

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

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ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

KZN TRANSPORT PLEDGE ITS SUPPORT FOR TAXIS NOT TO GO ON STRIKE

KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has thrown its full weight behind the decision by the Provincial Taxi Council and Commuter Associations not to take active part in the planned taxi strike by the Transport Alliance. This follows an announcement by the National Transport Alliance for minibus taxis to go on strike next week following their grief against the government Taxi Recapitalisation Programme.

The Department of Transport operates under the mandate of providing safe, affordable, reliable and sustainable public transport system and to further keep to the ideals of defending the weak. Therefore the department fully support the KWANATACO and Commuter Associations for not making commuters a bargaining chip. Members of the taxi council have pledged their support for the well being of the commuters be it scholars, workers and all citizens of our country.

The Department of Transport operates under the open door policy therefore there is no reason for the so called planned strikes. The boardroom is always better than the battle fields. "The taxi industry received an overwhelming support from the commuters during the festive season, now that their bank accounts are full of cash this is how they thank poor communities who might lose jobs and miss valuable classes because of the selfish decisions by the Transport Alliance" said Mbanjwa, HOD Transport.

The National Department of Transport have issued a statement stating that government's taxi recapitalisation process has reached a point of no return and that nothing will disturb its implementation. It is on that score that KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport throws its full weight behind initiatives that are aimed at changing lives of ordinary men, women and children.

Ends

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport

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