



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA
DATE: 19 AUGUST 2008
ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

CATO MANOR AND CHESTERVILLE ASSOCIATION HAS FINALLY SIGNS A PEACE AGREEMENT

KWAZULU NATAL MEC for Transport Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele has commended the Cato Manor and Chesterville taxi associations for finally signing a peace agreement on their operations after a series of meetings with departmental officials in trying to find a long lasting peace solution in the area.

This meeting is subsequent to the ongoing taxi violence between the two associations that has been going on in the area for about five months. The breakthrough follows several attempts the department had tried to intervene including two meetings with MEC Bheki Cele in order to bring peace between the two rival associations.

The essence of an agreement was that both Associations are going to operate within their legal routes i.e. Cato Manor will continue with Nsimbini and Chersterville to operate on Chief Albert Luthuli hospital with restrictions of operating between the hospital and Durban. Both associations restricted themselves to officially operate at Ridge View. Further outstanding operational issues will be concluded through ongoing negotiations.

"Law enforcement has never been compromised in addressing Cato Manor and Chesterville taxi feud however we have been extremely patient in our negotiations with the hope of finding a long lasting peace solution. As from today onwards If the two parties fail to comply with signed agreement by both chairpersons and witnesses, all operations will be shut down and transgress ors shall have all their operating permits and or operating licenses withdrawn by the appropriate authority. Furthermore law enforcement will be maximised to ensure public safety at all times", said Cele

CELE WILL ADDRESS CATO MANOR AND CHESTERVILLE COMMUNITY ON THE TAXI CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE TWO ASSOCIATIONS

Wednesday 20 August 2008- Mkumbane Hall (Chesterville) at 15H00.

Cele is also expected to address the community of Chesterville and Cato Manor at Mkumbane hall in Chesterville tomorrow on Wednesday (20/08/08) at 15H00; this follows instability and acts of violence and intimidation in the area that has led to a number of operators and commuters getting injured and killed. The meeting will also give a way forward to the community in relation to the taxi operations and that their interests are served accordingly.

ENDS

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