688 RTI and Operation Shanela teams deployed across the province to ensure safe and efficient movement of six million voters and election officials to 5028 voting stations: Duma says this deployment was also made taking into account the possibility of road rage and traffic-related altercations due to heightened political activities and contestation.

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma.

03 November 2026

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: We wish to inform the people of KwaZulu-Natal that as part of ensuring safe and efficient movement of voters and elections officials, we have deployed 688 Road Traffic Inspectorate and Operation Shanela officers.

Our dedicated officers will ensure that there is safe and efficient movement of six million voters and elections officials who will travel to 5028 voting stations.

Critically, we made this deployment, fully aware that road rage and traffic-related altercations during election periods may escalate due to heightened political activities and contestation.

Deployed throughout the province, this team of dedicated officers will therefore ensure that we have a secure voting environment.

The team will execute the **#NenzaniLaEzweni** operation and focus on the following: -

- Unauthorized road closures: Disruption of traffic and road closures by unauthorized individuals will not be tolerated and will be dealt with swiftly;
- Traffic congestion: Monitor traffic flow - respond to hotspots and ensure visibility by patrolling major access routes;
- Voting stationery transportation: Working with municipal traffic departments, our RTI and Operation Shanela Teams will provide escorts to SAPS and IEC officials where necessary;
- Enforcement: There will be enforcement of traffic laws and promotion of road safety.

Flowing from above, we appeal to motorists to be patient and slow down near voting stations because of expected heavy foot traffic.

Critically, we wish to advise motorists and voters to allow additional travel time in order to avoid speeding and road crashes.

Some of the areas that will receive attention are the following: -

- N2 Pongola to Nyoni
- N2 KwaDukuza to Umgababa
- N3 Van Reenen to Bergville

- N11 Newcastle to Ladysmith
- R102 Empangeni to Gingindlovu
- R618 Mtubatuba to Nongoma
- R33 Greytown to Msinga
- R74 Bergville to Winterton
- R56 Richmond to Kokstad
- R617 Merrivale to Underberg
- R61 Margate to Port Edward
- R602 Dundee

Ends.

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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