

The Municipal Area in Context

The history of Mogale city is diverse with the towns of Krugersdorp and Magaliesburg being the most prominent in the development of the region. The old Krugersdorp, situated 33km west of Johannesburg, like most towns in the region had its origins in the discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand. On 26 April 1887 the government of Transvaal decided to buy 428 ha of the farm Perdekraal in order to establish an administrative centre for the mines that were developing on the rest of the farm. The owner of the farm insisted on the name Krugersdorp in honour of the President of Transvaal, Paul Kruger. The first stands were sold on 31 October 1887 and two years after that the government donated 88 pound for the planting of trees along the streets. The completion of a rail line from Johannesburg to Krugersdorp in 1891 brought with it more development. In 1952 Krugersdorp became the first town in the world to produce uranium as a by-product of gold.

Magaliesburg is situated on the southern slopes of the Magaliesberg. The mountain, valley and town are named after Mohale or Magali, the chief of the old Po-tribe. The climate and relative high rainfall has made this area ideal for game farming and conservation.

Mogale City, in terms of its current composition and demarcation is the end product of the municipal transformation process in 2000.

1. The spatial context of Mogale City

1.1 Regional context

Mogale City lies directly west and south of the Johannesburg and Tshwane metropolitan areas respectively, and forms part of one of three district municipalities that make up the peripheral areas of Gauteng province. To the north, west and south it borders onto Madibeng Local Municipality, Rustenburg Local Municipality and Randfontein Local Municipality respectively. The West Rand District Management Area lies within the central-northern part of Mogale City, and this area comprises the bulk of the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage site.

Mogale City's strongest functional urban linkage is with the City of Johannesburg. Krugersdorp and the greater Kagiso area, which is Mogale City's primary urban complex, forms part of a band of development stretching from the Johannesburg Inner City westwards along the mining belt up to Krugersdorp. The Krugersdorp/Kagiso core therefore forms an integral part of the Gauteng conurbation. Development from Johannesburg's side is already extending up to the Johannesburg/Mogale City boundary for almost its entire length, and current development plans of the City of Johannesburg propose a number of major developments that will have a significant impact on Mogale City. These include the Lanseria nodal development, the

expansion of affordable housing areas around Cosmo City and residential densification in the areas between Lanseria and Cosmo City.



Map 2: Mogale City Regional Context

The strongest east-west movement linkages between Mogale City and Johannesburg are along the R512 (Malibongwe Road), Beyers Naude Drive, Hendrik Potgieter Road, Voortrekker/Ontdekkers/Main Reef Road and Randfontein Road, as well as the east-west railway line. These roads are also all major public transport routes.

Mogale City is linked to the City of Tshwane via the R28/N14 highway, but there is no real spatial integration between these two areas, as the Tshwane urban areas are separated from Mogale City by natural open space areas. However, there are still very strong movement flows between the two areas, both from a commuter perspective as well as the flow of goods and services.

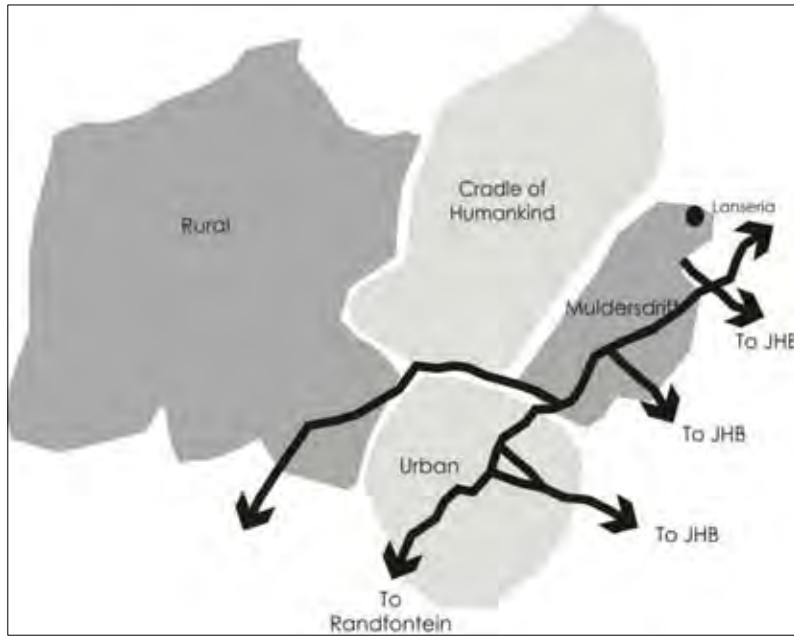
To the north, Mogale City and Madibeng have a strong agricultural and natural open space interface, with a continuous rural environment between these two local authorities. The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site, which spans both municipalities, also forms a strong linkage between the two municipalities. Similarly, the rural environment stretches into the Rustenburg Local Municipality in the west. The Magaliesberg and Witwatersberg, which span across Tshwane, Madibeng, Mogale City and Rustenburg Local Municipality, provide strong natural structuring and environmental linkages between these areas.

Randfontein town, which lies just south-west of Mogale City, has a strong functional relationship with Krugersdorp/Kagiso, but other than that there is no real integration between Mogale City and areas further south.

1.2 Internal spatial structure

The largest part of Mogale City is rural in nature, with a specific urban concentration in the south-eastern part of the municipality where the municipality interfaces with the Gauteng urban complex. The municipality also comprises the urban-rural transition zones typical of large urban areas. The spatial structure of Mogale City is made up of four major development/use zones, namely –

- The extensive rural environment
- The urban area
- Muldersdrift rural/urban transition zone and future development area
- The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone



The **rural environment** is characterised by the following prominent features: –

- The Magaliesberg and Witwatersberg ranges in the north-western part of Mogale City;
- Concentration of moderate to high potential agricultural land in the north-western and south-western part of Mogale City, the latter forming part of a Gauteng Agricultural Hub
- Nature conservation areas such as the Krugersdorp Game Reserve, Magaliesrivier Conservancy, Hartebeesfontein Conservancy and Lammermoor Conservancy.
- **Rural towns** in Mogale City are Tarlton, Magaliesburg, and Hekpoort, located in the western part of Mogale City. These are generally small settlements that are in essence no more than rural service centres providing a central place service to the surrounding rural and farming communities.

Urban concentration is found in the south-eastern part of Mogale City around Krugersdorp and Kagiso. These areas form part of a virtually continuous band of development from Johannesburg and have strong functional linkages with Johannesburg.

- The Krugersdorp CBD is the main business, social and administrative centre in Mogale City and fulfils a regional function;
- The areas around Krugersdorp are established middle to high income residential areas with the full range of urban amenities, services, and facilities;
- The areas to the south of Krugersdorp, namely Kagiso, Azaadville and Rietvallei (hereafter referred to as the Kagiso complex), are predominantly disadvantaged settlements with more limited access to services and facilities than the Krugersdorp areas;
- The Kagiso complex is physically separated from the Krugersdorp urban areas by an extensive mining belt that runs in a roughly east-west direction through the area. This makes future integration of these areas very difficult, if not impossible; and
- A number of industrial/commercial areas can be found throughout the urban area.

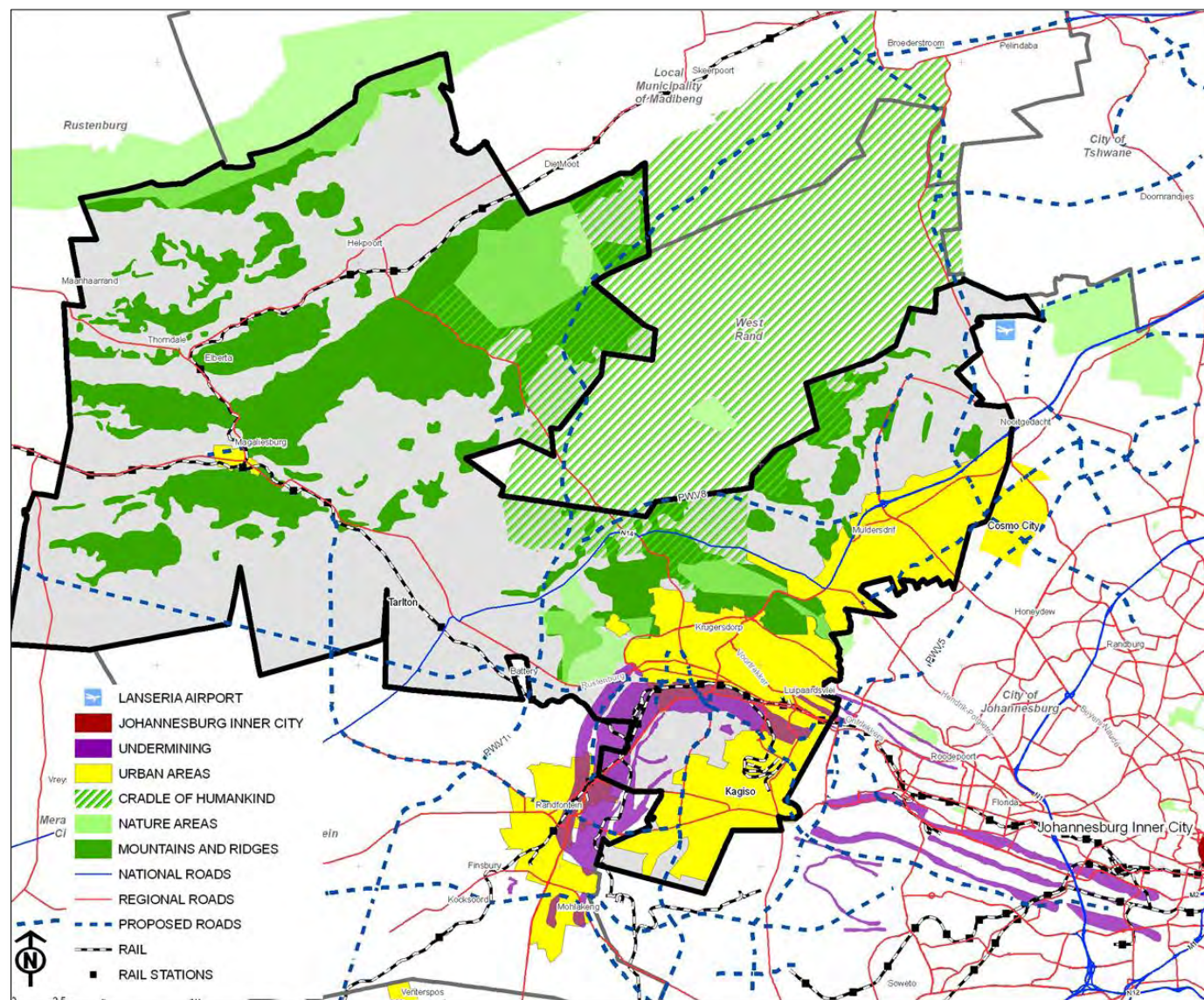
The **Muldersdrift** area lies to the north of Krugersdorp, on either side of the N14. To the east it is bounded by urban development in Johannesburg, while the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage site lies to the west thereof. While on the one hand this area lies in the path of urban development and as such shows the mixed-use typology of a typical urban-rural transition zone, parts of this area fall within areas earmarked for conservation or at least very limited development. The clash between pressure for urban expansion and the conservation requirements results in conflict between the various agencies responsible for planning and development in the area. The Muldersdrift area comprises two nodes, namely the so-called Pinehaven Node at the intersection of R28, N14 and Hendrik Potgieter Road and the so-called Drift Node along the R28 in the central part of the Muldersdrift area.

The largest part of the **Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site** lies in the West Rand District Management Area to the north of Mogale City, but also extends into the western, central, and eastern part of Mogale City.

Major movement linkages are:

Table 7: Key road linkages

Between Krugersdorp and western Mogale City (Tarlton, Magaliesburg and Hekpoort)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N14 • R24 • R562 • R560
Between Krugersdorp and Muldersdrift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R28/N14
Between Krugersdorp and CoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R563
Between Muldersdrift and Lanseria and Cradle of Humankind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R28 • R114 • R51
Between Krugersdorp and Kagiso/Azaadville/Rietvallei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R28 • R558 • M13
Krugersdorp internal linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Broom Drive (east-west) • Rustenburg Road/Commissioner Street/Coronation Road (east-west) • Voortrekker Road (east-west) • Randfontein Road (R41) (east-west) • R28 (north-south)



Map 3: Internal spatial structure