



PART III

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REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Section: 1

INTRODUCTION



Head of Department
Dr. Kwazi Mbanjwa

INTRODUCTION

T

he financial year 2003/2004 was dominated by the reflective mood associated with the celebration of “Ten Years of Democracy” in South Africa. For the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport, ten years of democratic government was captured in the theme “Ten Years of Prosperity – Prosperity Through Mobility.”

There can be no doubt that since 1994 the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has consistently and diligently fulfilled its social contract with the citizens of KwaZulu-Natal. The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport is strongly committed to the principles of participatory democracy and people centred development. This commitment is integral to the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Roads Act. Our mission to be a cost efficient and cost effective service provider is premised on the fact that our public are customers who have, through their taxes, prepaid us for our services. They are entitled therefore to a Department that is easily accessible, easily understandable and user friendly. This belief is the basis on which we have restructured the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport to bring customer needs and customer satisfaction into sharper focus.



A MANCO meeting in progress

Essentially our challenge as the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has been to:

- address the network inequalities that arose during apartheid through separate development and, at the same time, maintain the established road network at an appropriate standard
- reallocate public transport subsidies which had previously been administered not so much as a subsidy to transport the public but as a subsidy to reduce the costs of workers travelling to industrial centres
- regulate the minibus taxi industry which caters for more than 65% of the daily mobility needs of the public
- address the fact that our rate of accidents and road related fatalities is unacceptably high
- address the normalisation of the construction industry

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Since 1994 the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has systematically increased its budgets and increased the percentage of budgets spent on actual services to the public. So much so that the proportion of our transport budget now spent on personnel overheads is less than 22,2% of our overall budget. The downsizing of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has been accomplished within a process to right size the Department by increasing the number of professional staff in key public interest portfolios such as the Road Traffic Inspectorate, Road Safety, Economic Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation (Zibambele), Public Transport, Freight Transport and the regulation of the taxi industry. It should be noted that no staff were retrenched during the restructuring process.



HOD with 2003 /2004 Road Traffic Inspectorate Recruits

A review of our performance, this financial year, provides compelling evidence that we have been able, as a Department, on an annual basis, to:

REVERSE THE SPATIAL INEQUALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH APARTHEID AND SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT

- Our One Stop Shops are now fully operational in all regions of KwaZulu-Natal. Our budgets and business plans are compliant with our objective to redistribute services to achieve equity
- 450km of local road constructed under our Community Access Roads Program
- 224km of gravel road constructed under the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) program to provide access to voting stations
- 32km of blacktop road constructed under our African Renaissance Road Upgrading Program and our Four Cities Road Upgrading Project
- 22km of other roads upgraded

I N T R O D U C T I O N



One of the Departments success stories: Obivane River Bridge.

- 11 new bridges and major box culverts constructed
- 62 causeways constructed
- 674 098 m² of blacktop road resealed
- 545 524 m² of blacktop road light rehabilitated
- 244 471 m² of blacktop road heavy rehabilitated
- 1 190 km of road regravelled

CREATE AN AFFORDABLE, EFFICIENT AND SAFE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE

- KWANATACO registered as a public entity and its business plan supported by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport
- Taxi owner and taxi driver training program piloted at Nqutu
- Launch of eThekweni Metropolitan Transport Authority, South Africa's first Metropolitan Transport Authority
- Launch of Durban Transport with taxi industry and workers as major shareholders
- The introduction of a social responsibility RDP clause in bus subsidy contracts resulting in significant outreach programs to upgrade community schools
- Cargo tricycles piloted under the auspices of our African Renaissance Road Upgrading Program

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CREATE A SAFER ROAD ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL ROAD USERS



'Launch of Umthandazo Womhambi Ngezinyawo (Pedestrian Prayer).

- 1 500 religious leaders attend interfaith Road Safety workshop
- Tens of thousands attend interfaith Road Safety Prayer Days
- Child in Traffic expanded to 1 200 schools, 4 800 educators, 600 000 children
- Pedestrian safety programs launched in high risk areas
- The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport hosted the National Driver of the Year competition
- More than 100 000 heavy duty freight vehicles weighed for overloading
- KwaZulu-Natal Freight transport databank established
- Intelligent road studs piloted
- Reduction in collisions involving minibus taxis and buses
- Road fatalities during December 2003 holiday period reduced by 17,95%

CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW MARKET ENTRANTS AND NORMALISE THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004
ENCOURAGEMENT OF BEE BUSINESS			
Number of contracts to BEE	12 585	13 969	15 226
Total value of contracts to BEE	298 million	406 million	649 million
% of total contracts to BEE by value	38%	49%	58%
Value of Vukuzakhe contracts	105,4 million	171,3 million	317,8 million

- Vukuzakhe contractors organised into associations to elect the Vukuzakhe Provincial Council
- Introduction of program to create experiential learning opportunities for S3 technical students
- KWANATACO registered as a public entity

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ALLEVIATE POVERTY



HOD & Head: Strategic Planning with proud Zibambele contractors in traditional attire

- More than 17 000 Zibambele contracts awarded
- Zibambele contractors organised into Savings Clubs
- Launch of Zibambele training program
- Labour intensive task based road construction program piloted
- A labour based road construction program targeting the employment and skilling of youth piloted

CONSULT COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS TO STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AT ALL LEVELS OF SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY

- Re-elections held for 31 Rural Road Transport Forums (RRTFs)
- Project Liaison Committees elected for all African Renaissance Road Upgrading Program (ARRUP) projects
- Ongoing consultation with 34 Community Road Safety Councils (CRSCs)
- 31 Vukuzakhe Associations formed who elect the Provincial Vukuzakhe Council
- More than 350 Zibambele Savings Clubs formed
- 252 Taxi Associations formed who elect KWANATAACO

Since 1994 the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has systematically created new policy frameworks to guide the delivery of services in such a way that sustainable transformation towards a more equitable dispensation is achievable within reasonable timeframes. Despite heightened political tensions, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport was able to successfully fulfil its mandate in this financial year. This augurs well for the future.



Auditor-General (Mr B R Wheeler) handing over the Performance Audit Report to the Head of Department (Dr K B Mbanjwa)

INTRODUCTION

MANAGEMENT



Top Row from left to right: Mr Wally Bennet, Mr John Kapueja, Mr Simphiwe Nkosi, Mr Dumisani Ximba, Mr Rob Tarboton, Mr Bongsi Gcaba, Mr Chris Stretch, Mr Athol Moore

Middle Row from left to right: Mr Mossie Mostert, Mr Pat Dorkin, Mr Sinethemba Mngqibisa, Ms Bathandwa Nogwanya, Ms Thoko Mabaso, Ms Sue Grobbelaar, Mr Gavyn Wirth, Mr S'bu Gumbi, Dr Simon Oloo

Front Row from left to right: Mr George Mahlalela, Mr Chris Hlabisa, Ms Vicky Cunliffe, Dr Kwazi Mbanjwa, Mr Roger Govender, Mr James Mlawu, Mr Wayne Evans

Inserts from left to right: Mr Mawande Jubasi, Mr Siphwe Majola, Rev Themba Vundla, Mr John Schnell, Ms Jabu Bhengu, Mr Nirdesh Bhikshu