



**LIMPOPO**

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

# PRESENTATION OF BUDGET VOTE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR



MEC Violet Mathye



**TUESDAY, 15 APRIL 2025 | 10H00**



**LEBOWAKGOMO LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS**



**The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people**

## **PRESENTATION OF BUDGET VOTE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR**

Department of Transport and Community Safety  
Tuesday, 15 March 2025  
Limpopo Provincial Legislature - Lebowakgomo



*MEC Violet Mathye*

HONOURABLE SPEAKER: DR MAKOMA MAKHURUPETJE  
 DEPUTY SPEAKER: HON TEBOGO MAMOROBELA  
 PREMIER: DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA  
 CHIEF WHIP: HON ESSOB MOKGONYANA  
 HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THIS AUGUST HOUSE  
 LEADERS OF OPPOSITION PARTIES  
 THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS  
 VOKUSI BYA XIHOKO NYAVANI MABUNDA  
 THE LEADERSHIP OF THE RULING PARTY – THE ANC, UNDER THE  
 LEADERSHIP OF MUSANDA VHO-MADADZHE.  
 THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT MR MATJENA AND YOUR TEAM  
 PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER, LT-GEN THEMBI HADEBE AND YOUR TEAM  
 THE BOARD AND MANAGEMENT OF GAAL LED BY THE CHAIRPERSON, MR  
 VICTOR XABA  
 SANSBOC, SANTACO AND NTA LEADERSHIP  
 ALL INVITED GUESTS  
 LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Please receive our warm and fraternal greetings from myself and team Transport and Community Safety, on this special occasion of reporting to the people of Limpopo about our plans and programmes to develop their lives.

### **Madam speaker**

It is both an **honour and a privilege** to present this **budget speech** to this august House. The **first year of the seventh administration** has indeed been **unprecedented**, shaped by the evolving dynamics of the **Government of National Unity** at the national level. Despite the complexities, we remain committed to delivering on our mandate with focus, integrity, and purpose.

Madam Speaker,

Let me record that I am standing before the august house walking on a foundation laid by the predecessors especially the izimbhokotos in the form of: Pinky Kekana, Mapula

Mokaba, Makoma Makhurupetje, Polly Boshielo, Nandi Ndalani, Mavhungu Lerule Ramakhanya, and Florence Radzilani.

I am not ashamed to mention in this house, the great women of valour, in the mould of Pinky Kekana, Mapula Mokaba, Dr. Makoma Makhurupetje, Dr. Polly Boshielo, Nandi Ndalani, Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya, and Florence Radzilani who have paved the way to what is today known as the Department of Transport and Community Safety.

I am further enjoined by our historic past to reflect on the contribution of our forebearers in the form of Lilian Ngoyi, Winny Madikizela-Mandela, Chalotte Maxeke and many others.

These gallant fighters fought the struggle within the struggle: the struggle for liberation and also the struggle for the emancipation of women from patriarchy.

Now, let me borrow a statement from the dearly departed, Mme Charlotte Maxeke, a daughter of Limpopo and Motlokwa par excellence and I quote “***if you can rise, bring someone with you.***”

I therefore call upon women leaders in the house and beyond, to support our Premier Dr Phophi Constance Ramathuba because when she rose up, she carried along other women to the top.

In our effort to play our part, we have seen women in the transport industry that we need to rise with. In the gallery today we have women who are participating in the bus industry and also women taxi owners.

Madam Speaker

Our department plays a vital role in propelling the provincial economy, as the **safe and efficient movement of people and goods** lies at the heart of our mandate. From **children to pensioners**, our services are designed to protect and serve every resident within the four corners of our Province.

It is also worth highlighting that under the capable leadership of **Lieutenant General Thembu Hadebe**, a distinguished woman at the helm of the SAPS in our province, we continue to be recognized as **one of the safest provinces to live in and conduct**

**business.** While challenges persist in certain areas, we remain grateful for the commendable work being done and the continued efforts toward maintaining safety and security for all.

They deserve to be **applauded for the outstanding work** they continue to do in keeping our communities safe. Among many notable successes is the **arrest of a suspected drug lord** operating an illicit drug laboratory on a farm in the Sekhukhune District—an operation that posed a significant threat to public safety.

Equally commendable is their swift response leading to the **arrest of a farmer in the Capricorn District**, who allegedly committed a heinous crime involving the murder of two individuals and the disturbing attempt to conceal the evidence by feeding the bodies to pigs.

These cases underscore the **dedication and vigilance** of our law enforcement agencies in confronting even the most serious and complex crimes head-on.

Madam Speaker

The budget we are presenting is designed to **unlock reliable, safe, and affordable transportation** for our people—whether they are traveling to work, schools, places of worship, or tourist destinations.

In alignment with the **seventh administration's priorities**, we aim to focus sharply on **driving inclusive economic growth, creating jobs**, and addressing the **high cost of living**. Through targeted investments and strategic interventions, this budget seeks to improve mobility while contributing meaningfully to the social and economic upliftment of our province.

Madam speaker,

The Department is actively working to **undo the legacy of oppression and exclusion** faced by **women, youth, and persons with disabilities**. I have made it unequivocally clear that **appointments lacking meaningful representation of women will not receive my approval**.

Thomas Sankara reminds us that, from the first beginnings of human history, man's mastering of nature has never been accomplished with his bare hands alone.

It is for this reason that we are unflinching when it comes to issues of gender equality in the Department.

Since assuming office, I am proud to report that our **first round of recruitment** reflected this commitment. **Women accounted for 55% of the 96 posts filled**, with **youth making up 26%** and **persons with disabilities comprising 5%**. Overall, women now represent **47% of our workforce**, leaving a small **3% gap** to reach full gender parity—a target we are determined to meet.

We have also placed the **employment of persons with disabilities** high on our agenda. Recognizing the barriers many face in accessing opportunities, we have taken a proactive approach by **partnering with district municipalities to identify suitable candidates, assist them in the application process, and ensure they participate fully in the selection stages**.

Madam Speaker, we are not just paying lip service—we are **deliberately and strategically intervening to change the lived realities of our brothers and sisters with disabilities**, ensuring that **no one is left behind**.

Madam speaker,

In our endeavour to break the shackles of poverty and exclusion of the boy and girl children, we embarked on a Motor Mechanical Learnership that has enrolled 40 learners. We have deliberately brought in girls to be part of the motor mechanic industry, and we will definitely employ them as and when we replace the ageing manpower in our workshops.

## On Transport Operations

The **National Land Transport Act**, as amended, mandates municipalities to act as **transport planning authorities** and to develop **Integrated Transport Plans** in line



with this requirement, the Department has ramped up its efforts to support local municipalities in the development of their ITPs. To date, we have successfully assisted **Maruleng Municipality**, and in the current financial year, we will extend our support to **Thabazimbi** and **Blouberg Municipalities** in developing their ITPs.

These ITPs will play a crucial role in helping municipalities **assess supply and demand** related to transport permits and operating licenses. Once approved, the **Provincial Regulatory Entity** will resume the issuance of these permits and licenses.

Through the development of these ITPs, the Department aims to **address inefficiencies in transport networks**, ensuring **seamless integration** between different modes of transport, thereby enhancing **accessibility** for communities. To this end, the Department will allocate over **R7.6 million** in the current financial year to assist municipalities in preparing their ITPs.

On the subject of the taxi industry, I would like to **acknowledge the relative calm** that has prevailed, thanks to the **positive role played by SANTACO and the NTA** in stabilizing the sector. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed. Our message is clear: **dialogue** is the only path to sustainable, long-term solutions, and **violence has no place in resolving conflicts**. We are committed to **addressing and confronting** any instances of **extortion** perpetrated by taxi patrollers. **Law enforcement is our responsibility**, and we will not allow any outside forces to undermine the rule of law.

Madam Speaker,

In pursuit of **greater efficiency and effectiveness**, the Department has rationalized **26 existing bus contracts into 9 consolidated agreements**. These new contracts, negotiated under a **Special Purpose Vehicle model**, officially commenced in **April**, marking the beginning of the current financial year.

The new agreements will deliver over **29 million kilometers** of subsidized bus services, including the **introduction of routes in previously underserved areas** such as **Phalaborwa, the eastern part of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Thabazimbi, Modimolle, Makhuduthamaga, Elias Motsoaledi, Blouberg, and**

**Fetakgomo Tubatse.** The department has budgeted over **R900 million** to sustain and improve the quality of these public transport services.

To ensure the successful implementation of these contracts, **effective monitoring** is essential. Currently, this function is performed manually by dedicated departmental officials, but the process is **vulnerable to human error and potential manipulation**. To address this, the Department will introduce **innovative digital monitoring systems** using **modern technology** to enhance compliance, transparency, and service reliability across all subsidized bus operations.

Madam Speaker, Limpopo's strategic location in the SADC region necessitates a comprehensive freight transport strategy. The department is collaborating with key stakeholders to modernise freight corridors, promote investment in logistics hubs, and ensure compliance with freight transport regulations to improve safety and economic growth. The department will kick start the process to review the provincial freight transport strategy which will be implemented as a multi-year initiative over the next two financial years.

On Rail,

Our province, in partnership with **Gauteng Province**, has initiated the process of establishing a **high-speed rail link between Gauteng and Limpopo**. As outlined in the provincial budget, funding has been allocated for a comprehensive **pre-feasibility study** to assess the project's viability. This high-speed rail project promises to be a **transformational development**, offering commuters greater choice between **road, rail, and air travel**. Once realized, it will significantly enhance connectivity, reduce travel time, and serve as a catalyst for **economic growth and regional integration**.

Madam Speaker,

The Department continues to provide funding and strategic oversight to Gateway Airport Authority Limited, a Category 3D public entity. Currently, GAAL is not financially self-sustaining. In response, the Board has developed and adopted a **bankable turnaround strategy** designed to reposition GAAL as a viable and self-funded business entity.



As the current Board's term concludes in September, the Department will commence the recruitment process for a **new Board**. This new leadership, together with executive management, will be tasked with driving the implementation of the turnaround strategy and ensuring GAAL becomes a financially sustainable contributor to the province's economy.

**Key to this strategy is the enhancement of infrastructure and service offerings at Polokwane International Airport**, positioning it as a strategic enabler within the regional logistics hub. This includes integration with other provincial aviation assets such as P.R. Mphephu and Siyandani Airports.

Additionally, GAAL must prioritize efforts to **attract new airline routes and expand air cargo capacity**, thereby aligning its operations with the broader provincial economic development agenda. Strengthening these core areas will not only improve financial performance but also stimulate trade, tourism, and investment across Limpopo.

GAAL is a business, and it must evolve accordingly. It cannot remain a perpetual liability dependent on public funds without delivering measurable returns. The Department remains committed to ensuring GAAL becomes a sustainable and economically impactful entity.

As part of our commitment to expanding international air connectivity, we are actively working with the Maruleng Municipality to support **Hoedspruit Airport's application for international licensing**. This strategic initiative aims to position Hoedspruit as a key gateway for tourism and economic investment, particularly within the wildlife, conservation, and hospitality sectors. While we acknowledge that progress has been slower than anticipated, we are engaging closely with the relevant authorities to ensure full compliance with international regulatory standards and to accelerate the licensing process.

Madam Speaker,

The department, in partnership with the National Department of Transport and Department of Education, is committed to supporting learners who are currently

walking long distances each day to reach schools far from their homes. During this financial year, the Department will provide **over 600 bicycles** to deserving learners across various districts. This initiative not only aims to improve access to education and increase school attendance, but also promotes **physical and mental well-being**, while contributing to a more **eco-friendly and sustainable mode of transport**. The provision of bicycles will go a long way in enhancing learner performance and ensuring that no child is left behind due to lack of mobility.

Madam speaker,

The Department has allocated a **significant portion of the budget** for the procurement of essential tools of trade, including **vehicles for traffic officers**, to strengthen law enforcement and enhance visible policing. This investment is expected to greatly improve **administrative efficiency** and **service delivery** at key service points, ultimately ensuring a more responsive and effective public service.

The budget also prioritizes the **integration of technology in law enforcement**, which is critical for reducing human error and enhancing operational efficiency in the promotion of road safety. To this end, the department will invest in the procurement of **e-Force gadgets** and **modern mobile speed measuring equipment**, enabling traffic officers to perform their duties more effectively and with greater accuracy.

The department will implement a comprehensive plan to ensure that all government vehicles are **properly maintained**, leveraging government garages and existing government contracts for servicing and repairs. We acknowledge the current **shortage of marked traffic vehicles**, which poses a challenge to the successful implementation of the envisaged **24/7 shift system** and expanded traffic operations. To address this, the Department will develop a **three-year fleet replacement plan** aimed at phasing out aging vehicles and equipping traffic officials with reliable and roadworthy resources.

Madam Speaker,

As part of our ongoing commitment to community safety, the Department has established **Community Policing and Safety Forums** across all police stations and

municipalities. These forums, which play a crucial role in local crime prevention efforts, are **supported through monthly stipends** to encourage active participation.

In addition, we are implementing **volunteer-based initiatives**, including the **Young Civilians on Patrol** and **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design** programs. These structures work collaboratively with the South African Police Service to safeguard our communities.

While these initiatives have shown promise, we acknowledge that their **effectiveness has varied across regions**. To strengthen and standardize their impact, the Department has allocated **R5 million** to support Community Forums, i.e Community Policing Forum and Community Safety forum. And **R3.5 million** towards Young Civilians on Patrol program and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design initiatives during this financial year.

Let me take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all **patriotic citizens**, including members of **Neighbourhood Farm Watch** and similar community initiatives, who go above and beyond in **supporting the police in the fight against crime**. Their dedication and vigilance play a vital role in enhancing community safety and strengthening our collective efforts to build safer neighbourhoods.

Madam speaker

We further appreciate the swift responses by the police in the event of harrowing crimes that are Gender based related. We would like it to be a norm that once a crime is orchestrated, the requisite response follows suite each and every time.

In our pursuit efforts to engender the culture of accountability, we have a Police Secretariat division that follows through on every complaint that is lodged against the police. We are going to have roadshows to familiarise the public on the role of this division in a quest that attention is given to every complain.

Madam speaker

We are not doing well as a province given the increase in accidents and fatalities in the last festive season. Most of the accidents were caused by human factor as most of them were caused by speeding, pedestrians on the roadway and reckless driving.

We have come to note that most of the accidents happen in the odd hours when our traffic officers are off duty. We also note the rise in pedestrian casualties of which majority of happen in wee hours and the motorists do not stop after hitting the pedestrians.

It is for this reason that we are embarking on a 24/7 traffic law enforcement of which calls for the increase in traffic personnel is made. We had an injection of 147 officers this financial year and are now planning on a 200 new intake this financial year.

We are further moving with technology as we will be procuring Automated Number Plate Recognition System. The system will assist the Department in the collection of revenue and enhance compliance by motorists by detecting fake drivers and vehicle licenses. This will go a long way in boosting our collection from infringement tickets.

We note further that our motorists are queuing for long when they visit the licensing offices either to renew drivers and vehicle registrations. It is for this reason that we are embarking on infrastructure investment.

The construction of K53 and Examiner of Motor Vehicle Pit at Thohoyandou Traffic Station is at 70% in terms of progress and Seshego K53 and Examiner of Motor Vehicle Pit is at 47% towards completion.

On Thohoyandou Taxi Rank Project Update,

While the finalization of the Thohoyandou Taxi Rank project has progressed more slowly than initially anticipated, we are pleased to report that the project is now actively moving forward, with the Independent Development Trust playing a central role in its implementation.

New architectural and engineering designs have been completed, and a team of consultants has been appointed and is currently hard at work. Furthermore, the appointment of a new contractor is scheduled to take place within the first quarter, who will then begin with the necessary remedial work to bring the project to completion.

As alluded to, speed is one causative factor for high accidents in our province and the country at large. Almost every singular day, a motorist is arrested for driving averagely at 180 kms per hour. In a worst scenario a driver was arrested for driving at 202 kms

per hour. We are investigating further why a certain brand of car is more often involved in accidents. We suspect that buyers are first time buyers who are young and are attracted to its deadly speed.

It is for this reason that we are procuring speed prosecution cameras and a service contract for the maintenance of the speed cameras.

Engagements with SANRAL on the handing over of the Average Speed cameras to the province are at an advance stage. There were delays due to the process of review of the standards in line with the Legal Metrology Act.

Madam Speaker,

The department will start implementing the newly developed Limpopo Road Safety Strategy 2025-2035. The Department appreciate the support from the Office of the Premier for engaging Impact Catalyst for the development of this strategy which is first of its kind in the country.

### **On Road Safety Ambassadors**

To strengthen our efforts in improving road safety, the Department will employ and deploy 189 Road Safety Ambassadors and 4 data capturers across all districts. This initiative has received valuable support from the National Department of Public Works, through a dedicated grant. The ambassadors will play a key role in promoting road safety awareness and responsible behavior, while the data capturers will assist in monitoring and evaluating the impact of our interventions on the ground.

Madam Speaker,

Having sketched the nature of business being mobility and movement of people and goods and further the safeguarding of lives and properties, let me delve into the language of rands and cents.

Let me hasten to indicate that ours is not a mere packaging of numbers that are purported for feel and look good.

**On Revenue generation, Madam Speaker,**

The department remains the highest revenue contributor in the Provincial Administration, with almost 47.0% of the entire Provincial Revenue Collection. During 2024/25, the department collected **R893.8 million** which shows an overcollection by **R3.1 million**, which translate to 0.4%. The actual collection target was **R890 million**. The department is delighted with the support of the Provincial Treasury in implementing the Revenue Enhancement Strategy to maximise the revenue collection. Madam Speaker the department has the potential to over collect by bigger margins during the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework.

The department contributes to Provincial Revenue through traffic functions i.e. motor vehicle license & registration, penalties and traffic fines. The department is projecting to collect **R931.5 million** in 2025/26, **R974.3 million** in 2026/27 and **R1.018 billion** in 2027/28 financial year.

**Madam speaker, on allocations,**

The Department has been allocated an amount of **R3.025 billion** for 2025/26 financial year which is an increase of 16.7% when compared to 2024/25 adjusted budget. Madam Speaker, included in this budget is Conditional Grants as follows:

- **R481.4 million** is for the Public Transport Operation Grant for 2025/26 financial year, **R503.5 million** for 2026/27 and **R526.2 million** for 2027/28.
- **R2.5 million** for EPWP Integrated Grant which is for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, and
- **R1.1 million** for EPWP Social Sector Grant for Point Duty.

Madam Speaker, furthermore, included in the allocation for 2025/26 financial year is earmark funds amounting to **R281.2 million**, as follows:

- Gauteng-Limpopo High Speed Rail – **R80.0 million**,
- Remedial work at Thohoyandou Facility – **R58.0 million**,
- Revitalisation of Traffic Training College – **R28 million**,



- Revenue Enhancement Provincial **K53 Projects – R25 million**,
- Refurbishment of Traffic Facilities – **R11.6 million**,
- Vivo Weigh in motion – **R5 million**,
- Electronic Vehicle Monitoring System – **R56 million**,
- Moving Violation Recorder – **R3.5 million**
- Refurbishment of Government Garage and Departmental Office – **R14 million**.

The Compensation of Employees budget, which includes the appointment of **147 traffic officers**, amounts to **R627 million**.

The department has also allocated an amount of **R152.9 million** and **R40.9 million** to transfer to Gateway Airport Authority Limited for implementation of service delivery improvement plan and operational costs for 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years respectively.

#### **THE BUDGET PER PROGRAMME IS AS FOLLOWS:**

Administration	<b>R 627.048 million</b>
Transport Operations	<b>R1.331 billion</b>
Transport Regulation	<b>R1.001 billion</b>
Provincial Secretariat of Police Services	<b>R 65.997 million</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>R3.025 billion</b>

As I conclude, let me refer to a quote by Maya Angelou and I quote: “Develop enough courage so that you can stand up for yourself and then stand for somebody else”  
Madam Speaker and the House, let us be counted for standing up for those less privileged.

Let us be keepers of our brothers and sisters for them to realise we mean well and shall make them proud.

Honourable Speaker,

Let me take this opportunity and appreciate the governing party: African National Congress for having supported the Honourable Premier: Dr Phophi Ramathuba in appointing me to her Executive. To her I say, thank you so much for putting your trust in me.

I also want to thank my colleagues in the Executive for the continued support they are giving me, further the Portfolio Committee on Transport and Community Safety led by Honourable Kedibone Lebea. All members of this august house I thank you.

I also want to pass my kindest regards to the Members of this August House, for the words of guidance and commitment to their oversight work.

I am grateful to the Team Transport and Community Safety led by the HOD - Mr Matjena Stephen. Thank you for the good job and dedication.

Madam Speaker,

Lastly allow me to reveal the secret of the smile that I am always wearing on my face. Behind this smile there is a giant on whose shoulders I am standing on. My long-time friend and husband for more than four decades. As I speak the giant is amongst us, accompanied by our first-born daughter: Duma. To him I say thank you so much for being there for me.

Mathye, Ndlovu, Gajeni.

I thank you.

Hi nkomu

Ndo livhuha

Kea leboga

Baie dankie

## Notes

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal black lines across its entire width, providing a template for writing or drawing. The margins are consistent on all sides.



**Department of Transport and Community Safety**  
Phamoko Towers Building  
Corner Bodenstein & Church Street  
Polokwane, 0700



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