

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **MEC CELE HANDS OVER KEYS FOR THE NEW HOUSE TO SHABALALA FAMILY AT ULUNDI**

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Bheki Cele today (25/10/07) handed over the keys to the newly built home for the Shabalala family. Cele, along with various stakeholders, visited the Ulundi area in February this year to discuss safety issues on road P700, and what came out of the meeting was the request for the relocation of Mr. Shabalala's house, which was affected by the road reserve, as well as a request for pedestrian bridges.

The Shabalala house fell within the road reserve, and from the MEC's visit and the assessment carried out by the Department, it was agreed that Mr. Shabalala must be relocated to an alternative site. Mr. Shabalala was subsequently allocated an alternative site by Inkosi Mlaba tribal authority to build the new house. Three local Vukuzakhe Grade1 contractors were invited to tender for this project and the contract was awarded to Nkosi Zulu construction.

The house consists of four rooms - a kitchen, dinning room, two bedroom and VIP toilet. The project construction was worth R 81,128.24 including electrical construction and materials. The project was constructed successfully over a period of 1 and half month and the electricity relocation to the new house is said to be underway.

**"It is our mandate to upgrade and erect rural roads and bridges to ensure the development of our rural people. It is also our mandate to ensure that our people live in safe surroundings. This however should not result in us making our people homeless, thus we deemed it proper to build the Shabalala family a decent home where they will live with dignity",** said Cele.

**ENDS**

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