STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS ROBIN CARLISLE.

Chapman’s Peak Drive opens in time for summer

09 October 2009

The Minister of Transport and Public Works Robin Carlisle has, today, re-opened Chapman’s Peak Drive.

Minister Carlisle is relieved that Chapman’s Peak Drive will now be open for traffic following a 16 months closure.

“The re-opening of Chapman’s Peak is long overdue. The closure of the road has been a source of extreme frustration to the people of the Western Cape and the DA since we took over the provincial government.”

The Minister emphasized that while the re-opening of the road merits celebration, the concessionaire contract signed in 2003 was extremely prejudicial to the province.

This long, drawn out saga cost the taxpayer more than R50 million - not to mention the financial and logistical strain placed on the affected local community. Similarly, the exorbitant plan for two permanent toll plazas, as stipulated in the current contract, is unnecessary. We are now in negotiations with Entilini to secure a contract that is in the best interests of the provincial government and the people of the Western Cape” said the Minister.

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