



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: MONDAY, 20 JUNE 2016  
ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors & PR Wires

### **MEC KAUNDA TO LAUNCH THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO MAJOR BRIDGES AND ROAD UPGRADE IN UMSINGA**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, will tomorrow (Tuesday, 21 June 2016) launch the construction of two major vehicle bridges and road upgrade in uMsinga.

The launch of the three projects is part of improving access for rural communities such as UMsinga to important amenities in the province and continue with infrastructure investment to promote economic growth and job creation in the province.

- **UMsinga/Tugela bridge:** Among projects to be launched by MEC Kaunda is the biggest uMsinga Tugela Ferry River bridge, which will be built near the existing pass-one-car steel bridge on main road P6 linking Greytown and Dundee.  
The new state of the art bridge, will be constructed at an estimated cost of R91 million and will be a double carriageway, and will also accommodate pedestrians. The old existing bridge is now declared a heritage site and will in future only be used for pedestrians.  
Motorists had to experience delays, because the existing structure only allows one vehicle at a time and with the increase in vehicle population, including heavy vehicles, a new bridge was needed.
- **Mahlaba / Buffels River Bridge:** MEC Kaunda will also launch the construction of the Mahlaba bridge. The need for this bridge was identified in 2012 when eight (8) Isikebhe community crime fighting members were ambushed, on their mission to recover their stolen live stock. Police also experienced difficulties as criminals were using the nearby bushes to hide the stolen live stock. The R13 million vehicle bridge will increase access and allow police to function effectively in the area.
- **Main road P280:** The 50 kilometres-long road will connect Tugela Ferry and the small town of Weenen. The first phase of construction has already started.

#### **Details of the event:**

**Date:** Tuesday, 21 June 2016  
**Time:** 09h00

**Venue:** Walk about on road P280  
**Time:** 10h00

**Venue :** Sod turning of P6 Tugela Ferry bridge  
**Time:** 11h00

**Venue: Sod Turning of Mahlaba bridge**

**Time: 12h00**

**Venue: Main event at eCwaka, Msinga**

Media are invited to attend and report on the three infrastructure projects.

ENDS.

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