



MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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Media Statement

Thursday 12 May 2016

N12 closed between Bloemhof and Christiana due to protests

Motorists traveling between Bloemhof and Christiana are cautioned and advised to use alternative roads due to the closure of the N12 following community protests.

The community of Bloemhof went on a rampage last night blockading the road. It is alleged that the community is complaining about lack of service delivery and none response of their memorandum delivered to government.

According to SAPS and Traffic Authorities on site, three trucks were torched and two bakkies were involved in an accident trying to avoid the mob which thrown them with stones. No injuries reported so far. Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane condemns the violent protest and encourages the community to engage government and the Municipality peacefully as violence can never be the solution or option to their plight.

Torching and destruction of property is condemned at all costs and will never be tolerated in a democratic country, communities have the right to a peaceful demonstration. Every person has the right to move freely and use our roads which should not be taken away by anyone.

We advice the drivers using the N12 road to be very careful and to use alternatives roads and cooperate when they are redirected by Traffic Authorities,+said Dr Motlhabane.

Traffic and Police Authorities have identified an alternative gravel road which has a smaller bridge that can only allow one vehicle to cross and plead with our drivers not to speed, to be patient and give each other a chance to cross the small bridge.

Law Enforcement Agencies are monitoring the situation and motorists would be informed when the road has been opened.To report bad driving, accidents and other unlawful acts, please contact our **Call Centre on 0800 204 992.**

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