



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: 04 February 2016  
ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors

### **MEC MCHUNU TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY GATHERING IN GREATER NEWCASTLE TO REPORT BACK ON MEASURES TO BRING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE TAXI INDUSTRY.**

THE KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, will address a community imbizo tomorrow (Friday, 05 February 2016), as part of reporting back to the people of Greater Newcastle on efforts made by the Government and the taxi industry in stabilizing the industry after years of violence and blood-shed.

The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public of the milestones and the signing of cooperation agreements that have been achieved following series of talks and negotiations.

These agreements have paved the way for all the five associations in the area to peacefully work together and within the law in servicing the community, thus ultimately ending the conflict.

This move follows marathon of meetings, including signing cooperation agreements with other long distance associations and neighbouring provinces as part of ending the conflict that has claimed the lives of more than 14 lives since 2009 and had escalated to Gauteng.

Taxi operations were disrupted on numerous occasions after a conflict broke amongst Newcastle taxi associations, resulting in stoning of some vehicles and blockading of the road and therefore leaving commuters stranded with no transport. This conflict also placed the lives of commuters in danger.

After numerous engagements between MEC Mchunu, Santaco, Newcastle Municipality and the local political leadership, a mutual agreement was eventually reached by all parties concerned and new rank management system has been introduced.

### **DETAILS OF THE PUBLIC MEETING:**

**Date:** 05 February 2016  
**Venue:** Phelandaba Sport Ground, eMadadeni, Newcastle  
**Time:** 09:00 am

Ends.

### **Media contacts:**

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