**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Construction on M25 near Bridge City Precinct**

As part of the eThekwini Municpality’s development of the GO!Durban integrated rapid public transport network, construction of a bridge, which will extend Bhejane Road to Aberdare Drive, under the M25 (Curnick Ndlovu Highway) connecting the Bridge City Precinct to Phoenix Industrial Area, has begun.

This means that traffic on the M25 will be diverted down to single lanes in between the Ntuzuma Access Road interchange and the Bhejane off ramp, and motorists and commuters are advised to expect delays and to plan their trips accordingly.

The bridge will be constructed in 2 Phases, and thus 2 phases of deviations will occur:

Phase1: the East bound carriageway bridge will be constructed and traffic will be diverted off this onto the West bound carriageway.

Phase2: the West bound carriage way bridge will be constructed and traffic will be diverted off this onto the East bound carriageway and bridge.

Throughout construction a minimum of two (2) lanes in each direction for traffic will be open on the M25.

The Bhejane Road off-ramp will be closed for the entire construction time and motorists travelling from East to West need to access the Bridge City Precinct (Bridge City Shopping Centre and the Ntuzuma Magistrate Court) via the Ntuzuma Access Road.

During Phase 1 of construction, four (4) lanes of traffic (two (2) in each direction) will be catered for on the West bound carriageway (Durban to Inanda) and during Phase 2 of construction traffic will be diverted onto the  constructed East bound carriageway (Inanda to Durban) bridge with four (4) lanes of traffic (two (2) in each direction).

After the completion of the bridge the M25 route will return to its original three (3) lanes in each direction.

“We ask that commuters and drivers look for alternate routes – especially at peak times, or to start their journeys earlier, making allowances for the expected delays, ” requests Deputy Head of Road System Management, Carlos Esteves. “This will help ease the traffic congestion that is expected along these routes. This short term inconvenience will be outweighed by the long term benefits that the new transport network will provide for commuters and we appeal for your patience.”