

Executive Summary:

Significant progress has been made to develop policy for the rehabilitation of mine residue areas within the Gauteng mining belt area. There is a growing realisation that mining areas that were previously considered to be undevelopable has the potential to be rehabilitated and used for future urban development.

Such a development will not only contribute to the broader economic development of the province of Gauteng – but also to redress decades of apartheid spatial planning and create a more equitable spatial form.

This policy sets the framework for new development policies, initiatives and partnerships which have the potential to unlock the value of the mining belt and introduce spatial interventions that can lead to integrated development and spatial transformation.

It is based on an extensive process of consultation between the Gauteng province, the major metros that are affected by policy, the mining industry, communities who live in proximity to the mining belt, non- governmental organisations and other stakeholders.

It also takes into account research and studies that have been undertaken in recent years as well as the wide range of legislation, development plans, policy frameworks and guidelines that have an impact on the future of the region.

Despite the recent downturn in mining activity in Gauteng the sector remains a vital contributor to the provincial economy employing more than 112 000 people directly and impacting the lives of an estimated 3.4 million dependents.

In addition the industry has had a major impact on the spatial economy of the entire Gauteng through the introduction of intensive mining activities, the relocation of millions of people over successive generations from rural areas towards the country's urban core, the rapid growth of major metropolitan areas and the introduction of an apartheid spatial form that continues to exist more than 25 years after South Africa's democratic transition.

Moreover, the industry's legacy will affect the lives of communities for decades to come. This is reflected in major concerns about environmental threats such as decanting, flooding, dust pollution and nuclear radiation.

The location of the mining belt also has implications for future policy decisions in the field of transport planning, housing development, law enforcement and community involvement in decisions that affect their lives. These are highlighted as "low road flags" which focus on challenges and threats to the future of the mining belt.

However, there are also "high road flags" which highlight the development potential of the region and the opportunities that might grow from a clear policy framework, imaginative decisions taken by the province of Gauteng and a higher degree of cooperation between the public and private sectors, the academic fraternity and affected communities.

This policy favours the high road scenario. It envisages a revitalised mining belt that has the potential to grow into a "people's corridor" that can be a primary destination for investment, development and habitation. It recognises the potential to create a flagship development that can contribute to the province's broader vision to create a fast-growing and dynamic Gauteng City Region.

The policy proposes the adoption of six policy directives which will form the basis for future planning and decision-making:

1. To improve collaboration between stakeholders in mining, development and spatial planning;
2. To develop intelligence regarding mining lifespans and time frames to unlock the belt's developmental opportunities and influence regional infrastructure planning;
3. To facilitate mining rehabilitation, informed by developmental priorities and opportunities;
4. To improve the quality and speed of decision-making regarding environmental concerns;
5. To support enforcement against illegal mining and explore opportunities for emerging mining operations;
6. To promote further research and development within the mining belt region.

Each of these directives are unpacked within this policy framework and supporting documents which set out the contexts, the policy principles, the proposed strategies and the responsibilities required to ensure implementation.

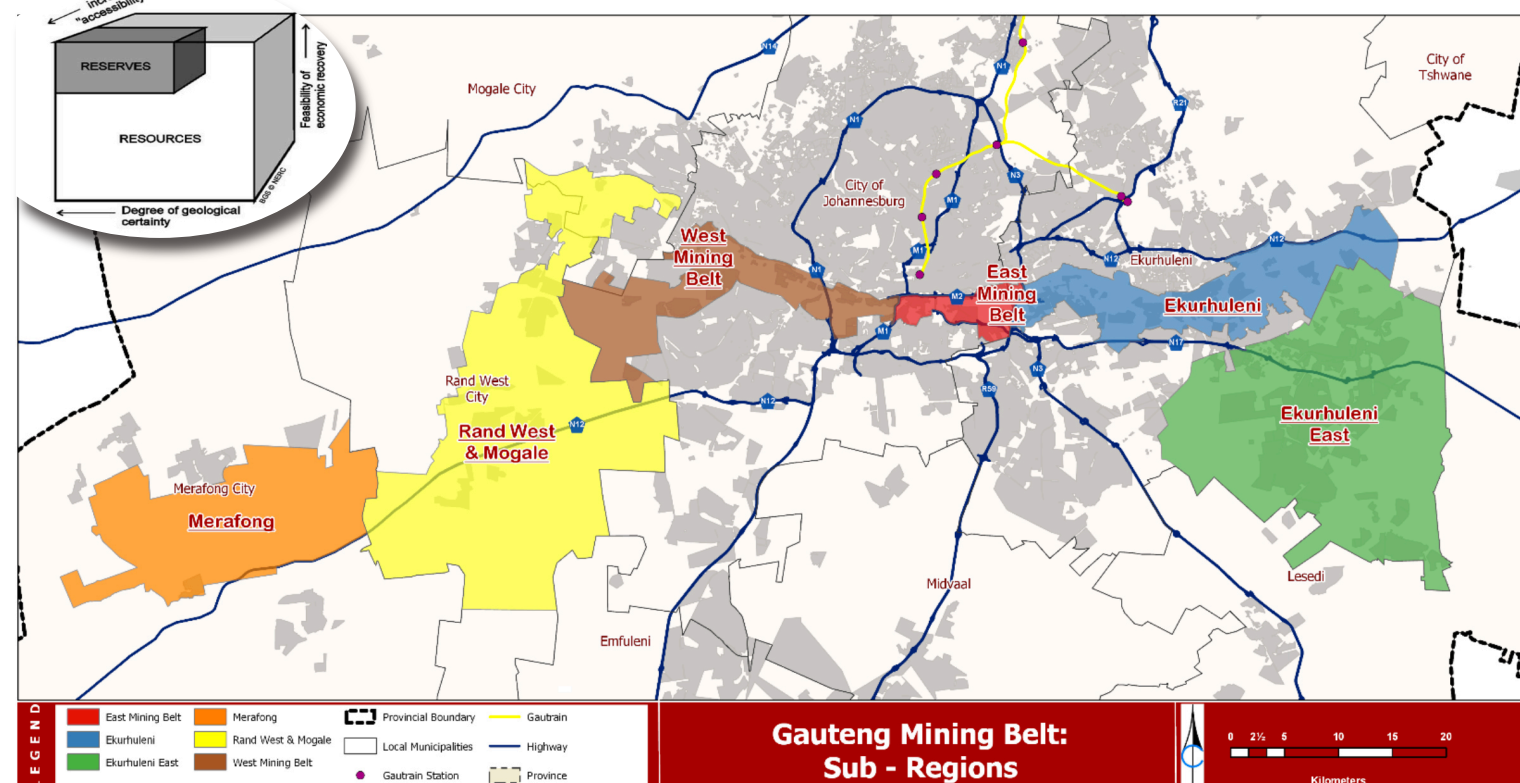
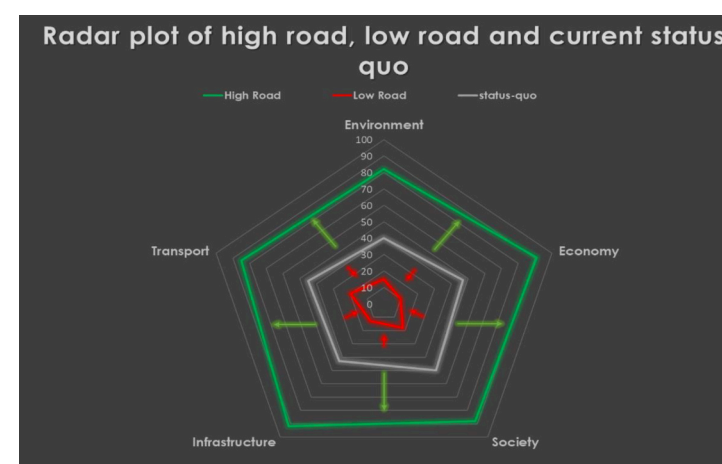
The Gauteng mining belt has the potential to become a catalytic project that can unlock investment into a geographic area of the province that was once considered undevelopable. In his State of the Nation Address in June 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa envisaged the building of "a new smart city founded on the technologies of the 4th Industrial Revolution."

This, the President said, should be the response to the reality that 70% of South Africans will be living in the urban areas by 2030 and that cities such as Johannesburg are running out of space to accommodate all those who throng to it.

The more effective utilisation of existing urban land, such as in the mining belt, may contribute to the solutions, but this will require specific interventions as indicated in this policy. The policy makes key recommendations on the critical success factors that will be required with reference to issues such as the need for:

- Sufficient understanding of the potential for development of the region – as well as the possible consequences flowing from a lack of action;
- Elevating the project as a strategic priority for the province of Gauteng;
- Allocating sufficient resources in terms of budgets, leadership support, political buy-in;
- Creation of a legal and regulatory framework with clear guidelines on issues relating to rehabilitation and fast-tracked development;
- The establishment of incentive development zones that can attract potential developers and investors and
- High level cooperation and integrated decision-making between the various spheres of government and ongoing consultation with affected stakeholders.

The policy concludes with a vision that the mining belt need not be regarded as "a disaster waiting to happen." Through visionary thinking, policy planning and prioritisation it has the potential to develop into a dynamic and growing region within



Regional Spatial Development Policy for the Mining Belt in the Gauteng Province

November 2019

Key Information:

The Gauteng Office of the Premier will adopt the following policy directives that will be used as a basis for making decisions:

- **Policy Directive 1:** to improve the collaboration between mining, development and the spatial planning stakeholders.
- **Policy Directive 2:** To develop intelligence regarding mining lifespan and time-frames to unlock developmental opportunities and influence regional infrastructure planning.
- **Policy Directive 3:** to facilitate mining rehabilitation informed by developmental priorities and opportunities.
- **Policy Directive 4:** To improve the quality and speed of decision-making regarding mining related environmental concerns.
- **Policy Directive 5:** to support the enforcement against illegal mining and explore the economic and employment opportunities of smaller mining operations, rehabilitation and subsidiary industries.
- **Policy Directive 6:** research and development within

Client Feedback

The company executed work professionally, on time and with integrity. Cadre Plan was able to meet tight deadlines and demonstrated knowledge of spatial planning and policy formulation. Office of the Premier would happily recommend Cadre Plan (Pty) Ltd for similar work on spatial planning and policy formulation / development in the future.

- Ms Mannini Makhele,

Director: Integrated Development Planning, Gauteng Province, Office of the Premier RSA

Project Details:

Location: Gauteng
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Client: Gauteng Province: Office of the Premier

