

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

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MEC Mathye Concludes a Successful October Transport Month Launch

The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety has successfully launched the October Transport Month, emphasizing the importance of an integrated, sustainable, and safe transport system. The event, held at Namakgale Community Hall, was preceded by a law enforcement operation on the R71 junction to Namakgale, which resulted in significant successes.

During the operation, 350 vehicles were stopped, and 31 fines were issued. Eight vehicles were impounded, and one arrest was made for operating an unroadworthy vehicle. Another driver was arrested for speeding, exceeding the speed limit by 50km/h.

MEC Susana Violet Mathye emphasized the importance of the transport sector in driving economic growth and promoting inclusive development. "We are now 31 years into democracy, and we have inherited some of transport capacity that was to some extent working but unfortunately to the exclusion of far-flung communities. It is our responsibility as the state to make sure that, from children to elderly people, their mobility needs are provided for and satisfied," she said.

The department is working to resuscitate the rail infrastructure, including a proposed speed rail between Polokwane and Pretoria. "We are now working jointly with the Gauteng Province to establish a speed rail between Polokwane and Pretoria. We still have an existing network that is lying idle and minimally used," MEC Mathye added.

The department is also prioritizing the safety of passengers, particularly in the scholar transport sector. "We urge all transport operators to comply with the law and ensure the safety of passengers. We will not tolerate any form of negligence or recklessness on our roads," MEC Mathye warned.

The department has also noted the challenges facing the e-hailing industry and has urged operators to comply with regulations. "We would like to relay the message to the e-hailers to comply by applying for permits and further that the taxi associations must not demand money from the e-hailers," MEC Mathye said.

In conclusion, MEC Mathye declared, "Cars are meant to make life easier, not to be a source of sorrow. We only need to change our attitude and learn to be patient." The October Transport Month campaign *will merge into the safer festive season campaign, which run until January 2026*, with a focus on promoting transportation solutions that facilitate business opportunities and make traveling safer and more efficient.

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Enquiries:

Mr Dali Tshifiwa

MEC's Media Liaison

Contact: 082 904 0262

or

Ms Tidimalo Chuene

Departmental Spokesperson

Contact: 082 831 0227