



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

COMMUNICATIONS

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MEC KAUNDA LAUNCHES PROVINCIAL OCTOBER TRANSPORT MONTH PROGRAMME IN INANDA

Inanda, Ethekewini – KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mxolisi Kaunda, together with the Mayor of Ethekewini Metropolitan Municipality, Cllr. Zandile Gumede, officially kicked-off the annual October Transport Month's provincial programme on a high note in Durban with a line up of activities, supported by various transport stakeholders.

Focusing on the government's socio-economic transformation programme, which targets sectors including women, youth, people with disabilities as well as military veterans, Kaunda said government should drive transformation with steadfastness.

"As a developmental government, we should be steadfast and decisive when we drive socio-economic transformation. This entails driving direct beneficiating programmes, from across government spending areas, which target sectors such as women, youth, people with disabilities as well as military veterans," said Kaunda.

He added that the department's pothole patching programme, launched in Inanda, addressed these specific sectors. Already, in the R45 million pilot project, 10 emerging contractors from Ethekewini local communities are participating.

Kaunda also expressed his jubilation as this year's transport month coincides with the celebration the centenary of the birth of struggle stalwart, the late former President of the African National Congress, Oliver Tambo. President Tambo, the longest serving president, counts amongst the luminary heroes and heroines of the Struggle for Freedom and Democracy, which ushered in the South African democratic dispensation in 1994.

The October Transport Month 2017 began with a monitoring programme (Siyahlola) of the massive, state-of-the-art main road P577, otherwise known as Dumisani Makhaye Highway, which stretches from the N2 and connects Phoenix, Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu to Clermont and Pinetown.

"The road construction project is nearly completed after a massive R1.3 billion, stretching from Duffs Road to KwaDabeka, for a total of 14.8 kilometres and is a dual carriageway. This project will indeed improve the lives of people and has created many job opportunities," said Kaunda.

Kaunda also outlined the programmes for the rest of the month, aligned with the national vision, focusing on service delivery across roads infrastructure, transportation services, traffic law enforcement and road safety

activities to curb road crashes and fatalities.

He urged law enforcement officers to deal harshly with any form of lawlessness and desist from taking bribes as it escalates corruption and contributes immensely to the loss of lives on the roads.

“We should change our road user behavior, attitudes and mindset, to turn the tide against the road carnage. Our multi-disciplinary law enforcement plan has already started, and will take us through to the festive season and beyond. We will also continue with our road safety educational programmes working with all our strategic stakeholders throughout various sectors of our society. We urge all road users to be vigilant and obey the rules of the road, precisely to ensure that we save people’s lives. Let us all work to end this carnage,” said Kaunda.

Ends.

Media contacts:

Mluleki Mtungwa 0609741140 mluleki.mtungwa@kzntransport.gov.za

Nathi Sukazi 0810180518/ Nathi.Sukazi@kzntransport.gov.za

Kwanele Ncalane: 0728031462/ 0796995755/ Kwanele.Ncalane@kzntransport.gov.za

Website: www.kzntransport.gov.za

Twitter: @KZNTransport

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kzntransport