



GAUTENG PROVINCE

ROADS AND TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

GAUTENG TO HOST TAXI SUMMIT

Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport, Ismail Vadi, today announced that his department is to host a taxi consultative summit in May this year to discuss the long-term sustainability of the taxi industry in the province.

Speaking at the opening of the new public transport licensing and registration office at 11 Diagonal Street in central Johannesburg, Vadi reiterated that mini-bus taxis are an “essential component of the public transport system in the Gauteng city-region”.

“The taxi industry is central to an integrated public transport system in our province and we have a collectively responsibility to ensure that it is better managed, properly regulated and economically viable,” he said.

Latest research by the Gauteng City-Region Observatory indicates that 42 percent of commuters in the province rely on mini-bus taxis for travelling to work, to school and to other social, sporting and recreational activities.

Vadi also called for organisational unity in the industry saying that an “organisationally divided, conflict-ridden and fractured taxi sector” is not sustainable over time.

He said that there 185 registered taxi associations in Gauteng making it difficult to get coherence and a common voice in the industry.

The taxi summit is to be part of the process of designing a 25-Year Integrated Transport Master Plan (ITMP25) for the province, which is due to be released later this year by the department of roads and transport.

The new-look registration office will receive, verify and process applications for public transport operating licenses. It also has a help-desk for public transport operators.

ENDS!

For more information, please contact the Department of Roads and Transport Head of Communications, Ms Octavia Mamabolo on 011 355 7300 / 082 316 8666 or Octavia.Mamabolo@gauteng.gov.za.