

EKURHULENI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY: MODAL INTEGRATION STRATEGY

Khuthele Projects executed in 2008 a modal integration study for the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality. The intention was to develop a practical and implementable solution to deal with the range of factors inhibiting the proper upgrading of the current system into a world class system where every mode has a particular function to fulfil in an integrated manner.

Background

One of the most important features of Ekurhuleni is its strategic location as it represents the centre of gravity of all railway infrastructure in Southern Africa as all the main line systems converge at Germiston Station. From Germiston Station there are commuter railway lines in all four directions.

Because of the permanence of railway infrastructure it also presents an opportunity for Transit Orientated Development which essentially means that the layout and design of land uses around the railway stations should be orientated towards promoting the utilisation of the railway system.

In addition to the normal commuter rail, the Gautrain will also provide a link between Sandton and the OR Tambo International Airport (ORTIA), and a new station is under construction at Rhodesfield.

The bus industry is very limited as only the areas of Brakpan, Springs, Germiston and Boksburg are served.

The taxi mode is used by the highest number of people in Ekurhuleni. There are over 11 000 minibus taxis in the city, moving approximately 335,000 passengers per day.

Definition of Modal Integration

Modal integration refers to the integration of some or all of the different public transport modes (mainly trains, buses and taxis) into the public transport system, in such a way that these modes support and complement each other and that

they operate as a co-ordinated public transport system, while providing an effective efficient and affordable service to the user. Typically a vision should focus on providing an integrated public transport system where taxis, buses and trains operate in a single seamless system:

- within an integrated network,
- with integrated schedules,
- with proper transfer facilities,
- a common ticketing and fare system, including through-ticketing, and
- a combined information system, including call centres.

Purpose of the project

The purpose of this project was to develop a strategy for the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality how to achieve Modal Integration, and the preparation of an Action Plan how to implement this **Modal Integration Strategy**. The purpose was further to prepare – based on this strategy – a business plan for a Pilot Project to demonstrate how this strategy can be implemented and later rolled out.

The components of modal integration are:

- Strategic Transport Integration
- Transport Operational Integration
- Physical Integration
- Network Integration
- Through Ticketing
- Information Integration
- Technical Integration

Action Plan

The action plan listed actions to be carried in the short term (1 to 3 years), medium term (3 to 5 years) and long term (5 to 10 years).



Ekurhuleni
METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY