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## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : 14 MARCH 2015  
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/ EDITORS AND PR WIRE

#### **MEC MCHUNU ANNOUNCES R275-M, 22 KMS TAR ROAD UPGRADE IN EDUMBE**

Thousands of learners from 11 schools in eDumbe, Paulpietersburg, north of KwaZulu-Natal, will be among the major beneficiaries because of easy access to schools with the announcement of a **R275 million** road upgrade from gravel to tar.

This major upgrade of a 22 kilometre road D1880, which is located in the area of oPhuzane in Paulpietersburg, will serve as a major local economy boost with job creation and easy road travel for citizens including school learners and teachers.

Eleven local schools and two clinics (OPhuzane and Tholakele clinic) will benefit as part of this road upgrade project, which will see more than 150 local community absorbed to employment.

Addressing well over 3 000 community members today (14 March 2015), MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, said the investment in road infrastructure in traditional authorities and rural, underdeveloped communities is aimed at bridging the inequality gap in the society, creating jobs and addressing poverty.

"Learners from all across the 11 schools in the area will benefit through the construction of this road (D-1880). This upgrade will improve easy access to education and save kilometres travelled by learners as this will attract safe and reliable public transport system. The investment of more than R275 million in this project indicates the willingness by the KwaZulu-Natal government to intensively drive infrastructure development, poverty alleviation and job creation," said MEC Mchunu.

MEC Mchunu also announced that more than **R488 Million** has been invested in the Zululand District to construct new roads, bridges and maintain the existing infrastructure.

Other projects announced by MEC Mchunu which are currently under construction in eDumbe include:

- Construction of a 14 kilometre P-271, at the value of **R91 million**
- Construction of Msoco local road at the value of **R1.45 million**

ENDS.

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