

EASTER CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

NTHAME PRIMARY SCHOOL

DATE: 11 APRIL 2025

TO: MEC FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: SUSANI VIOLET MATHYE

POTFOLIO CHAIRPERSON: KEDIBONE LEBEA

EXECUTIVE DISTRICT MAYOR: CLLR MINA BAHULA

THE MAYOR OF FETAKGOMO TUBATSE MUNICIPALITY: CLLR EDDIE MAILA

COUNCILLORS FROM THE LOCAL AND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES

MMAGO RENA KGOSHIGADI RIBA

HOD: MR MATJENA AND YOUR TEAM

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER: LFT THEMBI HADEBE

SANBOC LEADERSHIP

SANTACO AND NTA LEADERSHIP

COCA COLA SA

IMPACT CATALYST

GOOD MORNING

THOBELA

AVUSHENI

GOEIE MORE

MACHELONI

Once more the Easter festivities are looming and as such no efforts should be spared in preparing for the safe travel and arrival of all those who will criss-cross our province. We are starting this campaign with a deficit, given the performance of the province in the December festive where we lost so many people to accidents. The report indicates that Limpopo experienced 431 accidents and 189 fatalities.

Amongst the fatalities were 85 pedestrians.

This does not auger well because the statistics we are talking about is not numbers but people that are loved and who were supporting their families and the community at large.

We have noted that most accidents are largely due to driver and pedestrian behavior and the state of vehicles. The driver behavior refers to drunken driving, over speeding and the general disregard for traffic laws. We further note that most accidents happen during odd hours, especially in the wee hours.

The following are the accident hotspots

MOOKGOPONG ALONG THE N1 T ROAD

R37

R71 ALONG THE PALEDI STRETCH

We need to intensify our efforts to make sure that no unnecessary death occur during the coming season. You will recall that the RTMC had last year adopted EDWARD which stand for Every Day without a road Death. This called for extreme measures to make our roads safe because one loss of life is one too many.

The accidents and fatalities are largely due to human elements being driver and pedestrians conduct. Our people need to unlearn these conducts that are robbing humanity of life. We further note that pedestrians cross the road unsafely especially along the R71 around Paledi stretch of the road. At Modimolle pedestrians elect not to use the Overhead bridge and end up crossing the N1 unsafely. We note that most of them are suspectedly under the influence of liquor. Even as the walls are repaired to stop them walking across the highway, the walls get broken time after time.

The department has been sharing common messages in the quest to reduce accident and fatalities.

The key message for easter is **buckle up and no speeding at all**. It has been observed that most drivers and passengers do not buckle up which makes them vulnerable during

accident force impact. We note that most passengers assume that seatbelts are for drivers and front seat passengers. This is not correct as during accidents no passenger is spared from injuries.

There was an accident in the recent past where passengers got thrown out of a taxi during accident impact and sustained serious injuries. Had they buckled up, the injuries could have been reduced by the taxi shell.

Further in line with the thematic message, speeding is a choice. Most accidents in the province are reckless driving attributed to speeding. We also note that even in the vicinity of traffic operations drivers do not slow down, thereby becoming dangerous to the traffic officers.

It is for these reasons that we should make speed camera prosecution a daily activity from now. We need to arrest all those who are speeding and also those who overtake recklessly.

The other area of focus will be on pedestrians, we have lost many pedestrians due to jay walking, drunken and distracted walking. Most of the pedestrians get knocked off during odd hours of which is worrisome. Accompanying this phenomenon is that most drivers don't stop after hitting the pedestrians.

We urge all pedestrians to wear bright colors for them to be visible. It is believed that the drivers will easily notice the pedestrians if they are bright.

The other area of focus will be driver and vehicle fitness. Most drivers, drive long hours without rest. Fatigue is a silent killer on the road as drivers dose off while behind the wheel. It is recommended that drivers should rest every 200 kilometers in order to stretch up and refreshen up.

The department has just welcomed 104 traffic officers this month. We believe with the added manpower there will be more visibility and the space for reckless driving will be narrowed. The stand of the Department is if you offend the law, you will face the consequences of the law.

The tendency of soliciting and accepting cooldrink by the traffic officers must come to a dead end. We can't afford the loss of life because a drunken driver was allowed to continue driving while over the limit of alcohol intake.

We will still pursue the objective of EDWARD, however we cannot win if not supported by the Taxi Organizations.

We can't reduce the fatalities if the passengers do not call out reckless driving.

We call upon on all leaders of society to be part of the campaign to make our roads safe.  
Let's assist pedestrians who have difficulty crossing the road.

I thank you.