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## **MEC Mahlakeng meets Deputy Minister of Transport for improved transportation services...**

**Date:** Monday, August 30, 2010

MEC Mahlakeng Mahlakeng met the National Deputy Minister of Transport, Jeremy Cronin on Tuesday, August 30 in Rustenburg to fast track transportation issues in the province.

At the meeting which was attended by Chief Directorates Transportation and Infrastructure, discussed plans to resuscitate the railway system, the current deliberations with Provincial Treasury for R3.7b loan to address road network commitments and partnership formed in provision of road networks to the North West Community.

It was explained to the Deputy Minister that the Department, regardless of its current challenges, has managed thus far, to provide some road networks with the assistance of key stakeholders. These include the Royal Bafokeng Administration, Rustenburg Local Municipality, SANRAL and Department of Rural Development and Land Reform.

Minister Cronin agreed that the rail network needs to be resuscitated as it will bring connectivity within the province and will relieve pressure of road freight on the roads. This will further ensure economic connectivity to Botswana and the other provinces the North West borders.

The Minister also emphasised the importance of maintaining excellent stakeholder relations with key partners, as this also ensure development for the people of North West. He informed all present that there are funds available to improve transport and road networks of the province, but clear, achievable plans and proposals should be made to Provincial Treasury to ensure that government delivers services with value.

**END**