

Figure 6-12: R44/Trumali Street & Van Reede Street improvements

Source: Kantey & Templer

6.4 R44 - NORTH OF STELLENBOSCH CBD

The Western Cape Government Department of Transport and Public Works commissioned the drafting of an Access Management Plan (AMP) for the portion of the R44 from the Stellenbosch CBD to just north of the N1. Given the predicted growth for the wider study area and the availability of land, two future road reserves were proposed: a narrower 32 m reserve for the urban section and a wider 50m reserve for the northern rural section.

An Access Management Study is included within the AMP providing details of all accesses that would need to be closed, relocated or amended. The list is extensive and not included within this report.

The status of the expected phased implementation of this project could not be confirmed.

6.5 PORTIONS OF THE EASTERN LINK ROAD

The Brandwacht and Paradyskloof suburbs has close proximity to the Stellenbosch CBD, and are expected to have several infill densification developments in future. A review of existing transport documents suggest that the concept of a connector link has been noted for many years given that the only available current connector route is the R44. The previously suggested Eastern Link Road would essentially be a connection of Paradyskloof to Brandwacht, thereby negating the need for residents to use the R44.

The Stellenbosch NMT Network Plan of 2009 also makes mention of the opportunity to create the Eastern Link road from Paradyskloof running through Brandwacht and linking onto Piet Retief Street within the CBD. This route could increase the usage of NMT and reduce vehicle usage.

Due to an increase in the rate of development in the area the current priority links are, the Wilderbosch - Trumali link and the Wilderbosch - R44 (Technopark) link. Refer to Section 7.3.2

6.6 UPGRADING OF INTERSECTIONS

The transport model and volume capacity analysis clearly illustrates the major capacity problems on the major and to a lesser extent on the minor road network in and around Stellenbosch. It also shows that the R44 towards Helderberg and the R304 towards Koelenhof cannot support any further developments without significant infrastructure improvements. The Helshoogte road has some capacity for further residential developments at Kylemore, Pniel and the Boschendal area.

Previous studies indicated that the following intersection upgrades are needed due to saturated peak hour traffic:

- Van Reede and Strand Street
 - Upgraded in 2015
- Langstreet South/Helshoogte Road and Adam Tas Street
 - Not undertaken to date
- Merriman Avenue and Adam Tas Street
 - Not undertaken to date
- Integrate the Alexander Street intersection at Adam Tas Street with the existing Adam Tas and Strand Street intersection
 - Not undertaken to date
- Update Dorp Street/Strand Street intersection.
 - Minor upgrades in 2016

Also refer to Chapter 6.18 for more information on these local (lower order) improvements.

6.7 TECHNOPARK

Despite some local improvements over the years, the signalised intersection on the R44 experiences major capacity issues. The two conflicting movements are the high volume of right turning traffic into Technopark conflicting with the high volume of left turning traffic into Technopark and the northbound through traffic. The historic proposal for the upgrading of a portion of Techno Road to two lanes per direction to improve traffic flow near to the intersection with the R44 has been approved.

There is approximately 60 000 m² Gross Leasable Area (GLA) of latent development rights within Technopark, including 20,000 m² GLA of the approved new Capitec Bank headquarters.

Recent developments and approvals in Technopark has accelerated the need for improvements to the access road and its intersection with the R44. The following road upgrades are currently being implemented.

- Techno Avenue to be upgraded from the R44 to Proton Street.
- Additional turning lanes on the R44 approaches.
- New roundabout at Techno Avenue/development access & Klein Zalze Wine Estate.
- New roundabout at Techno Avenue/Proton Avenue.

Refer to Figure 6-13 for the layout of these upgrades.