

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Attn: News Editors / Transport Reporters

26 October 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gauteng announces plan to resolve lockdown driving license and permits backlog

The Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport in partnership with the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) and municipalities across the city region have adopted a strategy to deal with the current driving licenses and permits backlog experienced due to the lockdown period.

In July 2020, the Minister of Transport published Regulations (Government Gazette: 43539 (vol. 661), which provided that "all learner's licenses, driving license cards, temporary driving licenses and professional driving permits that expire during the period that commenced from 26 March 2020 up to and including 31 August 2020 are deemed to be valid and their validity period is extended for a further grace period ending on 31 January 2021".

In in order to improve and enhance assistance to driving licence holders following publication of the gazette, the Department, RTMC and municipalities have resolved to:

➤ Enhance the NaTIS system to allow applicants whose driving licenses are expiring or have expired to be given priority in the booking system. Access to slots will be unlocked through an applicant's ID number;

➤ Set aside every Tuesday from 26 October 2020 until 31 January 2021 to assist applicants whose licenses are expiring or whose validity has been extended to 31 January 2021;

➤ Wednesdays have been set aside and dedicated to assist any applicant who is 60 years or older to renew their Driving License or Apply for a Professional Driving Permit (PrDP) only. Applicants are not required to make prior bookings.

Attention is also drawn to other applicants regarding the availability of bookings (online and walk-in's):

Mondays: Centres will avail slots for renewal of Driving License Cards and PrDP Applications. These will be available to applicants whose driving license cards have not yet expired. Centres will avail slots for renewal services based on available resource and operational plans.

Tuesdays: Centres will avail slots for Driving License and Learner's License test applications. Upon application, to secure an appointment, successful applicants should confirm their bookings. Bookings must be confirmed by making a payment any day from Wednesday to Friday. Failure to do this will result in the cancellation of the secured booking.

Wednesdays: Wednesdays are declared "Pensioner's Walk-In Day". Centres will prioritize pensioners with their driving licence card renewals. Pensioners are not required to make prior bookings. Other services will continue as normal.

Thursdays: Centres with capacity to renew driving licence cards and process PrDP applications, will avail slots for Priority renewal of Driving Licence Cards and PrDP Applications. Such slots will be available only to applicants whose driving licence cards have expired.

The following Tshwane DLTCs will be operating extended hours between 08h00 to 18h00 weekdays:

- Akasia (City of Tshwane)
- Bronkhorstspruit/Kungwini (City of Tshwane)
- Centurion (City of Tshwane)
- Waltloo (City of Tshwane)

The following DLTCs will operate from 08h00 until 13h00 on Saturdays:

- Akasia (City of Tshwane)
- Centurion (City of Tshwane)
- Bronkhorstspruit/Kungwini (City of Tshwane)
- Waltloo
- Alberton (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Bedfordview (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Benoni (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Boksburg (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Brakpan (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Edenvale (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Etwatwa (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Germiston (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Kempton Park (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Nigel (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Springs (City of Ekurhuleni)
- Langlaagte (City of Johannesburg)
- Midrand (City of Johannesburg)
- Randburg (City of Johannesburg)
- Randburg Civic Centre (City of Johannesburg)

Sandton (City of Johannesburg)

To improve the process and enhance the experience, applicants are encouraged to bring their signed and stamped optometrist or ophthalmologist tests to centres.

In addition, health protocols on COVID-19 will be strictly adhered to ensure licensing centres (DLTC's) do not contribute to the spread of the virus. (Social distancing and wearing of masks are compulsory – #NoMaskNoEntry)

ENDS

Issued by the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport

For more information, contact the Department of Roads and Transport's Melitah Madiba on 073 644 9935 or Theo Nkonki on 082 719 6404.

E-mail: <u>PressOffice.gpdrt@gauteng.gov.za</u>