



## public works & roads

Department:  
Public Works and Roads  
North West Provincial Government  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **SPEAKING NOTES BY THE MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND ROADS, GAOAGE OAGENG MOLAPISI ON THE HAND-OVER OF SPECIAL MAINTENANCE ON SECTIONS OF ROAD D414 BETWEEN MAKGOBISTAD THROUGH LOGAGANE, MAKGORI TO TSHIDILAMOLOMO AT MAKGOBISTAD TRIBAL HALL**

03 OCTOBER 2023

Programme Director, Cllr Douglas Gaesenwe  
Barolong Ba Ga Makgobi Tribal Council  
Mayor of Ratlou Local Municipality, Cllr Matlhomola Japhta  
Ward Councillor  
Head of Department, Mr Moss Kgantsi  
Municipal Manager  
Senior Officials of the Department and Ratlou Local Municipality Officials  
Distinguished Guests  
Ladies and Gentlemen

Greetings

We gather a few days after the official launch of the October Transport Month led by the National Department of Transport. It is a practice that following the National launch, provinces will follow and launch their campaigns in line with the adopted theme for the program. It is in this context that the Department of Public Works and Roads in the province will hold its official launch on Thursday, 05 October 2023 in Mahikeng.

Mayor, I must hasten to say that today's handover of Road D414 in the Ratlou Local Municipality, is part of the activities under our provincial October Transport Month (OTM) plan. The handover of Road D414 is symbolic and serves as a build-up to the official launch. This follows our realization that the Department has two projects in this area, which include Road Z422 from Madibogo to Madibogopan that will be handed over before the end of October. Consequently, Ladies and Gentlemen; the Department of Public Works will hand over two road projects in the Ratlou Local Municipality as part of October Transport Month.

Speaking at the occasion of the national OTM launch, Minister of Transport, Sindisiwe Chikunga said; "October Transport Month is about showcasing service delivery and reminding the nation of the centrality of transport in our daily lives both in our social settings and in enabling economic activity". Therefore, it is important that I mention that Road D414 is among eight road projects that the Department will be handing over. I will also perform sod turning on two more projects as part of the provincial campaign. More information in relation to other campaign plans and activities will be shared on the occasion of the official launch.

The 2023 October Transport Month Campaign theme is "Siyakha – We are Building Better Transport Infrastructure to Grow South Africa Together". In our context, WE ARE BUILDING BETTER



TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE TO GROW THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE TOGETHER. Ka mma ruri re tsweletswe go aga ditsela go godisa Bokone Bophirima Mmogo!

Programme Director, at the center of infrastructure development and improvements; is the need to ensure that we create sustainable jobs and work opportunities. I am happy to report that Road D414 created 54 work opportunities. The Department appointed contractors, Actophambili Road (Pty) Ltd, and Maruapula Engineers during this time last year (during the OTM). The contract value was over thirty-one million rands; which meant that the project had a targeted 30% set-aside for sub-contracting. In this way, a whopping five million rands went to benefit SMMEs. I am told that eleven (11) sub-contractors benefitted from this project.

As we begin the October Transport Month, I cannot stress enough the harm caused by community disruptions during project implementation. The Department has continuously opened its door for members of the community and respective leadership for engagement even prior to implementation. I personally come to the community to introduce the contractor with the view that an open-door policy is established to ensure no delays in completing our work.

Equally, we must as part of OTM and beyond continue Departments' engagement with contractors and consultants on unnecessary delays to their appointed projects. We must be frank in discussing how underquoting for a project, has an impact on the overall implementation of road infrastructure projects

The OTM campaign is not in isolation with our plans to continue maintenance of roads through the ValaZonke Pothole Patching campaign, I have been updated by the District Director, Ms Maseng that a total of 40 000 bags of asphalt have been procured for purpose of patching pothole in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District. This include patching of potholes on the road from Disaneng.

I take this moment to officially thank the Ratlou Local Municipality for working together with us (Department) to see to it that we arrive at completion of the project. The completed ROAD D414, a 46-kilometre (km) road between Makgobistad, Logagane, Makgori to Tshidilamolomo will go a long way in connecting communities around various villages, including Ditlounge, Semaushu, Lopurung, and many others.

May we continue protecting our infrastructure against vandalism and damage arising from protest-related activities; especially now with the national general elections 2024 fast approaching.

Happy October Transport Month!

Kea Leboga.

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