



**PRESENTATION NOTES BY KWAZULU-NATAL MEC FOR TRANSPORT,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON MR. BHEKI CELE DURING THE
LAUNCH OF UMSINGA ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CLUSTERT ON FRIDAY 17
OCTOBER 2008.**

All Protocol Observed.

- The KZN Department of Transport is committing to invest about R83 million in the next two years to deal with the service delivery challenges in Wards seven, eight and nine of Umsinga Local Municipality.

- The projects that have been identified are as follow:
 - Lathantshawo Local Road. This is a 7 km road to be constructed at an estimated cost of R4,5 million.
 - Mnyanyathi Local Road which is 5 km long and will cost approximately R3,2 million.
 - Hlomela Local Road which is 4 km long and will cost approximatley R3,1 million
 - P17 Ngubevu Bridge which is 180 m long over Tugela River. This will cost about R21 million. The construction work will commence in January 2009 and will be completed in June 2010.
 - Esenyane Local Road which is 15 km long and will cost about R22 million
 - Gudwini Local Road which is 9 km long and is expected to cost R13 million.

- Hlolokwakhe Local Road which is 6 km long and will cost about R9 million.
 - Nombava Local Road which is 4 km long and will cost R6 million.
- Upon completion of these access roads, communities will be able to access schools, clinics, hospital (Church of Scotland), police station, agricultural farming sites, pension payout points etc.
 - Sick and or deceased locals are carried for long distances in order to obtain medical attention. Now minibus taxis, hearses and ambulances will be accessible to a greater number of people.
 - I am pleased to announce that some of this investment will go to our Zibambeke contractors who will maintain these roads. During the 2008/2009 financial year, we invested R543, 150 in 1207 Zibambeke contractors within Umsinga. During the 2009/2010 we intend to invest R663, 300 in 1 340 contractors.
 - These contractors have formed their saving clubs and to date they have formed 35 saving clubs that have saved R225, 631. During the next financial year, the number will increase to 47 saving clubs.
 - When we had house to house visits in Ward 8 recently, the following households were found to be ideal for the absorption to Zibambeke Programme:
 - House No. 1 – Shelembe family along District Road 1268.
 - House No.2 – Mchunu family along District Road 1268.
 - House No.3 – Dlamini family along D1268.
 - House No. 4 – Mvelase family along D1268
 - House No. 5 – Ngubane family along D1268

- The following households are Child-headed households, whom these children are dependant on neighbours and or relatives for domestic commodities (survival) and other necessities.
- However they pursue their studies at Grade-12, and their curriculum consist of Maths and Science – such that it was felt that the DOT could see if it could intervene in providing bursaries to these children in order to prepare for Civil Engineering career path.
- These child-headed households are as follows:
 - House No. 1 – Mchunu for S'thembile doing Grade 12, with (M & Sc.)
 - House No.2 – Dlamini for Sakhiseni doing Grade 12, with (M & Sc.)
- In conclusion, I want to emphasize that when we bring these projects we do it for people irrespective of which political party they belong to. We must take politics out of this poverty alleviation programme. Contractors must be identified and selected on the basis of poverty in their community.
- Finally, may I take this opportunity to congratulate the community of Umsinga on all road and bridge projects they have received and yet to receive.

I thank you