

**Keynote address by Community Safety and Transport Management  
MEC, Dr M.N. Motlhabane during the Provincial launch of October  
Transport Month; Mmabatho Stadium Parking; Mahikeng; 13/10/17**

Executive Mayor of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality

Executive Mayor of Mahikeng Local Municipality

MMC's present here

Provincial Commissioner of SAPS in Bokone Bophirima and  
Management, Lt General Baile Motswenyane

Head of Department, Mme Botlhale Mofokeng and senior managers

Officials from different sister departments

RTMC and all Law enforcement agencies

Taxi council Chairperson and taxi operators

Bus Operators Association and Bus operators

Baruti le Ba Efangeli ba dikereke tse di farologaneng

Bareri le Baeteledipele ba dikereke tse di farologaneng

Ba etletsi mmogo gotswa RAF

Baagi le Phuthego ka kakaretso

Nte ke lo dumedisa mo leineng la bagaka le digatlhamela masisi tsa kgaratlho le kgololesego ya rona ka kakaretso. Ke boe ke lo dumedise mo leineng la ba ba tsetsweng ka kgwedi eno ya Diphlane jaaka bo Desmond Tutu, yo o neng a tshwara mengwaga e le 83 maloba jaana. Ke lo dumedise gape mo leineng la mopresedente yo o neng a okame lekoko le legolo la go lwantsa kgatelelo le bosemorafe mo aforika borwa la African National

Congress, ebong Oliver Reginald Tambo yo o ka beng a na le dingwaga tse 100 mo kgweding e no.

A ke tswelile jaana ka go leboga Mmopi ka dipula tse re di amogetseng mo dikarolong tsa Porofense ya rona ya temo, leruo le meepo ya Bokone Bophirima le Naga ka bophara. Go a bonala fa dithapelo tsa rona di utlwagetse kwa Magodimong, ke ka moo pula ya kgogola mmoko ya tshimololo ya ngwaga wa mo Aforika e neng e tsidifatsa lefatshe, le go re gopotsa go iketleetsa setlha se sa kuno le kgora.

Fa e ka tswelile jaana, mme e seka ya senya jaaka go diragala kwa Kwazulu Natal, re ka bona lehuma le tlala di fokotsega thata.

**Program Director note that,**

This year 2012 marks the twelfth (12th) year since the October Transport Month was agreed by Cabinet and started in 2005.

The purpose of the October Transport Month campaign is and will always be to showcase transport infrastructure services. This is the flagship program of the Department of Transport that provinces must drive and implement without fail on yearly basis. Its focus is across all modes of transport; namely, aviation, maritime, roads and rail including non-motorised transport. It's about bicycles, donkey/horse carts, about motor bikes and motor cars, about buses and trucks and is also about trains and trams as much as its about ships and aeroplane. everything that moves and delivers people and goods from one place to another.

The OTM campaign also advances the country's road safety initiatives. This includes the 365-Day Road Safety initiative in line with the United Nations Decade of Action. This 2011-2020 focused campaign is aimed at reducing road deaths across the world by half at the turn of the decade. Our as a province must be to ensure that we play a significant role in that clear call by the United Nation. Our

contribution to reducing death on our roads, reducing accidents and injuries on our road must be seen and realised as well.

### **Motsamaisa Tiro itse fa;**

Baruti le diphego tse di ka kwano ba tsile fa go thankgolola letsholo le la kgwedi ya Dipalangwa, kgwedi e moAforika Borwa, motsoga pele a e bonetseng kwa pele, a e bitsang kgwedi ya diphallane. Ke a solofela gore bontsi jwa rona batswana re a itse gore ke ka eng motsoga pele a neng a e bitsa Diphallane. Go nne ke ka yone kgwedi e fa Diphalla ditsalang kayona.....

Mme ke ikutlwa ke segofetse thata gompieno go simolola letsatsi le baruti le dikereke tsa etsho ka dithapelo. Dithapelo tse di lebaganeng le go ikuela go Mmopi le motlhodi wa rona go re sireletsa le go re re babalela kgatlhanong le dikotsi tsa tsela ka kakretso. Bogolo segolo go re kgontsha yo tla dikotsi tse di tsayang matshelo a rona. Merapelo ya mesong wa gompieno e ne e re kopela gore dikotsi tse di tlisang bosula le loso mo malapeng a rono di fokotsege thata. Bogolo segolo jaanong gonne re lebile setlha se se masisi sa bofelo jwa ngwaga se atamela jaana.

Re a dumela gore Kereke e tshameka karolo e botlhokwa mo go fetoleng maitshwaro a setshaba sa rona. Gore re bone poelano, pholo le ntshafatso, Reconciliation, Healing and Renewal ke fela fa re bitsa Baruti le Badumedi gore ba kope Mmopi a tsereganye mo seemong se se etegelelang sa dikotsi tsa tsela. Ke ka moo re le Lefapha re boneng go le botlhokwa go nna le kgolagano le tirisano mmogo le baruti, di kereke gore badumedi ba re golanye le modimo mo tirong ya rona. Tirisano mmogo le tsamao mmogo e e tsamaisana sentle le maona wa puso ya Bokone Bophirima fa e bua ka "SaamWerk SaamTrek".

## **Program Director;**

As a country we come from far, and when we remember where we come from and far we have come, it makes us realise how fortunate we are to have freedom fighters such as the late Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Oliver reginald Tambo, Moses Kotane, JB Marks and Chris Hani our struggle heroes and martyrs.

Tambo was born in the NKantolo village outside Mbizana in the Eastern Cape on 27 October 1917, this meaning that he would have been turning 100 years old in the next two weeks, had he continued to live. Fortunately on that day me and you will be celebrating his live in yet another flagship departmental program, here in Mahikeng, that day.

Fa mokgatlho wa ANC o tshimolola, Baruti le Dikereke di tshamikile karolo e kgolo. Ke ka moo Bangwe ba baeteledi pele ba rona e ne ele baruti jaaka bo Chief Albert Luthuli, bo Moruti John Langalibalele Dube, Bo Frank Chikane, bo Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu, Reverend Zaccheus Richard Mahabane.

Ladies and gentlemen, those are just a few of those religious leader who led different denominations and religious organisations to play a critical pillar of civil society, as they make a meaningful impact in shaping societal behaviour and attitudes.

Ladies and gentlemen, the active involvement of the church and the interfaith movement during the struggle years galvanized the whole of society and ultimately led to the freedom and democracy that we are commemorating its 23<sup>rd</sup> this year.

Religion was very instrumental in bringing to existence this liberation that we all now enjoy today. Throughout history, the church had a critical role in correcting the injustices in society.

The significant role played by the church in liberating South Africa is alive and it remains a constant reminder to us that the church will always have a role to uphold the moral compass of a nation's soul.

### **Program Director;**

Due to high number of accidents and road fatalities that we continue to experience on daily basis, I am appealing to all the leaders present here to apply their minds as to how best they can contribute to road safety campaigns and I believe that our gathering here today is one of those divine interventions.

Religious leaders more than any other sector understand how serious the crisis. I am saying this because, everyday you pray at funerals of victims of road carnage. I am appealing to you to go beyond your responsibility, which is to bury the dead. Am appealing to you to assume the responsibility of not only counselling the bereaved. But to use your pulpit and church sermons to preach the gospel of road safety, preach against bad road behaviour and call upon God the almighty to cease this road accidents, especially loss of live.

We need to encourage all road users to take full ownership of the problem of aggressive behaviour and reckless driving practices, so that they can be part of the solution to modify the behaviour and attitude of all road users.

### **Program Director;**

Transport is the heartbeat of any country's economy. Its networks are the blood veins that connects every part of the body as well as brings life to every part of one's body. Without these veins, these transport networks moving people to the workplace and goods to the marketplace may not be possible. Meaning, if the transport sector fails, the whole economic system collapses because goods and services cannot be moved and people cannot get to their places of work to generate economic activity that so vitally contributes to our economic growth of the country.

As team transport, our fundamental task is to improve access to economic opportunities, social spaces and services by closing geographic distances by providing affordably, reliably and safe transport at all material times.

**Program Director allow me to go a little bit deeper in the subject and say;**

If we are to reposition this province as an economic hub we must all acknowledge there are established economic centres throughout the province.

Vryburg is still the Texas of South Africa due to its beef production and exportation. Mogwase remains a Tourism hub due to the Suncity hotel, Pilanesburg and other resorts. The Maize triangle starting in North West produces most grains produce like maize and barley. Orkney and Stilfontein are known for producing gold whereas Rustenburg and Brits are having a lot of Platinum.

Lo and behold, our villages too; Kraaipan and Lotlhakane have opened mines and Taung is to follow soon.

**So;**

If the Millennium goal is to be achieved our contribution is also necessary

Let's do something about the railway lines that are lying fallow without being used.

Our roads are full of trucks. Our airports are basically used for passengers in the main. We are unable to tap on the maritime economy embedded in our many rivers and dams like Taung and Hartebeesspoort Dams which are only used for leisure and recreational purposes.

Let me also express some kind of pride about us as Bokone Bophirima.

If this VTSD initiative was championed 30 years ago, SAB would not be in Johannesburg but in Taung where it ploughs its barley and transport it to Gauteng to be processed into beer.

Equally AngloGold would be somewhere in Klerksdorp where the gold is, where the mines are.

AngloPlat will be in Moruleng, where Platinum is harvested.

Ritebrand and Bullbrand that packages beef will be somewhere between Huhudi and Ganyesa, not in Gauteng, where beef is farmed.

But of course the October Transport Month is about Road Safety Campaigns in the main let me remind you that the OTM programs are supposed to promote the use of public transportation. The month must be dedicated to road safety strategy. It's expected to place appreciation of transport as the major vehicle for economic activity. As well as locate transport as an integral part of socio-economy activism in more ways than one.

The mandate of this department, as enshrined in the NDP is; 'to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation' in order to enhance mobility of communities and goods so that business operations and labour force can remain active. This way the triple challenges of poverty, joblessness and inequality that has bedevilled our communities in general and worse, our villages, townships and small dorpias (VTSD) in particular could be reversed.

The October Transport Month (OTM) was first officially launched in October 2005, to raise awareness about the importance of transport in the economy, as well as to invite a broader participation from civil society and business to partner the department.

The program highlights the need to provide a safer, affordable, accessible and reliable transport system for the community and business.

The following comprises the objectives of the October Transport Month:

- To ascertain roadworthiness of public transport vehicles on all National, Provincial as well as Municipal roads by stopping and screening public motor vehicles.
- To distribute promotional material with road safety messages and interact one on one with passengers, taxi and bus drivers at all planned operations.
- To realise the reduction of accidents in general but also fatalities and injuries related to public and private transport in particular.
- To inculcate good road user behaviour and encourage voluntary compliance through communication tools and engagements of the public by the Road Safety Directorate
- Promote use of public transport and especially non-motorized transportation as a preferred mode of transport.
- Solicit views and opinions of the transport providers and users as to how transport provision can be improved.
- Raise awareness about the important role and benefit of public and freight transport in the economy and society at large.

### **Program Director; In closing**

Let the death of those lost in road crashes not be in vain!  
Let their deaths open our eyes to protect those who are living!  
And to protect the future of this country!

To all the drivers present today, please acknowledge that your behaviour and conduct are the major causes of most road crashes and fatalities.

Remember: Speed kills; Drunk driving kills; Driving without a valid driver's licence kills.

To the pedestrians present here, you must know that jay walking under the influence of alcohol is the major contributing factor to deaths on the roads.

A bodibana jo bo jeleng ngwana waga mma ke bo kakologe

Mekgatlho ya dipalangwa e e ka kwano a re gaseng molaetsa o wa go kgweetsa ka pabalasego.

Balaodi pharakano ba ba ka kwano le lona fela jalo thusang go gagamatsa letsogo la molao gore bagaetsho ba tlwaele go obamela melao yotlhe ya tsela.

Pabalesego e tla pele.

Ke a leboga.