



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: 04 April 2017

#### **MEC KAUNDA PLEASED WITH PROGRESS IN TROUBLED ESHOWE**

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda is satisfied with the progress Umlalazi Municipality is addressing the concerns raised by the community, which resulted in a week-long public protests.

The violent protests brought the small town in the northern KwaZulu-Natal to a stand-still. Kaunda and the local leadership visited and introduced the contractor to the community.

Key among the complaints raised by the community is the removal of the contractor appointed to upgrade the King DiniZulu Bus Route after failing to meet stipulated deadlines. Other issues the community has raised include lack of refuse removal and illegal dumping sites.

Today, the MEC and the leadership of the district and local municipality held a follow up meeting to assess the progress made since last week.

Kaunda said he was pleased that the contractor has been appointed and allocated a period of three months to complete the work. Yesterday, the contractor was introduced to the community of King Dinizulu Township and committed to finalise the R18 million project by the end of June.

In terms of the refuse collection, the municipality has increased the number of open skips in the township and identified illegal dumping sites. "We have been given an assurance by the municipality that they will work with the local councillor to develop a programme to clean illegal dumping sites," said Kaunda.

Kaunda thanked the local leadership for cooperating with government by restoring calm in the area as their grievances are still being addressed.

He also appealed to the members of the community to ensure the contractor does its work without any hindrance. Police will also continue to maintain high visibility in the area until we are satisfied that there is peace and stability in the area, said Kaunda.

ENDS.

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