



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday, 02 August 2019

MEC KAUNDA CALLS ON COMMUTERS AND TAXI OPERATORS IN ESTCOURT TO RESOLVE TAXI FARE INCREASE AMICABLY

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda has condemned the illegal protests that have resulted in the closure of R103 at Estcourt north of the province yesterday (01 August 2019).

Reports indicate that commuters staged an illegal protest following a taxi fare increase effective from the 1st of August.

Kaunda has condemned the blockading of roads and urged commuters and taxi operators to resolve the impasse on taxi fare increase amicably. He has also called on taxi associations in the province to ensure that a thorough consultation with commuters is conducted before fare increases are implemented. "I have been pleading with taxi operators throughout the province to ensure that taxi fare increases are discussed with commuters through the transport and commuter forums," said Kaunda.

He also warned members of the public who embark on illegal and violent protests to desist from such behavior. "A right to protest is guaranteed in the Constitution. However, when we exercise this right, we must not violate the rights of others who are not part of the protest. If people want to raise genuine grievances, they must follow proper channels before embarking on any destructive behavior, said Kaunda.

Police are maintaining a strong presence in the area until the situation returns to normal.

ENDS.

Media contacts:

Mluleki Mtungwa: 0609741140 / Mluleki.Mtungwa@kzntransport.gov.za

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

Website: www.kzntransport.gov.za

Twitter: [@KZNTransport](https://twitter.com/KZNTransport)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kzntransport