION: CITY OF EKHURHULENI**

**PROJECT VALUE: R 750M**

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

LTE was mandated to provide expert engineering services for the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (EMM), which is attending to the needs of its residents for improved mobility and an overall enhancement of their travel experience. EMM is implementing phase 1A of the Integrated Rapid Transit Network (IRPTN) which currently spans from Tembisa to Kempton Park.

**CONTINUE TO DETAILED PROJECT SUMMARY**

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a broad term that is used to describe a variety of transport systems that contribute towards the improvement of infrastructure. It attempts to maintain seamless mobility by offering a service of a higher quality than the normal bus line and by operating on a reliable schedule that allows for efficient transportation. The Department of Transport seeks to transform transportation through BRT by making it the preferred mode of public transport which satisfies the short term and long term sustainability.

The use of BRT has already been successfully implemented in parts of South Africa. MyCiti in Cape Town offers passengers a reliable and timeous bus service that runs on a cashless system which has proved to be convenient. Passengers load their MyConnect cards (bus card) with funds in order to use the service and “tap” in and out to pay for the bus fare. When the MyConnect cards funds are depleted, they may reload it should they wish to embark on further trips. Similarly, the Rea Vaya BRT system in the City of Johannesburg (CoJ) utilizes this method of transportation.

CoJ investigated BRT systems in countries such as Australia and Indonesia to guide its function before operating its first route in 2009. The critical aspect of the Rea Vaya is its integration of other public transport stakeholders. Such integration included maintaining communication with former taxi drivers and incorporating them by offering positions as bus conductors and bus maintenance managers. According to the Department of Transport the BRT system is essential to the success of the transport system in South Africa as it provides affordable and reliable transport service to diverse groups within the metropolitan regions.

Its function bears striking similarities to the railway system as it operates on a fixed schedule; it has a centralized control centre, it is customer oriented and easily accessible. Further benefits associated with the BRT is that construction costs are lower compared to other transport systems and it helps reduce carbon emission. In addition, exclusive bus lanes allow for reduced travel time and the cashless system supported by Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) makes the BRT a safer convenient service.

**Introduction and Background**

The City of Ekurhuleni (COE) Department of Transport

Planning and Provision is currently implementing Phase 1A of its Integrated Rapid Public Transit Network (IRPTN), which connects Tembisa to Kempton Park. The project the planning, designs, BOQs and/or implementation of the following work streams:

• BRT Route Street Lighting

• BRT Stations

• BRT Trunk Route Pedestrian Bridges

• BRT Trunk Route Stream Crossings

• BRT Bus Depot

LTE’s Scope of Works included the Construction and Contract Management of ongoing contracts as well as the commencement/ completion of infrastructure

**Design and Procurement**

This involved the utilization of the following resources:

• Project Management

• Civil Engineering

• Structural Engineering

• Electrical Engineering

• Mechanical Engineering

• Architecture

• Quantity Surveying

• Resident Engineers

• Materials Technicians

• Clerk of Works

• OHS Officers

• Environmental Control Officers