



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE: 04 JUNE 2009**

**KZN DOT INTERVENES DECISIVELY IN CLOSING DOWN NONGOMA TAXI  
ASSOCIATION ROUTES WITH THE AIM OF RESTORING LAW AND ORDER**

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele has declared the area of KwaNongoma a transport crisis area and that has led to him closing all routes operated by KwaNongoma Taxi Association.

The Department has made numerous appeals and interventions to the association to cease acts of violence and to observe the process of the law. Obviously these appeals have landed in a deaf ear as the association has continued to be locked in an internal dispute, resulting in both operators and commuters being needlessly killed.

After all these interventions the associations had resolved in doing the following:

**"All members of the association shall ensure that there is peace within the association as well as that there shall be no further killings in the community that are related to the taxi industry. If anyone gets shot in incidences related to the industry then the government will step in."**

**"With all the these barbaric series of event that has resulted in many commuters injured physical and emotional, the Department has seen the necessity of closing all routes operated by this association until such time that public transport is no longer threatened by the prevailing circumstances. The operation will be closed for the period of six months or to an earlier date that the department and I will decide on."**

**Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate**

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa  
Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa  
Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632  
Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za/home.htm>

**The department is committed to defend the weak at all times and will not tolerate anyone who undermines the democratic process that government is building to empower taxi industry," said Cele.**

As a result of further considerations on the practical implications of closing all routes operated by this association a call has been made to all local bus operators to ensure some movement of the members of the public whilst the status quo remains.

***The affected routes operated by the Kwa-Nongoma Taxi Association are as follows:***

**The Conveyance of Taxi Passengers**

- 1) Nongoma to Umkhuze
- 2) Nongoma to Vryheid via Driefontein, Ngomi
- 3) Nongoma to Buxedene via Bhukumthetho, Kwa Nansi, Mvulazi, Nkonjeni
- 4) Nongoma to Pongola via Magut, Nongoma
- 5) Nongoma to Empangeni via Hlabisa, Kwadlangezwa ,Mtubatuba, Mthunzini, Richards Bay
- 6) Nongoma to Nsoko via Banganoma, Dlakuse, Esiphambanweni, Msebe, Ngxongwane, Sovana
- 7) Nongoma to Usuthu via Efefe, Kombuzi, Mahhashini, Manzimakhulu, Majomela, Nlophenkulu, Nqokotho, Thokozane
- 8) Nongoma to Newcastle via Driefontein, Newcastle, Ngomi, Uitregt
- 9) Nongoma to Durban via Eshowe, Gingindlovu, Mandini, Melmoth, Stanger, Tongaat, Ulundi
- 10) Nongoma to Gauteng via Heidelberg, Newcastle, Standerton, Uitregt, Vryheid, Volksrust
- 11) Nongoma to Maphophoma via Dabhazi, Masundwini, Matshamhlophe, Ngolotsha, Shelezagubudu, Vukeni
- 12) Nongoma to Mfolozi via Denge, Mzileni, Manhlanhla, Phangode, Vuna

Ends

**Issued By: Miss Nonkululeko Mbatha - 083 6456 252**

**Advocate Simo Chamane -082 8849 100**

**Office of the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison**

**Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate**

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa

Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa

Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632

Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za/home.htm>