



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 7 February 2019

MEC HANDS OVER CONTRACTOR TO COMMUNITY TO BEGIN WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MULTIMILLION RAND ROAD IN UMSINGA

The KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr Mxolisi Kaunda (07 February 2019) officially announced and handed over Xmoor Transport (Pty) Ltd to the community of KwaKopi, a company that will commence with the construction of 3.3km of P6-3 in uMsinga.

This road is an economic hub linking Greytown, Tugela Ferry and Dundee. It will enable an easy access for the local businesses traversing between these three towns. It is estimated to be valued at an amount of R126.1 million over a period of eighteen months.

Government has committed to ensuring that 35% of the total value remains with the local businesses, therefore more than 30 local companies will benefit from this road. Of the total value of the budget, fourteen companies will come from grade 1 and will share R2.8million, six from grade 2 will share R3.9 million, seven from grade 3 will share R7 million and three from grade 4 will share R12 million.

Furthermore to this beneficiation, 308 jobs will be created for the local people and 20 youth will receive training through technical skills transfer in the construction of this road. A further 20% of the programs will benefit the youth, 30% is set for women, 5% for the disabled people and 10% to go to the military veterans.

MEC Kaunda applauded the community of uMsinga for their patience and said that even though it is election period this does not prevent government from bringing service delivery to the people. He indicated that the department awarded the tender in December 2018, a period where a lot of companies are on recess, hence the announcement of the contractor is done today.

"I would like to thank the community for their patience on awaiting the department on awarding a contract for the

construction of this road. We are also aware that this is a sensitive period of elections but that would not prevent us from fulfilling our service delivery mandate as government. This road started during the 2016/17 financial year and it is envisaged that it will be completed during the 2019/2020 financial year. With its vast geographical landscape, the department is committed to providing and improving the road network in uMsinga. We are adamant and head strong about implementing the 35% of the Radical Economic Transformation, we want to transform this industry such that the emerging contractors fully participate in the economy and create jobs for our communities”, said Kaunda.

Kaunda assured community members that no member of the community will be employed based on their political affiliation. He sent a stern warning against those who are exercising this practice to refrain or face the full might of the law. He urged members of the community to report any suspicious practices that may hinder progress in the construction of the road. He further urged community members to safeguard all the infrastructure and refrain from damaging it when participating in service delivery protests.

Ends.

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