

DATE: 30 August 2007

PLANS TO UPGRADE ROAD P104 IN GLENDALE-NORTH COAST STILL UNDERWAY SAYS CELE

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Bheki Cele has reaffirmed his promise to the community of Glendale in the North Coast to upgrade road P104. This comes after members of the community raised concerns on the state of the road.

Cele has indicated that the road in question is 42 km long and 21 km of this road is black topped and 21 km is gravel. He indicates that his commitment was realized when the 21 km gravel which was in a bad state was re-graveled with a cost amounting to R5million. In the current financial year, the department is said to have appointed consulting experts to do designs and estimates on a 5 km distance to eventually have the entire road as a black top. The cost to this effect was R2 million. The consultancy is expected to give a report in three months time. Cele further indicated that due to financial constraints further construction to this road will be done in the next financial year (2008/2009) and an estimated 5 km of this road is expected to be upgraded to a black-top and will cost approximately R15 million. According to MEC Cele the entire construction of this road will cost the department approximately R84 Million and is expected to be finished in a period of approximately four years.

“Due to financial constraints the department cannot afford to prioritize one road at the expense of the entire province. Our mandate is not only to upgrade roads but to construct new ones that would give our people access to essential facilities particularly in rural areas. This does not by any means suggest that we are turning a blind eye on urban areas, but it simply suggests that financial constraints dictates that we divide our limited resources appropriately and also prioritize accordingly,” said Cele.

Issued by the office of the MEC

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