

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

26 October 2022

## Gauteng Premier Panyaza Lesufi welcomes announcement by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana on e-tolls

Gauteng Premier Panyaza Lesufi has welcomed the announcement on e-tolls by finance Minister Enoch Godongwana on e-tolls, during the delivery of the Medium term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) today, 26 October 2022, in Parliament.

During his delivery, the minister announced that government will absorb the e-tolls debt amounting to R47 billion currently sitting with South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL). There will be a 70/30 split of the debt, with national government paying 70%, and the provincial government paying 30 %.

In addition to the announcement, the minister also added that the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) will take responsibility for the maintenance and further expansion of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project (GFIP).

Premier Lesufi expressed relief at the finalisation of the e-tolls matter.

"We believe that this is an important victory as it brings great relief to the people of Gauteng who have had to bear the brunt of paying e-tolls for roads which serve a national purpose.

"There will be further engagements with SANRAL regarding the repurposing of the e-tolls infrastructure, which we believe can be of use in the crime fighting strategy of the provincial government," added Premier Lesufi.

The provincial government will work closely with National Treasury to ensure that revenue streams are found to settle Gauteng's portion of the e-Tolls debt amounting to R14 billion.

The Gauteng government will convene an urgent meeting with the Minister of Finance to finalise some of the modalities relating to GPGs obligations.

More details on this will be announced when Finance MEC Jacob Mamabolo when he presents the province's Medium Term Budget Policy Statement to the Gauteng Provincial Legislature on 24 November 2022.

The matter of people who have already been paying for e-tolls is in the purview of SANRAL.

**ENDS** 

## **Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government**

For media enquiries contact Vuyo Mhaga, Spokesperson for Gauteng Premier, Panyaza Lesufi on 0766365193 or on <a href="mailto:vuyo.mhaga@gauteng.gov.za">vuyo.mhaga@gauteng.gov.za</a>

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