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Provincial Department of Community Safety & Transport Management

A Quest to Restore Normalcy and Services Back in Ramokokastad



"Together we move North West Province forward"

RESTORING NORMALITY AND SERVICES BACK TO RAMOKOKASTAD



Romokokastad community in the Moses Kotane, recently braved the cold rainy weather conditions to declare their unequivocal intentions of rebuilding their village following protests and unrests that span over a period of six months. For some time, since June 2018, the village was declared a 'no-go-area' as a result of the spades of violence that prevailed. These ravaging acts of rage resulted in the torching of all three schools, a clinic and houses of targeted individuals.

As a result, government services were effectively withdrawn as officials feared for their lives in the area. Community members were forced to travel more than 40-50 km to access government services. The North West Premier, during the introduction of the Administrator for the Tribal council in October 2018, made call to government departments to intervene and start bringing services to the village. The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane, deemed it fit to lay the foundation by bringing together all the stakeholders to address the concerns around safety and security.

"It all starts with safety, normality then stability must prevail. We need to rebuild the relationship among the community members. We must restore communities and the police relations. We must bring all the stakeholders to work together again. We are here to witness for ourselves that things are gradually coming back to normality in Ramokokstad. Fear, crime and violence is no more." Said elated MEC Motlhabane.

The initiative is part of the Department's activation 2019 February safety month which is geared to mobilize communities to integrate in a fight against crime. Dr. Rantsane, THE Tribal Council Administrator, committed that more government departments and all government services were expected to be restored back into the village.

LACK OF RESOURCES AT POLICE STATIONS, CONCERNED-MEC MOTLHABANE



MEC MOTLHABANE INTERACTING WITH SAPS MEMBERS

Police officers on duty at Mogwase and Sun City police stations were caught by surprise when the Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Mpho Motlhabane visited the stations unannounced. The unannounced visits which were intended to assess the level of service delivery provided by the stations and compliance were part of the MEC's activities during the official launch of the Safety Month.

On his assessment, MEC Motlhabane found that there were serious challenges of resources and non compliance of members on duty. Upon arrival at the Mogwase police station, MEC and Departmental officials found the police casually standing outside not wearing their protective gears (bullet proof vests).

While the MEC was making analysis, departmental officials examined the overall compliance of the station. At the station's Community Service Centre (CSC), an officer on duty was attending to a few community members who came to lay charges and complaints. Officers on duty expressed their concerns on lack of resources prohibiting them from executing their jobs efficiently.

The shift on duty only had two vehicles which are not enough for the station that serves more than 32 scattered villages. In his address to the officers on duty, MEC Motlhabane encouraged them to wear their bullet vests at all times to ensure their safety. "The bullet vests are designed for your own protection. Therefore you must always be ready for anything that can happen," he said.

However, MEC expressed his gratitude to the officers for remaining on duty despite being faced with challenges on lack of resources. Motlhabane said his department will continue monitoring the performance of police stations across the Province and encouraged police officers to continue working hard with commitment to ensure safety of the people.

2019 MUNIMEC PROGRAMS RESUSCITATED



ACTING HoD MR MORULE ADDRESSING THE STAKEHOLDERS

The North West Department for Community Safety and Transport Management kick-started the 2019 MUNIMEC program with District meetings, during the February Safety Month. "These are meetings convened by MEC in order to engage the Municipality Mayors, MMC's, Directors and Managers responsible for Community Safety in Municipalities. A broad range of other stakeholders; SAPS, Correctional Services, Home Affairs, Economic Development, Social development, CPF, CSF, Taxi Councils and business sectors leaders are invited to participate in the dialogue. Safety related issues affecting Municipalities are dealt with thoroughly and genuinely in these meetings", outlined Mr Molefi Morule, Chief Director Transport Regulations.

These meetings afford all stakeholders an opportunity to state and raise challenges that are badly affecting the safety and security of communities. Issues such as; crime, violence, transport, and other related matters are dealt with. Strategies to address these challenges and concerns raised by this multi-stakeholder forum are developed a commitment to implementation is harnessed. the MUNIMEC are expected to provide meaning, substance and direction to achieving the NDP's objectives of: 'Building Safer Communities'.

SAPS representatives made a presentation regarding the high rate of crime in communities and emphasised that stock theft is rated high and is affecting people's livelihood negatively. Cllr Mahlangu reiterated that; "we are now facing the 2019 National Elections in May 2019. There has been a series of unrests and community protests in a number of areas. We now must think of effective mechanisms of dealing with this phenomenon. The issue of safety of communities during this election period, and beyond is very key", she said.

The Taung, Mamusa, Naledi and Kagisano Molopo Taxi Associations were in attendance and accused government of reluctance to deal with illegal taxi operators as well as the illegal hiking, which is rife in Dr RS Mompoti, especially in Vryburg. In closing, Acting HoD, Mr Morule, committed to elevate the issues to the next Provincial MUNIMEC that will be convened by MEC Dr Motlhabane after all districts would have concluded their rounds of MUNIMEC's.

MEC MOTLHABANE GRACED SANSBOC INDUCTION WORKSHOP



MEC MOTLHABANE WITH SANSBOC IN MATLOSANA

MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management Dr Mpho Motlhabane recently graced the South African National Small Bus Operator Council's (SANSBOC) North West induction, held at Matlosana local municipality in Klerksdorp.

Explaining the purpose of the event, the chairperson of the North West SANSBOC Mr Finel Kgodumo said "The workshop aims to establish a common ground for the organisation and state where the newly elected SANSBOC NW committee will be in helm for the next 5 years to take the organisation to the greater heights and maintain a condusive relationship with its stakeholders".

"The department remains proud to be associated with SANSBOC NW and the small bus industry is one of the critical pillars of public and scholar transport in the North West as the majority of learners and community members rely heavily on it" MEC Motlhabane said. He further emphasised that the safety of citizens remains a number one priority to the government urging all Small Bus Operators (SBO's) to ensure that their vehicles are in good conditions to carry passengers.

"Nothing can be more important to us than the safety of our people. We need to contribute towards the reduction of roads accidents and incidents, we need you to help us eradicate accidents that are taking the lives of our beloved ones and this speaks to the quality of the transport that you use. All of us cannot accept the situation where our own children are transported in broken-down buses" MEC uttered. All dignitaries who attended the workshop were optimistic and looking forward to implementing what has been agreed upon by the committee.

COMMUNITIES ENGAGED ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management in collaboration with various stakeholders led a community engagement session on Gender Based Violence and Human Trafficking.

Lerato Ramagaga from the department said the engagement is formed due to the escalating number of gender based violence and human trafficking incidences in the Jouberton and Khuma communities located in Klerksdorp.

"The aim of the event is to raise awareness and educate the community on the criminal justice processes so that they are well informed about the procedures to follow when reporting cases on gender based violence and trafficking of persons" Ramagaga said.

"We urge all the stakeholders here today to take the cases of the community seriously, most especially SAPS and ensure that the perpetrators are arrested and serve required sentences. They should not let them free to repeat the same crime again due to statements that there is a lack of sufficient evidence to cases opened' said Thabo Melato, Jouberton community member.

The two day event took place at Jouberton Brazil stadium and continued the second day at Khuma community hall. All stakeholders present, challenged and called upon communities to work together to fight crime on an integrated approach.

The engagement successfully sensitised and educated communities on the role and function of the criminal justice.



DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS FRAUD AND CORRUPTION WORKSHOPS



STAFF MEMBERS LISTENING ATTENTIVELY DURING THE PRESENTATIONS

Fraud and Corruption derails service delivery and has a negative impact on societal development. Having officials that could be prone to fraud and corruption, the Department saw it fit to workshop its employees on such issues, spearheaded by Risk Management Unit.

The workshops are scheduled to take place in all four district offices including the head office and are structured to ensure adherence to good governance creating a government that is free from fraud and corruption.

The main objective of the workshop is to promote an open and ethical culture within the department where employees are encouraged to disclose information relating to fraudulent or other irregular conduct in a responsible manner by providing clear guidance for the disclosure of such information.



PROVINCIAL TRANSPORT FORUM



The Directorate of Transport Planning and Policy Development hosted the Provincial Transport Forum in Potchefstroom. The firmness of the forum is primarily to accord its stakeholders and members a platform to meet, share and discuss various issues pertinent to the sector across the Province. The Forum was led by the Chairperson Mr Olebogeng Baikgaki, in his opening remarks thanked and welcomed everyone who honoured the invite to the forum that deals with our transportation system which is the backbone of our daily lives

Representatives from Bojanala, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, and Ngaka Modiri Molema Districts, various departments and National Department of Transport were in attendance District Municipality reports were presented, bus Operators were concerned about the busses that operate in the Province yet they are not originating and registered outside the Province. They requested the department to intervene and as far as possible to give opportunities for scholar transport to the locals who have capacity.

Taxi Operators raised a concern about the high number of illegal hiking spots and illegal operators that destroy the taxi industry. They requested the Department to consider introducing the system of Inspectors in the sector similar to the bus and train operations to be able to monitor and eradicate illegal operators.

Mr Nndanduleni from Department of Transport presented the National Land Transport Act Amendment Bill, 2018. The act was passed to further the process of transforming and restructuring the national land transport system that was started by the previous Transition Act (NLTTA) and it achieved its objectives such as consolidating transport functions at the local levels. The forum members applauded the department for the initiative and the meeting was hailed a huge success by all present.

VALENTINES DAY 2019



VALENTINES DAY 2019





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