



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Media Advisory

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MEC NKONYENI COMMENDS THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE POLICE AND COMMUNITIES WHICH RESULTED TO THE RECOVERY OF A HIJACKED STATE VEHICLE WORKING ON FLOOD PROJECTS

The MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Ms Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni, has commended the working partnership between the community and the police which resulted in the recovery of a departmental vehicle.

The departmental technicians were hijacked yesterday at uMlazi when they were returning from work in one of the flood damaged projects. The team was working on road L1159 outside uMlazi.

The incident took place at the Shell Garage at KwaMuthwa outside uMlazi, when a departmental Ford Ranger double cap (KZN 13445) was hijacked by suspects.

A case was opened at uMlazi V police station. The Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) members working on a tip off, managed to recover the vehicle at eFolweni area, where it was abandoned. The vehicle was no longer in a drivable condition, however, was towed to the pound.

Commenting on the discovery of the vehicle, MEC Nkonyeni expressed appreciation to members of the community and the police.

"We commend the members of the public who helped law enforcement locate and recover the state vehicle. The bravery of our RTI officers working with other law enforcement agencies is noticeable. This shows that if communities and the police work together, we can fight and defeat crime and criminals. Car theft is one of the most serious crimes and we must all work together to defeat it. The state equipment and personnel belong to the public and they must protect these assets for us to continue with service

delivery. We still want to see the perpetrators who are terrorizing the community brought to book and we urge our staff to be vigilant,” said Nkonyeni.

Currently, the departmental teams are hard at work, collaborating with other spheres of government as part of the recovery and reconstruction plan to rebuild KwaZulu-Natal.

Yellow plant and departmental personnel from other parts of the province have been assigned to assist the flood ravaged districts including eThekweni Metro, Ugu, Ilembe and King Cetshwayo districts.

The Department has well over 1 369 road infrastructure projects affected by the recent floods and requires an estimate of R6.3 billion to repair the damage and restore safe connectivity in the province.

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