

Hilton motorists up in arms over badly designed speed humps with no warning signage

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THE new speed humps that made a sudden appearance on Old Howick Road last Friday are a temporary measure. They are also being adjusted to comply with municipal specifications.

This follows queries from members of the public, who wanted to know why there are no rumble strips warning approaching motorists to slow down. Another query has to do with the shape of the humps. Ratepayers told *The Witness* that instead of being shaped as a half circle, the humps were triangular in shape, forcing motorists to make a dead stop before going over them.

On Monday, a frustrated resident was seen drilling the humps to make them half circular.

Shami Harichunder, corporate stakeholder manager at Umgeni Water said the humps are neces-

sary as an interim measure. He said the pipeline being constructed between the DV Harris water treatment plant and the World's View Reservoir has reached a stage where it needs to go under Old Howick Road through the pipe jack in the Ketelfontein area.

"To slow traffic down on the R103 and protect vehicles and the construction crew, a traffic-calming plan has been put in place. This plan includes the construction of four speed humps in the vicinity of the pipeline/R103 crossing," he said.

Harichunder said the humps are a temporary measure that will be in place until construction has been completed, unless the Msunduzi Municipality decides to make them a permanent feature.

"Umgeni Water and the contractors have appealed to motorists to please heed the warning signs to slow down in this area, as construction is

taking place on a blind curve," said Harichunder.

Acting deputy municipal manager for infrastructure services, Thokozani Maseko, said Umgeni Water had asked for temporary speed humps on Old Howick Road. "The purpose was for the safety of road users and the construction team during the road crossing for their pipeline construction. Umgeni Water was given approval for the construction of the speed humps, using their own private contractor, on the condition that they follow municipal specifications, which included rumble strips and proper signage," he said.

Maseko said that after receiving complaints, it was discovered that the humps failed to comply with municipal specifications.

Umgeni Water was instructed to rectify the situation, and their contractor is working on the speed humps, said Maseko.



PHOTO: MARK WING
The newly installed speed humps just below World's View on Old Howick Road. There are no rumble strips or warning signs for approaching motorists to slow down, but this is about to be fixed.

