



# Traffic relief for N1 on the cards at last

**Stephané Bothma**

Centurion motorists daily facing the frustrating commute to Johannesburg on the N1 freeway through Midrand can look forward to some traffic relief when a new R160 million freeway overpass bridge will be completed next year.

The new Bridal Veil Road overpass bridge is being developed by Atterbury Property Development on behalf of the developer of the prestigious Waterfall City and is expected to ease some of the congestion on the N1 in the Midrand area.

The major investment for this new overpass is part of the infrastructure development within Waterfall City, the largest 'greenfield' urban concept development in South Africa.

Strategically located between Midrand and Sandton, Waterfall is positioned to become one of the strongest and most successful nodes in the country.

Situated south of the Allandale interchange and north of the Buccleuch interchange, the overpass will create a direct link between Midrand and Waterfall City, opening up an important route that will make travelling easier and faster for the growing number of people who travel through Midrand on a regular basis.

With the construction of the Bridal Veil Road overpass bridge, benefits would extend to everyone who used the roads and freeways in and around Midrand and Sandton, said Atterbury Property Development director, Coenie Bezuidenhout, responsible for coordinating the immense commercial

real estate project. "Besides providing another easy access point to Waterfall City, the new overpass bridge will help improve traffic flow in the Midrand area, taking strain off surrounding interchanges and making it easier to get around on Gauteng's roads."

The superstructure of the bridge will total a length of 115.8 metres and carry four lanes of traffic – two in each direction – a pedestrian walkway, a cycle track and a raised centre median, resulting in a width of 22.7 metres. It will also feature street lighting below and above the bridge, illuminating the N1 freeway and Bridal Veil Road.

Construction began in November 2014, and the project is scheduled to be completed in March 2016. The development is being undertaken in strategic phases to minimise disruption to traffic on the N1 while the overpass bridge is being constructed.

The Waterfall City development spans land on both sides of the N1 freeway, from the Woodmead interchange in the south through the bustling Buccleuch interchange to the Allandale interchange in the north, and spans from Modderfontein in the east to beyond Kyalami in the west.

It enjoys easy access from Pretoria, Sandton and Johannesburg, and is closing the gap between northern Sandton and Midrand.

The new Bridal Veil Road overpass bridge is scheduled to be completed on time for the launch of the new 127 000sqm super-regional shopping centre, Mall of Africa, at Waterfall City, which will open in 2016.



The location of the new overpass.