



Western Cape
Government

Transport and Public Works

BETTER TOGETHER.

Newsletter

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Transport and Public Works



Pedestrian safety interventions highlighted during Global Road Safety Week

As part of the United Nations (UN) Global Road Safety Week (6-12 May 2013) dedicated to pedestrian safety, the Department of Transport and Public Works' Safely Home representatives, Department of Community Safety and Minister Robin Carlisle participated in pedestrian safety demonstrations at schools in Phillipi, Cape Town and Knysna.

Demonstrations were held to teach learners how to make use of pedestrian crossings, be alert and careful when crossing roads, particularly busy intersections. The learners were also provided with reflective vests that will make them more visible to motorists at dusk and dawn.

In the Western Cape, the leading group of fatalities amongst road users are pedestrians, accounting for nearly half of the total road deaths recorded in the province.

"According to the World Health Organization (WHO), road deaths are now the leading cause of premature deaths among young people aged 15 to 29 and rank high amongst the leading causes of deaths globally, a sobering reality for us all," said Minister Carlisle.

The Department of Transport and Public Works set aside R3 million in this current financial year to focus on a high intensity pilot pedestrian safety project. The project will focus on two identified high-risk areas where high pedestrian deaths have been recorded, namely, Lansdowne Road and Nekkies in Knysna. Lessons learnt from these two projects will be rolled out to the rest of the province.

Lansdowne road has been identified as one of the province's hazardous locations (HAZLOC) for pedestrians, meaning that a high number of pedestrian deaths are recorded on this very long and busy stretch of road.



Learners walking to school with their reflective vests

MAKE WALKING SAFE:

The Department will focus on these identified hazardous locations and safety interventions will include:

- Installing and/or upgrading crosswalks, sidewalks, raised medians, road signs, lighting and signals;
- Employing “speed calming” measures such as speed bumps and rumble strips;
- Restricting or diverting vehicles from pedestrian zones; and
- Providing education and training to all road users and the general public through various means.



A volunteer of the Department of Community Safety assists learners with their reflective vests.

Winter Walking Safety Tips:

In the same manner drivers have to drive defensively, pedestrians must follow these tips to ensure they walk defensively at all times:

- Allow for extra time to reach your destination so that you do not feel rushed;
- Wear shoes or boots with non-slip soles;
- Wear bright reflective clothing during the day and night;
- Walk slowly and take short steps when walking on stairs or other hilly terrains;
- Avoid carrying things that can cause you to be unbalanced;
- Do not walk on uneven surfaces;
- Walk on the sidewalks, whenever possible;
- If there is no sidewalk and the street is clear, walk against the flow of traffic and stay as close to the curb as possible;
- Wait for vehicles to come to a complete stop before crossing the road.



Learners listening to pedestrian safety tips.



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Side panoramic view of the Grassy Park Clinic

Public works creates world-class health service in Grassy Park

The Department of Transport and Public Works invested R17,5 million in the new Grassy Park Day Hospital which was constructed over a period of two years. The hospital accommodates 20 staff members who provide healthcare to 3 500 patients each month.

The design of the clinic creates a spacious atmosphere with large windows and high ceilings which allow a vast amount of natural light to enter the building. The building is designed for natural ventilation but also has mechanical ventilation and an extraction system helps to keep the air germ-free.

One of the key features of the clinic is the centrally located waiting area which can accommodate 125 patients and

that boasts a “floating roof”. The floating roof is secured by a light weight steel structure with copious amounts of glass which creates the impression that the roof is floating above the main building.

Another key feature is the two courtyards which nestle the waiting area. These beautiful landscaped internal courtyards can be used by the patients.

Services offered at the clinic include Women and Child Health Care, TB Clinic and STI Clinic as well as HIV Counselling and Testing.



Health care services available at Grassy Park Clinic



Pharmacy in Grassy Park Clinic



Woman and Child Health Unit in Grassy Park Clinic



Entrance of the Grassy Park Clinic



Panoramic view of the waiting room at Grassy Park Clinic

Ceres

Reconstructed R46 provides much-needed economic injection



The upgraded mainroad in Wolseley

The reconstruction of Route 46 (R46) near Wolseley in the Western Cape did not only create much-needed jobs for the people of the province but it will also provide economic injections, especially for fruit farmers and tourism in the region.

The reconstruction is part of the Department of Transport and Public Works' aim to improve rural transport.

The reconstructed road was officially opened by Robin Carlisle, Minister of Transport and Public Works on 4 June 2013.

Other economic benefits will flow from the improvement in the transport corridor from the West Coast to the Southern Cape. Safety is also improved through the improved road width and safer intersections.

The R46 was reconstructed over a distance of 16 km from the eastern end of the Nuwekloof Pass to the turn-off to Wolseley. The reconstruction cost was R226.8 million and the project period was 24 months.

The access road to Wolseley, including the main road through the town, was also reconstructed over a distance of 2.4 km. The upgrading of these roads was done to a Class One Standard, which includes surfaced shoulders, climbing lanes and turning lanes at the major intersections towards Tulbagh and Wolseley.

Approximately R8.8 million was paid in wages to local workers. An amount of R59.8 million was paid to Black Business Enterprises for services provided. Twelve of the companies that benefited were from the nearby towns and they earned an amount of R5.2 million.

The Western Cape Government and the people living near the R46, through this project made transport in rural areas safer, better together.

Franschhoek

R75 million Paarl-Franschhoek main road upgrade adds to tourism corridor

The Minister of Transport and Public Works, Robin Carlisle, and Executive Mayor of the Drakenstein Municipality, Advocate Gesie van Deventer, officially opened the R301 Main Road between Paarl and Franschhoek. The road is an essential link to tourist spots in the Drakenstein area, and is an example how the better together partnership between the Western Cape Government and the people of the province can improve rural transport.

This project comprised the resealing and localised strengthening of two sections of alternative main roads in the Paarl area, namely Main Road 189 (MR189) and Main Road 201 (MR 201). The work on both these sections covered a total of 32km and included:

- Upgrading and re-alignment of stretches and intersections of the road;
- Rehabilitation and strengthening of the road and railway crossing;
- Repairs and maintenance;
- Median barrier cable installations;
- Constructing one meter stabilised widening over the entire length of the project on both sides of the road.



Minister Carlisle and Drakenstein Municipality Executive Mayor Adv Gesie van Deventer, at the ribbon cutting ceremony

"One of the important lessons learnt during this project has been the need for proper community consultation for roads projects from inception to completion. Keeping the community informed is crucial for any successful roads project, a policy that the department employs," said Minister Carlisle.

Lutzville

Lutzville-Vredendal road example of effective Partnership

The Department of Transport and Public Works officially opened the Main Road 552 between Vredendal and Lutzville in the West Coast. The road was a partnership with mining company Tronox.

The company and the Province had entered into the partnership agreement for the upgrade of six kilometres of gravel road on Main Road 552, with Tronox providing the road building materials for the project.

The project cost R18.7 million, and Tronox bore R7.9 million of these costs. Work on the project started on 2 July 2012, and because of construction delays and bad weather (flash flood in early December caused the river to overflow, resulting in minimal damage to the new road), the road was opened for traffic on 7 December 2012, five months after work began.

This partnership is another example of how the Western Cape Government and the people of this province can make rural transport safe and efficient, better together.



Lars Starke from Provincial Roads Management David Southy from Tronox and Minister Carlisle cutting the ribbon



The Main Road 552 between Vredendal and Lutzville



Southern Cape

Western Cape Government spending millions on upgrading road infrastructure in Southern Cape

The Department of Transport and Public Works and the Plettenberg Bay Municipality opened two stretches of resurfaced roads outside the town. The total cost of the project was R67 million and 100 to 120 job opportunities were created during the upgrading of the road.

The newly rehabilitated Piesang Valley and Robberg Roads were opened by the former Executive Manager of the Department's Roads and Transport Management Branch, Mr Hannes Mouton, the Executive Mayor of Bitou Municipality, Mr Memory Booyens and the Deputy Mayor of Bitou Municipality, Councillor Adam Van Rhyner.

Upgrades to the roads included resurfacing, widening of the lanes (roads), installation of new guard rails and improved drainage to alleviate the flooding which occurred during heavy rainfall.

With 4500 vehicles using the Piesang Valley road and 2000 vehicles using Robberg Road daily, road safety was improved through the construction of two new climbing lanes on both roads.



The Mayor of Bitou Municipality Mr Memory Booyens, the former Executive Manager of Roads and Transport Management Mr Hannes Mouton and the Deputy Mayor Mr Adam Van Rhyner



Be SMART. The SMART Driver's Save Money

Learn how you can save petrol by applying these driving habits to your daily travel.



Top 10

1. Keep your car service to save fuel usage by as much as 15%
2. Check your tyres regularly to save fuel consumption by up to 5%
3. Remove unnecessary items from your aerodynamic vehicle to save fuel
4. When driving at higher speeds, reduce fuel consumption by 10%
5. Use air conditioning sparingly to save fuel
6. Try not to idle your engine when you're not driving your car.
7. Avoid aggressive driving by accelerating with a small throttle to save fuel
8. Change to the highest gear as quickly as possible in terms of fuel consumption
9. Try to anticipate traffic and avoid unnecessary stops to save fuel
10. Purchase the most fuel-efficient vehicle for your needs

For more information on being a SMART driver and to learn more about the TravelSmart campaign, visit www.travelsmart.co.za.

We are providing you with travel options. Take the time to find an alternative mode of transport and travel better together.



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SMART driving tips:

serviced and check the fluid level regularly. Badly maintained vehicles can increase fuel consumption by as much as 50%.

Check your tyre pressure at every fill up. Under or over-inflated tyres can increase fuel consumption by up to 40%. They also increase your risk of causing accidents. Please consult your vehicle's manual for the correct pressures.

Remove unnecessary weight and external accessories from your vehicle. Heavier and less aerodynamic vehicles consume more fuel.

When driving at higher speeds, remember to close your windows to reduce wind resistance. Avoid air conditioning only when necessary.

Avoid idling for long periods of time. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than it takes to restart your vehicle. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than it takes to restart your vehicle.

Drive at a constant speed. Accelerating slowly and smoothly uses less fuel than accelerating quickly. Large throttle openings reduce fuel consumption.

Shift into the highest gear as early as possible. Driving in a higher gear is more economical in terms of fuel consumption as it keeps your engines revs down.

Drive in the correct traffic flow. Look at the traffic as far ahead as possible in order to avoid unnecessary stopping and starting.

Drive in the most fuel efficient vehicle you can afford.

To learn more about the travel SMART programme, please visit: www.westerncape.gov.za/travelsmart

Let's work together to make our city a cleaner, greener place to live in. By driving SMART, we can all contribute to a better environment and save money on fuel costs.

Level-crossing camera enforcement pilot project to be extended to Buttskop

The second phase of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) level-crossing camera enforcement system, first implemented at the White Road level-crossing, was extended to the Buttskop railway crossing.

To commemorate International Level-Crossing Awareness Day, Minister of Transport and Public Works, Robin Carlisle, and Metrorail Regional Manager, Mthuthuzeli Swartz, were on site at the Buttskop level-crossing. A horrific mini-bus taxi crash occurred in 2010, that saw 10 children killed and others seriously injured.

"It is fitting that we commemorate this day at this site, the place where a crash on the 25th of August 2010 claimed 10 innocent lives. That day should never be forgotten, and must continue to serve as a reminder of the horror that reckless and irresponsible driving can inflict on those most vulnerable, namely, passengers and pedestrians," said Minister Carlisle.

"With the CCTV level-crossing camera enforcement system, offenders will face harsh fines starting at R500 for failure to stop before crossing the level-crossing. They may also face arrest and charges of reckless and negligent driving, for example, if the booms are ignored. We hope that the effects that this CCTV enforcement has had on White Road will also be felt at Buttskop, with drivers changing their behaviour and adhering to the rules of the road," added Carlisle.

Since the initial implementation at White Road, 1379 fines were issued for failure to stop at the level-crossing. This year, from January until April, 739 fines were issued.

"We are concerned that at two of our most notorious level-crossings namely, Military Road (Steenberg) and Buttskop (Blackheath), incidents of errant motorists flouting life-saving signage have increased, proving just how lax the overwhelming majority of motorists are regarding their personal safety," said Mthuthuzeli Swartz.

"Trains have their headlights on bright and drivers are obligated to sound sirens when approaching level-crossings. Motorists must help us by being more careful and cautious when approaching level-crossings," added Swartz.

The project has been sustained through a joint effort by the Western Cape Ministry of Transport and Public Works, City of Cape Town Traffic Services, Metrorail Western Cape and technical partner Syntell, and since 15 May 2013, the second phase of this project is fully operational.



Metrorail Regional Manager Mthuthuzeli Swartz (left) and Minister Robin Carlisle at the crossing.



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Government

Transport and Public Works

SHARED SERVICES OFFICE BUILDING

A computer generated image of the Khayelitsha Shared Services Office Building

Khayelitsha to receive “FIVE STAR GREEN” shared services centre

On Monday, 4 March 2013, a sod turning event took place on site in Khayelitsha where a brand new Khayelitsha Shared Services Centre is currently under construction. The Minister of Transport and Public Works, Robin Carlisle, and Thando Mguli, former Assistant Executive Manager of Branch Public Works attended the event.

The new building will be the first public building in the Western Cape to attain a Five Star Green Star Rating in terms of criteria developed by the Green Building Council of South Africa.

The Departments to be housed at Khayelitsha Shared Service Centre will offer the following services:

- Agriculture: Farmer Support and Development Public Interface Office where the public can apply for support in the form of subsidies and/or advice on cultivation/agricultural projects.
- Education: The new Education District Office: will provide support services to all Khayelitsha schools and staff.
- Social Development: The new District office will provide support services to the nearby Khayelitsha Social Development public interface service office and all other service points throughout the eastern metropole.
- Health: A new District Office that will provide administrative support services to all clinic and hospital facilities in Khayelitsha and Metropole East.

The contract value for this project is R85,6 million. Construction started in December 2012 and completion is expected in mid-2014.

ROAD DEATHS in the Western Cape on the RISE

The Western Cape continues to record a downward trend in road deaths, but a mid-year review has shown that the rate at which road deaths are decreasing in 2013 is at its lowest compared to other years.

This year road deaths have only decreased by 1% compared to the first six months of 2012. Cumulatively over the last 12 months, deaths have decreased by 28% (from 1739 in January 2009 to 1250 for the past 12 months), a slight set-back from the 30% reduction achieved in February this year. In March 132 people were killed on our roads, the highest figure for any month so far this year.

"Our fatality statistics show that a large percentage of road deaths in the province occur during the weekend, where the deadly effects of drink driving are clearly felt. There can be no doubt that the absence of breathalysers and the removal of our right to "Name and Shame" are substantially increasing the number of drunken drivers on the road," said Transport and Public Works Minister, Robin Carlisle.

The number of **deaths per 100 000** of the population in the Western Cape (WC population averaging at 5.3 million from 2008 till 2012) has gone down from 33.05 in 2008 to 23.80 currently.

The national rate has been reported as being at 33 deaths per 100 000 of the population and rising according to the 2009 Global Status Report on Road Safety.

This is an unacceptable situation that the Western Cape Government is working tirelessly to improve.

Together with the Provincial Government, road users in the Western Cape can make the roads safer to use by following the rules of the road and improving driver behaviour. Together we can make our roads Better Together.

* Statistics are from Statistics South Africa, *Mid-Year Population Estimates 2008-2011*, and Safely Home.

Road crash fatalities: MONTHLY

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Jan	114	147	117	109	104	75
Feb	143	116	118	126	99	68
Mar	182	142	152	122	92	132
Apr	157	132	108	102	107	108
May	143	145	143	112	102	112
Jun	147	122	122	102	107	104
Jul	160	131	128	103	96	111
TOTAL	1046	935	888	776	707	710
% DECREASE	N/A	-10.6	-5.0	-12.6	-8.9	0.4



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CYCLING in the Western Cape

The Department of Transport and Public Works took to the streets to find out from the public their opinions on cyclists. The focus was on cyclists obeying traffic rules and their safety when using the roads.

Western Cape Government and the Public can make Non- Motorised Transport a success

Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) is sometimes referred to as “active transport” and includes all forms of transport that are human or animal powered. This includes

- * Walking
- * Cycling
- * Rollerblading
- * Skateboarding
- * Rickshaw riding
- * Horse riding
- * Wheelchairs

The Provincial Land Transport Framework (PLTF) of the Western Cape Government Department of Transport and Public Works identifies traffic congestion and damage to the environment as two of the major challenges that the City of Cape Town and other bigger towns in the province face.

Mobility by NMT is becoming more important!

When substituting motorised transport with an NMT option, you are contributing to a greener, cleaner planet by lowering carbon emissions.

Cycling and walking are great exercises. They boost physical fitness, assist in maintaining a healthy weight, improve energy levels and support psychological wellbeing.

You will be saving costs as active transport does not require expensive fuel or costly maintenance and repairs to motor vehicles.

The Western Cape Government and the Public can achieve a cleaner and healthier environment through NMT. Together we can make the Province Better Together.



Cyclists do obey traffic rules. The majority of cyclists have a light on the front and back of the bicycle and wear reflective clothing and a helmet for safety purposes.

Cyclists don't pose a danger to themselves because they obey traffic rules and cycle in the bicycle lanes at all times.

- Soraiya, Mitchells Plain

Majority of the time cyclists do not obey traffic rules. Cyclists think traffic rules don't apply to them because cyclists don't need a licence and do not get traffic fines.

Cyclists pose a danger to themselves because sometimes they're in a hurry to get to their destination.

- Nicole Willemse, Mitchell's Plain, Cape Town



Cyclists don't obey traffic rules, because they don't consider other road users and they do not have side view mirrors.

Cyclists pose a danger to themselves due to the lack of side mirrors which result in them not seeing vehicles behind or next to them.

- Andrew Wale, Cape Town

Cyclists don't obey traffic rules because in the Waterfront, there is a designated lane for cyclists but you find some cycling in the motor vehicle lane. When the bus driver hoots in order for them to move out of the way, they become rude and refuse to move. Most cyclists are worse than motor vehicles. They don't obey traffic rules and don't stop at pedestrian crossings.

They pose a danger to themselves and to others due to their reckless cycling on the roads.

- Fahiem Salie, Golden Arrow Bus Driver, Bonteheuwel



Cyclists don't obey traffic rules because they don't cycle in their lane as they're supposed to, they cycle in front of moving vehicles which causes many accidents on the roads and accidents causes delays for other vehicles.

They pose a danger to themselves because they don't have a front and back light, and many others don't wear a helmet or reflective clothing.

- Babalo, Taxi Driver, Dunoon

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