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Municipal Manager

// SYSTEMS STATUS – 2026

Wired, piped and paved back together

Under Executive Mayor **Cllr Hassan Mako**, Emfuleni's 2026/2027 Integrated Development Plan turns the page on years of service failure. Water, power, waste and roads are being rebuilt system by system — with the numbers below marking what has already gone live.

70%

Legacy water losses now targeted for recovery

20 MVA

New Town Substation transformer, live 1 Jul 2026

R3.8bn

Eskom debt relief backing the Energy Master Plan

817 ha

Vaal SEZ industrial platform, Vaal 21 Strategy

Five systems carry the turnaround: water, electricity, waste, roads and the longer-range catalytic projects meant to sustain growth once the basics are fixed. Each is tracked below against what has actually been delivered in 2026.

01

Water & sanitation rejuvenation

70% losses targeted

💧 Fixing the leak before adding more supply

Vaal Corporation Water Utility

Activated on 1 July 2026, this is a South African first: a public-public partnership joining Rand Water with the municipality's Metsi-a-Lekoa unit, built explicitly to rectify the area's severe 70% water losses.

Bulk upgrades & Section 63 interventions

Working alongside national Department of Water and Sanitation interventions, the municipality is expanding all three major water works — including the newly established Station 5A Water Purification Plant.

Distribution extensions

Capital projects such as the Evaton to Dadaville bulk water pipeline are underway to establish a steady supply of potable water across the southern zones.

02

Electricity reconfiguration & energy master plan

20 MVA online

⚡ Splitting the load so the grid stops failing

Substation upgrades

Emfuleni has completed a multi-million Rand reconfiguration of its grid. A newly commissioned 20 MVA power transformer at the Town Substation went live on 1 July 2026, splitting electrical loads between Town North and South to prevent the historical overloading failures entirely.

Long-term strategy

Backed by R3.8 billion in Eskom debt relief, the municipality partnered with the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA) in early 2026 to design a comprehensive, forward-looking Energy Master Plan.

03

Modernised waste management

Zone 7 · Jun 2026

 Consolidating loads closer to where they're collected

Zone 7 Waste Transfer Station

Officially opened in Sebokeng on 15 June 2026, this facility restructures the local refuse network. Instead of trucks hauling light loads directly to distant landfills, waste is consolidated locally, boosting truck route completion rates across high-volume sectors.

Fleet renewal

Regular rolling introductions of new municipal service delivery fleet have restored steady waste collection routines in over 70% of historically neglected neighbourhoods.

04

Roads & public transport landmarks

18 May 2026

 A new transit hub and a blitz on decay

Vereeniging Intermodal Facility

Formally launched on 18 May 2026, this newly developed transit hub functions as a centrepiece for regional public transportation.

"War on Decay" blitz

Backed by a localised social compact involving heavy industries, including ArcelorMittal, targeted mayoral blitz programmes have prioritised extensive pothole closures and streetlight fixes connecting Vanderbijlpark, Boipatong and Sebokeng.

05

Strategic catalytic developments

Vaal 21 Strategy

 Three pillars meant to carry growth past 2026

PILLAR 01

Vaal Special Economic Zone

An 817-hectare industrial zone designed to unlock large-scale commercial investment and infrastructure capacity.

PILLAR 02

Vaal Aerotropolis

A planned mega-aviation logistics project linking the district into regional and international trade routes.

PILLAR 03

Vaal River City

A mixed-use, smart waterfront precinct built around the district's most valuable natural asset.

None of these systems work in isolation — a substation upgrade means little without the water utility to cool it, and a waste transfer station means little without roads that let trucks reach it. Emfuleni's bet is that fixing the basics in parallel is what finally lets the Vaal 21 Strategy's longer-range projects take hold.