

MEDIA ALERT

DATE: 23 September 2010

TO: All Media

ATTENTION: News Editors / Transport Reporters

MINISTER NDEBELE LAUNCHES TRANSPORT MONTH AT UNDERGROUND TRAIN STATION

The Department of Transport's annual Transport Month Campaign is commemorated during the month of October. This year (2010), the theme for the campaign is, ***"Transport: Moving South Africa to do more together."***

Transport Minister Sibusiso Ndebele will deliver the keynote address at the launch of the 2010 Campaign on Monday, 27 September 2010 at the Bridge City underground train station, still under construction, at the Bridge City Mall at KwaMashu in KwaZulu-Natal. Bridge City is located in the Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu area in the northern region of the eThekweni Municipality. The Bridge City Development on the ± 60 hectare site comprises high density mixed-use development including an intermodal transport facility which includes underground rail link and station being delivered by the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa PRASA.

The Minister will be joined by KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison Mr. W. Mchunu, other Transport MECs', senior Transport Officials as well as various other Members of the Transport Family.

Details of the event are as follows:

Date: Monday, 27 September 2010

Venue: Bridge City Mall, KwaMashu, KwaZulu-Natal

Time: 08h30 for 09h00

In his address, Minister Ndebele is expected to outline South Africa's rail programme, which forms part of the National Transport Master Plan (NATMAP). As part of NATMAP, a high-speed railway network is being proposed. This high-speed rail network includes:

- Johannesburg to Durban;
- Johannesburg to Polokwane;
- Johannesburg to Cape Town; and
- Moloto Corridor.

A High-Speed Rail Committee is being proposed to work on this programme. The only feasibility study that has been completed is the Moloto Corridor at R9.3 billion. The Johannesburg to Durban link is being subjected to a pre- feasibility and later a feasibility study. A financial injection of R98 billion into rolling stock is also being considered.

Other aspects which the Minister will address include the new National Traffic Law Enforcement Plan which comes into effect on 1 October 2010, where traffic law enforcement officers across South Africa will stop and check no less than one million vehicles and drivers every month.

As of October 2010, the education and awareness campaign towards the national roll-out of the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences (AARTO) will also be intensified.

Last year, the launch of October Transport Month on 30 September 2009 was commemorated at Park Station in Johannesburg. Minister Ndebele told the world South Africa was ready for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Indeed, the FIFA 2010 World Cup was a runaway transport success. It cemented a platform for a future based on rail for our public transport and for our economic growth.

All media are invited to attend. Journalists attending must confirm attendance by no later than 15h00 today (Thursday, 23 September 2010), with Sello Tshipi on 073 498 6722 / TshipiA@dot.gov.za OR Mthunzi Mbungwa on 072 645 1792 / MbungwaM@dot.gov.za.

Ends.

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ISSUED BY: MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
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