



DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO CREATE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDE EFFECTIVE TRANSPORT SERVICES



“Let’s Grow North West Together”

Editorial Comment



**Acting Director:
MS YVONNE MAQOBOZA**

It is with great pleasure to request your indulgence once more in our second edition of Mopalami Newsletter for the year 2022. Our objective amongst others is touching base on service delivery activities.

Our responsibility as the Department is to create safer environment for our communities to feel safe whether at work, home and in the streets as outlined in the National Development Plan 2030 and further provide effective, efficient and economical transport services.

We are living in different times, where one must learn to adapt and adjust to the new normal of co-existing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Wearing of face masks at all times is something that was never part of our dress code and to most people they don't find comfort in it but as the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management and the enforcers of the law, we must lead by example, adhering to COVID-19 regulations at all times. Recently, President Cyril Ramaphosa relaxed some of the regulations and wearing of mask is no longer compulsory when outdoors, the country welcomed this with a sigh of relief. We almost forgot how a smiling face looks like in real life.

Recently our Province was covered by a dark cloud, we experienced a great loss as sadly the carnage on our roads continued when nineteen people perished on R34 whilst enroute from Bloemhof to Schweizer-Reneke, in a horrific head on collision between a taxi and a truck. Fourteen of the deceased are from one family while other five are from another families. MEC Sello Lehari heartily sent condolences to the bereaved families and thanked all those that worked tirelessly during that fateful night.

The nation is about to enter into the highly anticipated Easter holidays' period and our department is preparing for annual Easter operations across the length and breadth of the Province.

Men and women in blue and beige will be working day and night, since travel restrictions have been relaxed, religious denominations will be gathering within the confines of the adjusted COVID-19 regulations as gazetted. Tourists will be enjoying our beautiful Province, others coming home for deserved holidays, while others in transit to various destinations. We expect a sizeable increase in traffic volume.

MEC Lehari led the Pre-Presidential Imbizo activities in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, engaging with Ward 09 community in Danville and conducted a door to door in Unit 2 Mmabatho noting issues of service delivery as a build-up to a very successful SONA Presidential Imbizo.

Department had series of events which were successfully attended by officials and different stakeholders. Wellness unit hosted STI & Condom week combined together with Gender Based Violence "GBV" campaign. Prayer session was to boost the morale and uplift the spirit of employees and Chaplain Cynthia Reetseng wished all employees a successful 2022. Special Program unit also held numerous sexual harassment workshops to educate employees about professionalism and the pros and cons of utterance of words and behavioral factors in the workplace.

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Community Safety and Transport Management
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MEC Lehari reports back to Monakato Community on police station issues



Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Sello Lehari engaged with the leaders of the Monakato Community to provide feedback regarding the Monakato satellite police station. The engagement was a follow-up from a meeting that was held with the community in October last year.

The community of Monakato previously complained and requested that the satellite station must operate for 24 hours, increase police officers and vehicles.

MEC Lehari reported to the community that 15 officers have been deployed with one vehicle from the beginning of March this year.

"The satellite will end up operating with 17 police officers with two vehicles. This is the only satellite police station that is operating with these numbers of officers," said MEC who appealed with the community to also work with the police. "We can only win the fight against crime when we work together," he concluded.

The South African Police Service Acting District Commissioner Brigadier Mamotsamai Ntoagae confirmed the permanent officers who have been deployed at Monakato satellite police station.

"They will combat and prevent crime. We still have shortage of two members, the vehicle and this will be shortly addressed," said Brigadier Ntoagae who confirmed and assured the community that the satellite has started operating for 24 hours.

She also inform the community that they are in a process of recruiting 35 recervists who will go under training and later be able to come and increase the manpower to the station to fight crime in the area.

One of the community members in Monakato Mr Elias Motshegwa appreciated and welcomed the intervention. "We are satisfied and happy that government has heard our complaints," said Motshegwa.



Road Safety is everyone's responsibility



Road users in whichever form or shape all have a responsibility to adhere to the rules of the road and make safety a meaningful habit. These are the sentiments shared by stakeholders at a Road Safety Campaign event in Mathibestad under the Moretele Local Municipality.

The campaign which dubbed *Hashtag Play Your Part* is an initiative of the Transport Education and Training Authority (TETA) and Re Tshepeng in conjunction with the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management seeks to encourage road users to exercise caution on the roads at all times and to practice patience which will in turn reduce the number of incidents and fatalities.

Road users are urged to make changes in their daily commuting such as avoiding driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, to always buckle up, ensuring that vehicles are road worthy and not texting while driving.

“Motorists, pedestrians must remember that safety always comes first, before you engage in reckless behaviour behind the wheel or not, be responsible and be sober minded. During the Easter period we see a spike in incidents caused by drinking and driving as well as people driving without licenses and unroadworthy vehicles.

“I would like to caution each and every one of us not increase fatality statistics unnecessarily so, let us make safety a habit. We look forward to working together with all our communities and to teach children in our schools how to be safe at an early age,” said the Bojanala District Traffic Manager, Control Makie Madoda.

Since its establishment in December 2021 the campaign has seen more and more stakeholders come on board to adopt road safety as a shared responsibility.

“If road safety was to be announced like Covid-19, we would realise that it is a pandemic in the sense that people die on the roads every day, people would be more aware of the dangers of ignoring road safety.

“Therefore we support such campaigns and also call out to other stakeholders to be more involved in this cause. We have adopted schools in the Moretele area so that we extend our mandate, we also provide workplace experience in the form of learnerships so that they advance their careers, so we are serious about development within the transport sector,” said the CEO of TETA Ramodise Tsholo.



Elements of criminality disrupts provision of learner transport in NW



Learners from rural areas across the Province are being disadvantaged seemingly by elements of criminality in the North West Province. The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management currently provides scholar transport services to learners of 314 schools across the province. It has come to the attention of the department that a number of incidents where service providers appointed to transport learners in rural areas are continuing to experience vandalism of their buses, allegedly by the communities or learners.

Recently, learners from Willow Park in the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality have been frustrated by these unfortunate acts. This as a result of a number of incidents where buses of the service provider were vandalised, diesel stolen and the driver held hostage at gun point.

The service provider was recently appointed by the Department as a means of intervention after the initial service provider had abandoned the project. A case of damage to property and theft was opened at the Lehurutshe Police Station and investigations are currently underway.

"Learners were left stranded after the initial service provider abandoned the project. It is reported that the community and some learners forced the newly appointed service provider to stop their service," said the Director



In Derby, the Department is currently intervening as the learners from Lesele Secondary School are not being transported after the community and learners allegedly vandalised the bus and threatened to kill the driver. These reportedly took place after the other service provider had also abandoned the service.

Another unfortunate incident took place in Lodingale High School in Delareyville. The learners broke windows and removed chairs when the other service provider's bus got stuck.

In Khuma it is alleged that a certain group who call themselves business forum are demanding the service providers 30 percent from their contracts of service.

The Departmental MEC, Sello Lehari is pleading with communities and learners across the Province to work with the Department, Department of Education, School Governing Bodies (SGB's), and principals to avoid and do away with these criminal elements that are disrupting the transportation of their learners to school.

“It is the rights of our learners to receive the best education and it is therefore our responsibility to protect and ensure that our learners are being transported to school without any disruption.

“We continue to intervene in every challenge that we encounter at different schools and dealing with these challenges as and when they come.



The unfortunate part is that our learners will suffer while the challenges arise.

“We are committed to resolve every challenge that our schools and service providers continue to experience, however, we also need to work together with our communities to safeguard a bright future for our learners,” said MEC Lehari who also appealed to service providers to honour contracts that they have signed with the Department.

He also added that some service providers are problematic and are at some point contributing to the challenges that are being experienced, emphasising that the department will be left with no choice but to take legal action against them.



Crime Prevention Initiatives: The Fight against GBV&F

Gender Based Violence & Femicide (GBV&F) remains one of the most prevalent forms of crimes countrywide. In 2019 President Cyril Ramaphosa expressed the country's commitment to address the scourge; the pronouncement was followed by an approval of legislation aimed at improving efforts to end GBV&F officially into law in 2022. The latest quarterly crime statistics indicate that murder and rape continue to plague small and informal communities. The figures also reveal that to a certain extent, creating awareness through campaigns makes a huge difference.

In the North West Province, the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management has escalated efforts by bringing together various stakeholders to fight the scourge.

The MEC, Sello Lehari has made a commitment to improve integration through a coordinated multi disciplinary approach in order to achieve a greater safety and security impact.

“As part of the 'Pillars of the National Crime Prevention Strategy' the department will continue to mobilise communities to participate in crime prevention initiatives. Community mobilisation will be strengthened through assistance in re- establishing Community Safety Forums (CSF); assessment as well as training and development.



“In addition, we have implemented the Court Watching Brief programme which aims to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice process. Through this programme, the Directorate for Civilian Secretariat for Police monitors cases brought to court which will then reduce the number of service delivery complaints received as a result of police inefficiencies,” said the MEC.

In the 2021/2022 financial year, there were a number of multi stakeholder campaigns across the province. The broader idea focuses on raising awareness on GBV&F by educating the public, particularly women and children on various options available to them in a situation where they are at risk of violation, as well as measures to take after the fact. The Director for Crime Prevention and Partnerships Directorate, Florence Nchoe highlights that there is great significance in the formation of crime prevention stakeholders to collaborate in fighting crime.





"Each district has a unique make up of crimes; however GBV&F remains consistent throughout. In Bloemhof for instance, our research indicates that rape/ sexual assault and murder are a sore thumb. Therefore, following the Deputy Minister of Police, Cassel Mathale's visit in 2020, commitments were made and so we are following up on those as well as adding on to plans which were already in place.

"The latest campaign in Bloemhof included direct engagement with surrounding communities. The formation of crime prevention partners jointly reach out to communities to educate them about GBV&F as well as to provide assistance in cases that require intervention.

"Our work in different communities also allows us to identify areas where there is a need to implement the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Letsema. The programme has been rolled out in all districts, through the Debushing Letsema, we are able to limit crime opportunities by de-bushing and clearing potential crime hotspots because it focuses mainly on areas which are neglected yet people still use as shortcuts," said Nchoe.



The Bloemhof Police Station has a dedicated GBV Desk and as a result some trends linked to the crimes are now become easier to identify.

"What we have come to note is that, many of the assaults reported are influenced by alcohol and drug usage. Therefore our efforts also include fighting the root cause, to engage with communities and businesses regarding this matter.

"Working with the department on diverse campaigns is an indication that we are making progress, we are happy with the turnout and responses to those campaigns by the community. We also believe that a turnaround in crime is guaranteed through these efforts," said the Station Commander, Lt Col Jones Lerata Oliphant.



Department to sustain local businesses by 30 days payment compliance

The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management is committed to the adherence of the 30 day threshold to process and finalise payments of businesses working with the department. The MEC, Sello Lehari says the department has already been making strides to reach that milestone.

“In our plight to refine the way we do business with service providers we have made significant progress. I am happy that in the third quarter we have recorded 96% progress in the payment of services as well as payment of 93% of claims received.

“We can do better and we are well on our way to ensure the compliance of Treasury Regulation 8.2.3, which essentially compels departments to process payments within the given period of 30 days after the invoice has been submitted,” said MEC Lehari.

The MEC also encouraged service providers to do business ethically and to educate themselves on guidelines of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA).

“Doing business is a two way process, meaning there is not only an exchange of goods/ services but an exchange of good practice. Business must also do their part and ensure that they comply with PFMA meaning that tax records, trade licences and permits are updated accordingly.

“Invoices must be submitted correctly and on time to allow payment to be processed without unnecessary delays, therefore if we work together we can achieve the 100% goal that we have set for ourselves,” added the MEC.

The province recently held a Provincial Treasury 30 day Creditors Payment Intervention Programme which is a platform that allows government to engage directly with service providers to deliberate on challenges they might have and empower them with information and support such as registering on Central Data Base, as well as the significance of documents necessary for tax compliance and business legitimacy.



Schools in Ramotshere Moiloa receive new scholar patrol uniform



Bakwena as the donors of the uniforms believes in empowering schools along their route for the end goal of promoting responsible driving. The CEO Solomon Kganyago says there has been some fatal incidents on the N1N4 Toll route.

We have made it our business to ensure that road users are aware of possible threats to road safety, that means scholar patrol learners must be visible at all times. By so doing we are eliminating at least one risk to people's lives.

“The schools selected are those situated between the border of our neighbouring county Botswana and right through the last intersection of this municipality,” he said.

Eight schools along the N4 in the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality have received new scholar patrol uniforms; it is to allow them to be more visible on the road as they slow down traffic near schools at peak hours. This will go a long way in reducing the number of fatal incidents that happen on the route given the high volumes of traffic on any given day.

Learners from the schools were thrilled with excitement during the handover event where they showcased their new gear and could not wait to execute their official duties. This was made possible by an initiative of Bakwena in collaboration with the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management as well as other stakeholders in the transport fraternity.

Scholar patrol is one of the oldest road safety programmes which started merely as children helping each other to cross the road and has now evolved to an effective programme that requires all stakeholders to play a role.

According to the The Ngaka Modiri Molema Road Safety Manager Valencia Jonathan, road safety in the decade of action is more than just an extra- mural activity.

“Scholar patrol grooms learners at a young age to be more responsible, they have a duty to ensure a smooth flow of traffic in order for children to safely cross the road and make it to school without any hindrances.

““They are already exposed to making wise and timeous decisions are courageous and therefore we as the advocates of road safety need to provide them with all the support they need in order to execute what is expected of them,” she said.

The principal of Bosugakobo Primary School, Maropeng Mothata is very humbled by initiative because of the change it will bring in the safety of the children in the community.

“We are grateful as a school for being selected together with others particularly because we have experienced a lot of challenges with regard to accidents happening right in front of our school, which is a traumatic experience also for the children and it impacts teaching and learning negatively.

“We have a high enrolment of learners and because they have to cross the road from as early as 07 o'clock in the morning, that will now be easier to manage more especially that more formations have come on board such as the taxi association, which has committed to help us slow vehicles down and allow the safety of children to take priority on the road,” he said.

Other schools which benefited from this initiative are:

Renonofile Primary School,
Dikhudu Primary School
Moreotsile Primary School
Garaosenye Primary School
Keobusitse Primary School
Bosugakobo Primary School
Ikalafeng Primary School
Monnamere Primary School

#StaySafe

Departmental year opening prayer session

Hymns of rejoice and praise filled the Unibo Chapel as the department held its first prayer service with employees and various interfaith communities.

The main objective of this prayer was to restore hope and pray for comfort, healing, good health, marriages, families, workplace, road safety, gender based violence, femicide, community safety and crime prevention.

Whilst delivering a powerful sermon, Chaplain Cynthia Reetseng declared the year 2022 as that of success and good health for all officials and those in attendance especially while we are living in times of the Covid-19 pandemic.

She further encouraged the compliance of Covid-19 regulations, wearing a mask, maintaining social distance and getting vaccinated to combat the pandemic, this will assist the country to get back to normal and to open up for economic growth and more opportunities.



Department observes STI-Condom week



The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management in partnership with different stakeholders held Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) – Condom Awareness Week and Gender Based Violence (GBV) Campaign recently at departmental head office in Mahikeng.

The day kick started with a fun walk around Mmabatho, where a number of officials and stakeholders participated, holding placards written 'Stop Gender Based Violence' and 'Condomise' to prevent STI and HIV & Aids related illnesses. The intention was to spread the message as far and wide as possible to the public in order to build a healthier and safer lifestyle for all.

"The purpose of the day was to observe STI and Condom Week as it was started from the 12th - 16th February according to the National Health calendar.

Through this campaign we create awareness about the dangers of unprotected sex, we create a platform where people can be open and honest about their lifestyles,

it is also an opportunity to learn from others because we want people to be open about these things so as to do away with the stigma attached to the illnesses.

"The (GBV) campaign formed part of the program of the day which is also a pandemic on its own that despoils our country, where we see women and children's rights violated daily. We must feel safe and protected amid our fathers, brothers and uncles and everyone in the streets with no fear for our lives," said the Integrated Employee Health and Wellness, Deputy Director in the department Ms Innocencia Selomame.

Part of the day activities included presentations from the Department of Health, civil organisations, Lifeline for vaccination education, screening and testing of communicable diseases, including the Department of Correctional Services.

Staff Workshop on Sexual harassment in the workplace



Creating a safe environment that protects and promotes the human dignity of all employees, one which is not intimidating, hostile or offensive is of great significance to the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management.

This includes encouraging appropriate relations between employees in the workplace as well as external stakeholders through the implementation of the sexual harassment policy. The Special Programs unit, carries the mandate of ensuring that the staff is made aware of acceptable employee conduct.

This is done through a series of workshops that are currently underway throughout the province. For the benefit of employees, the workshop outlines clear definitions of proper and improper behaviour and conduct.

It also highlights a process that allows employees to follow in order to report possible cases of sexual harassment or unwarranted behaviour. Furthermore, the policy determines appropriate recourse for the victim if the alleged perpetrator is subsequently found guilty.

The department believes that the attainment of substantive equality can only be achieved if the rights of both men and women are promoted and protected equally and that no one is subjected to sexual harassment. It therefore commits itself to effective implementation of measures to eradicate sexual harassment.



TAXI Relief fund

The taxi relief fund one on one session with Minister Fikile Mbalula which took place at the All Seasons venue in Mahikeng.

The programme is initiated by the National Department of Transport and the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management . Santaco and National Taxi Association (NTA) from the regions of Ngaka Modiri Molema, DR Kenneth Kaunda and DR Ruth Segomotsi Mompati and Bojanala were part of the engagement.

The relief fund provides a once off ex gratia payment of R5000.00 per valid operating licence, to qualify for the fund the taxi owner should have a valid operating licence as at 26 march 2020.

Minister of transport Mr Fikile Mbalula was accompanied by MEC Sello Lehari , Section 100 Administrator Mr Mokonyama and Santaco CEO Mr Tladi.

The session allowed the associations to express their issues and experiences they encounter on their day to day business.

Key to that, taxi owners pleaded that the permit qualifying date should be extended because it puts pressure on them to meet the deadline.

During the session it was announced that the cabinet has approved the extension of the Taxi Relief fund to March 2023.

Taxi operators must use the following information to begin the application process:

- Website: www.transport.gov.za
- Call Centre
- Toll free: 0800 201 971
- SMS: 45864



Minister of Transport
FIKILE MBALULA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT TO AID THE TAXI INDUSTRY THROUGH THE

TAXI RELIEF FUND

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Door to Door with MEC Lehari



NORTH West Community Safety and Transport Management, MEC Sello Lehari continues to engage Mahikeng residents on a buildup campaign of the SONA Presidential Imbizo

MEC Lehari has started with the door-to-door visits at Unit 2 in Mmabatho where he listens to the residents on issues of service delivery.

He explained to the residents on the objective of the visit and engagement prior to the Presidential Imbizo.

Mr Kgosietsile Sehularo one of the elderly residents told the MEC that most of the households occupants are elderly women and security remains a challenge to them.

"There are serious security issues here seeing the bushes around and this place has now being turned into a drug nest," said Mr Sehularo who told the MEC about his dissatisfaction with the local municipality.

He said they have written several complaints to the municipality but they have never received even acknowledgement on receipt of such complaints.

MEC Lehari said the Department will engage different Departments and stakeholders to conduct campaigns in the area and profile the households.



MEC Lehari meets with Danville Community



Communities are the main beneficiaries of government services and it strives hard to deliver quality services that uphold dignity of its people as well as change their lives for the better.

Recently, the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Sello Lehari embarked on numerous interactions with Mahikeng communities to lend an ear and get a clear sense of their service delivery challenges. The direct engagement with MEC Lehari was part of build up activities to the Presidential Imbizo.

The MEC visited Danville, ward 9 in Mahikeng to interact with various stakeholders such as business people in the area, members of the interfaith and community members. Issues which took prominence were prevalence of drugs use mainly by young people, poor condition of roads, poor schools infrastructure, high crime and unemployment as well as very little police visibility in the area.

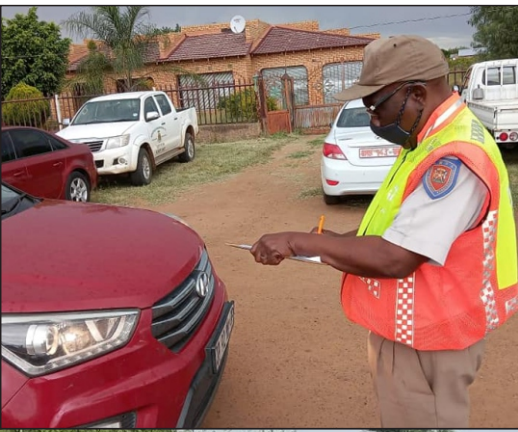
“All your concerns and challenges have been noted and we can guarantee that we intend to respond swiftly and accordingly to ensure that this area is prioritised in our planning for the coming financial year. MEC Lehari responded during the community interaction which took place at the Faith Mission church in Danville.

MEC Lehari further elaborated that the Presidential Imbizo is a fundamental platform that provides each and every member of the community an opportunity to raise concerns and recommendations directly to the President Cyril Ramaphosa, Ministers, Premier, MEC's, Mayors and Traditional Leaders so that government can improve its services at a level that meets the demands and needs of the people accurately.

In response to the complaints the Acting Head of Department, Mr Molefi Morule appreciated the residents for their honest participation.

“We appreciate your participation especially that you raised serious challenges that affect you on a daily basis. We will work hand in hand with other stakeholders and the community of Danville to improve service delivery in this area,” said Morule.

Behind the lens



ALERT LEVEL 1
South Africa remains on Alert Level 1
 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2022:

Gatherings

- With proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity and no upper limit on numbers
- With no proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity, with an upper limit of 1,000 indoors and 2,000 outdoors
- Social distance of at least 1 metre between people, except at schools
- Masks must be worn for all indoor gatherings

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Vaccinate against COVID-19

To speed up the vaccination process, you can register by:

- Using the online registration platform available on the SA Coronavirus website
- Dialling *134*832# and registering via USSD
- Sending the word "register" via WhatsApp to 0600 123 456
- Calling the national toll-free call centre on 0800 029 999, where somebody will help you to register and answer any questions about the vaccination rollout

You can also go directly to your nearest vaccination centre.

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KEY SAFETY CHECKS



TYRE TREAD

Rather than waiting until the tread reaches 2mm, consider replacing the tyre once the tread reaches 3-4mm



TYRE PRESSURE

Correctly inflated tyres will enhance the performance and handling of the vehicle



WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Poor wheel alignment will adversely affect tyre wear, vehicle handling and fuel economy

Department of Community Safety and Transport Management



MEC Sello Lehari

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Department of Community Safety and Transport Management



COSATMA

Call centre number

0800 204 992

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