



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Monday, 23 September 2019

### **MEC NTULI CALLS FOR TASK TEAM TO LOOK INTO THE ERECTION OF VISIBLE ROAD SIGNAGE ON MAGASA ROAD FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF SEVEN PEOPLE**

Pietermaritzburg - The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Bheki Ntuli, has called for the formation of a task team comprising of officials from the Department of Transport and Ethekwini Municipality to look into measures that can be implemented to improve road safety on Magasa road, KwaXimba near Cato Ridge following the death of seven people in a horrific crash on Friday afternoon (20 September 2019).

Preliminary reports reveal that a driver of an articulated horse and trailer with two concrete rollers lost control and crashed onto a light delivery vehicle and a Mazda which were moving into the opposite direction resulting in a fatal crash that left seven people dead. Of the three occupants of the truck, the driver passed on upon impact, one passenger succumbed to injuries last night and one escaped unharmed but received treatment for shock and was released. In the bakkie, which had six occupants, four died on the scene, one succumbed to injuries and passed on in hospital and one is critical but stable in hospital. The driver of the third vehicle was travelling alone and he escaped with mild injuries and he was discharged last night from hospital.

MEC Ntuli accompanied by the Mayor of Ethekwini, Councillor Mxolisi Kaunda and a local councillor on Saturday morning visited the areas where the crash took place and also received a briefing from the investigating officer from SAPS on the information that has been gathered regarding the crash. It was also discovered that the road had no signage and guardrails and both the MEC and the Mayor committed to working together in ensuring that the road network in that area receives urgent attention.

This is the same road that claimed the lives of seventeen people in 2017 in a gruesome crash. Ntuli also took time to visit the survivors in hospital to check on their progress and wished them a speedy recovery. He further instructed officials from his department in collaboration with The Road Accident Fund to assist the families of the deceased with burial arrangements.

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“Upon inspecting the road where the crash occurred, it was evident that the road needs urgent attention to erect signage and guardrails. Thus, a team needs to be set up to look at what measures can be implemented. An intersection that has a taxi rank, police station, shops and municipal offices in one vicinity requires all means of safety to be visible. We will work closely with the office of the Mayor and the local leadership to address the safety challenges in KwaXimba”, said Ntuli.

MEC Ntuli called upon all law enforcement agencies to deal harshly with those who break the laws. Traffic officers have been dispatched throughout the province to deal with all forms of lawlessness throughout the weekend and beyond.

ENDS

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