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Media Relations Office

Mr. Moses Duku

Mobile: +234 805 222 5465

Phone: +234 803 906 7000 | ext. 4635

Email: moses.duku@julius-berger.com

Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada George Road Junction Flyover Commissioned in Port Harcourt

The outgoing Rivers State Governor, Nyesom Wike has said that his successor and Governor-elect, Sir Siminalayi Fubara will continue with his legacy of bringing infrastructure development to the people of the State in line with the continuity policy of the administration.

Speaking at the commissioning of the Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada George Road Junction flyover in Obio-Akpor - Rivers State on Wednesday, Wike said the support enjoyed by his party and administration at the just concluded governorship elections, underscored the need.

Wike explained that his administration considered the decongestion of the capital city comprising Port Harcourt and Obio-Akpor before deciding on where to locate the flyovers. He said: "Rivers State Government built flyovers on the consideration of practical utility. I do not know what you mean by saying that Obio-Akpor has seven flyovers. All I know is that, in order to decongest the state and make motoring experience easier for the people, we decided to build flyovers where it is necessary to do so... We therefore did not share or construct flyovers according to any sentiment of allocation by local government areas. It is because Obio-Akpor Local Government is part of the City of Port Harcourt. Of course, you know Obio-Akpor Local Government is comparatively more populated than any other Local Government. So, it is a reasonable decision for us to decongest the entire area in order to make life easier for the motoring and, indeed, the general public".

Wike noted that with the Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada-George Junction flyover completed, the usual traffic logjam associated with the area has become history. He commended the residents of the area for enduring the inconveniences they experienced while the work on the project lasted, and the construction company for keeping to the agreed schedule. Governor Wike further said the people and residents of Rivers State would continue to benefit from the ongoing development of infrastructure because they did not compromise their support for the Governor-elect, Sir Siminalayi Fubara.

Julius Berger Nigeria Plc • RC No. 6852 • TIN 01372101-0001

Registered Office: 10 Shettima A. Munguno Crescent | Utako 900 108 | FCT Abuja | Nigeria
Website: www.julius-berger.com • Email: info@julius-berger.com • Phone: +234 803 906 7000

Directors: Mr. M. Sunmonu, CON, Chairman • Mr. G. Marks, Vice Chairman (German) • Engr. Dr. L. Richter, Managing Director (German)
Mr. C. Hausemann, Financial Director (German) • Alh. Z. I. Bayi, Director Administration • Mr. T. Meletschus, Director Corporate Development (German) • Mr. C. O. Anya, Esq.
Dr. E. N. Azudialu-Obiejiesi, OFR • Engr. J. Damulak • Amb. A. S. Daura, MFR • Mrs. B. A. Disu, CAL • Mr. E. C. Ebi, MFR, FCIB • Engr. G. M. Sheikh • Mrs. G. O. Talabi

Speaking while commissioning the project, the Special Guest of Honour at the ceremony and Benue State Governor, Samuel Ortom described Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State as the first and best in infrastructure development, even as he commended the transformation that the Wike Administration brought to bear on the landscape of Port Harcourt in terms of durable infrastructure. He described Wike as a bridge builder and a worthy example, who had made democratic governance more meaningful.

In his remarks, the Managing Director of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter, thanked the Government and people of River Sate saying, "...we are always ready to partner with Rivers State Government as you build more infrastructures across the State".

While thanking the River State Ministry of Works under the watch of the Hon, Commissioner for Works, Dr. George Kelly and the Supervisory Engineers, on the success of the project, Dr. Richter also commended the communities around the road alignment of the Project who lost their right to use the road during the period of construction. "This was a huge sacrifice, which, of course, has paid off today", said the Julius Berger boss.

Continuing, Dr. Richter offered his special thanks to Governor Wike for his relentless support to the projects he entrusted to Julius Berger, and to the good people of Rivers State for their peaceful cooperation towards project accomplishment. "I bring you greetings from our Board of Directors and Executive Management who appreciated your trust and the confidence you have shown in faithfully subscribing to our reliable engineering standard and dependable quality of works all these years", said Dr. Richter.

The Managing Director further said that the Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada-George Junction flyover was completed and delivered with the usual professionalism of Julius Berger. According to Dr. Richter, "...this Project was awarded to us on the 19th day of July, 2022, with a 10-month completion period, but was achieved much earlier". Still in a well-founded celebratory context, Dr. Richter added that, "It is no longer news that the present (Gov. Wike's) administration has not compromised quality in their deliveries of infrastructural development to Rivers people since 2015, when His Excellency carried Julius Berger along in his urban renewal programme". Julius Berger, he added, "has constructed many road networks, eleven sturdy flyovers and bridges while the 12th flyover is also nearing completion and commissioning very soon".

In his remarks at the event, the Governor-elect of Rivers State, Sir Fubara expressed his joy at the turnout of people to the commissioning, which he called “a masterpiece constructed by the doyen of quality infrastructure in Nigeria, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc”.

The Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada-George Road Junction flyover consists of 13 spans and 2 ramps with an approximate total length of 222m dual carriageway with ground service lanes. The flyover has two carriageways with each road having a width of 7.3m, made up of 13 spans at 22.5m intervals. Built with a total quantity of 104 precast beams, the bridge is founded on 800 diameter 176 numbers Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) piles with a length of 21.5m. The project spans a total construction length of around 919m along the longitudinal direction of the flyover, and has provision for drainages and culverts at the new service lane. There is a roundabout including traffic islands and U-turns under the bridge. The new road pavement consists of a 200mm thick cement-sand sub-base with 4% average cement content by weight, 200mm granular stone base and 100mm thick total asphalt concrete surface.

On top of the bridge’s superstructure, the asphalt is a 60mm thick binder course and 40mm wearing course. There are safety-oriented and beautiful road markings on the flyover and service lanes as well as traffic signs at the roundabout junction. With extensive beautification implemented under the bridge, streetlights installation on the bridge and service lanes, implementation of two pedestrian crossings with traffic lights under the flyover for pedestrians, the completed and now commissioned 11th flyover in Port Harcourt City is intentionally designed and delivered to overcome the previous massive traffic jam at the Mgbuoba/Ozuoba and Ada-George Road, and allow proper and free-flowing motoring experience even as property value along the project corridor are further commercially enhanced.

Originally contracted for a 10-month delivery period, the ever-reliable contractors, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, delivered the project in 7 months.