



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: 25 OCTOBER 2017  
ATTENTION: EDITORS and NEWS EDITORS

### **KWAZULU-NATAL GOVERNMENT DECLARES WAR AGAINST CRIME AND ROAD FATALITIES THROUGH MASS MOBILISATION ACROSS DISTRICTS**

The KwaZulu-Natal provincial government led by Premier Willies Mchunu, has called for all road users, including motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, to prioritise road safety and unite in collective action to end the scourge of road crashes and fatalities as well as killings in the province.

Premier Mchunu was commenting today (Wednesday, 25 October 2017) after conducting road safety activations in uThukela District where he is also serving as the district champion.

All Members of the Executive Council (MECs) today had similar activities in what has been dubbed as the day of "mass action" in KwaZulu-Natal to prevent the increasing scourge of road crashes and fatalities.

This show of force and strength is part of a series of engagements by the provincial government to promote interaction with various stakeholders and communities to educate citizens about safety on the road and in communities.

The programme seeks to link safety issues with day to day running of the Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) programme.

The activities which were undertaken in all districts include the multi-disciplinary road blocks, which were presided by MEC champions, visits to schools to assess matric examination, Siyahlola campaign to assess road and public transport infrastructure projects and the visit to assess the functionality of police stations.

These activations are part of the October Transport Month Programme and a strategy to escalate to the highest level issues of safety on the road and in communities.

Early this month MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda tabled a report to the Provincial Executive Council, which revealed that 24 people had died on provincial roads in a period of 24 hours.

These alarming statistics, after thorough engagements, resulted to the provincial executive deciding that mass action and intensified visibility of leaders and law enforcement officers is needed in all districts to create awareness and amplify road safety education.

Commenting during the roadblock in Ennersdale road in Estcourt, Premier Mchunu, commended all members of the provincial executive council, HoD champions and Mayors, for their dedication in ensuring a successful programme today, saying government must take a lead in road safety matters.

"Today's engagements were a demonstration that government is taking the lead and an indication of our political will and commitment to end the scourge of road crashes and fatalities. In light of the recently released crime statistics, it is therefore important to combine efforts in fighting crime and fighting lawlessness on the road. As a society and across sectors, we need to stand-up and join hands in the fight against all ills in society.

Road crashes and crime are a menace to the society, which require law enforcement agencies, communities, civil society and all stakeholders to work together with determination and common purpose. The message in today's activities was clear and was felt in all corners of KwaZulu-Natal. As a province we continue to take a zero-tolerance approach to lawlessness, both on the road and in communities," said Mchunu.

The provincial government has vowed to continue intensifying enforcement operations and increase visibility, which is accompanied by mass media messaging and sustained engagements with the public.

#KZNroadsafety

Ends.

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