



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA ADVISORY

13 October 2020

MEC NTULI OPENS NKONGOLWANE RIVER BRIDGE IN VRYHEID AND INSPECTS P34/3

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Bheki Ntuli, officially opened the Nkongolwane River Pedestrian Bridge in Vryheid today, 13 October 2020, under the Abaqulusi Municipality and proceeded to inspect the multimillion-rand P34/3 road rehabilitation project, which is a strategic economic route for the province.

In line with the October Transport month's theme: "Together shaping the future of Transport", the department seeks to ensure that it continues to provide transport infrastructure to rural communities hence the continuous roll-out of projects intended to improve the standard of living for citizens in the province particularly those living in rural areas.

The construction of the Nkongolwane pedestrian bridge commenced in May 2019 and was completed in September 2020 at an estimated cost of R 2.623 million, excluding design and supervision fees. The newly constructed infrastructure will serve the local communities and provide safe access to schools for learners.

"Our key target is to provide safe crossing to learners attending schools adjacent to areas that are prone to flooding and crocodile infested rivers. Communities will also benefit in accessing important service delivery centres. This project will compliment other plans such as provision of learners transport to ensure that learners are able to reach school on time and safely," said MEC Ntuli.

To commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child, four female learners from Shongololo Secondary School spent the day with MEC Ntuli during the October Month activities to learn more about the transport sector and construction industry. The learners also accompanied MEC Ntuli during a multi-disciplinary law enforcement operation in Hlobane, outside Vryheid. During the law-enforcement operation, MEC Ntuli urged motorists to exercise extreme caution on the road and obey traffic regulations.

"We will be intensifying our road safety campaign throughout October Transport Month because we want to drastically reduce road crashes and fatalities. We are constructing roads and upgrading our roads to connect communities, so that they can access schools, clinics and economic opportunities. I was disturbed by the fact that 22 people died on our provincial roads this past weekend, therefore we will be intensifying our road safety campaigns to ensure that we reduce road carnages," said MEC Ntuli.

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