

Historic and first-of-its-kind Transport Indaba to take place on 1 -2 October 2026: Duma has announced the hosting of this gathering involving international, national, provincial and local key stakeholders

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

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Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: As indicated during the presentation of the Budget Speech last week, we wish to announce that planning meetings have begun to ensure that we host the most successful Transport Indaba on 1-2 October 2026, during Transport Month.

This gathering, which will be held at Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, forms part of the implementation of the Ten Point Plan we announced last week.

KwaZulu-Natal occupies a strategically significant position within South Africa's transport and logistics network, serving as a key economic gateway through the Port of Durban, major freight corridors, and an extensive provincial road network that supports trade, tourism, and rural accessibility.

This positioning places considerable demand on the province's transport infrastructure, requiring continuous investment, maintenance, and optimisation to sustain economic performance.

However, the transport sector is currently confronted with a range of systemic challenges, including increasing maintenance backlogs, declining road network conditions in certain areas, capacity constraints within freight and passenger systems, and the growing impact of climate-related risks on infrastructure resilience.

These pressures are further compounded by rapid urbanisation, rising freight volumes, and the need to modernise public transport operations.

The Indaba will serve to interrogate current transport challenges, explore innovative solutions, strengthen institutional coordination and align infrastructure investment priorities with provincial and national development objectives across the road, rail, maritime and aviation sectors.

The gathering will also focus on strategies required to support trade, logistics, industrial growth, energy transition, and climate resilience.

Critically, the platform is further intended to strengthen institutional coordination, promote policy coherence, and unlock opportunities for collaboration and investment within the transport sector.

Through structured engagements and thematic discussions, Indaba will contribute towards shaping a more resilient, efficient and sustainable transport system that supports long-term economic development and improved service delivery outcomes within the province.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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