



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Festive season traffic operational launch**

The Western Cape Provincial Traffic Department, in collaboration with Eden District Local Municipalities launched the Eden District Regional Operational Plan in Sedgefield on Friday, 24 November.

To launch this season a short ceremony, attended by various officials from the relevant stakeholders, took place on the N2 Sedgefield at the season's initial roadblock.

Acting Director Community Services, Richard Meyer welcomed the attendees, thanking the role-players for their contribution towards making our roads safe during the season. "I would firstly like to apologise for the Executive Mayor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies' absence. Our mayor unfortunately had another commitment and could not be here with us today. She asked that I extend her thanks to each and every one of you here and your colleagues who are on our roads ensuring road safety for all."

Provincial Regional Director, Nathan Arendse, emphasised that the regional plan would only succeed if there is a good working relationship between the local governments, public and other role-players. "We are here to make a difference and keep people safe on our roads. We cannot do this alone, we need assistance from our Municipal Traffic Departments, SAPS and all other relevant stakeholders. We need to work as a collective, if our aim to keep people safe on our roads is to succeed."

Road authorities have adopted a Zero Tolerance towards any motorist who breaks the law, and fines will immediately be issued to those who break the law. All stakeholders are geared up for the season and have more resources and extra personnel on duty. Special focus is being given to public transport vehicles and any vehicle found un-roadworthy will be impounded and will liable to pay a fee before being released.

Knysna Municipal Traffic Chief, Anthony Bans pleaded with motorists, commuters and pedestrians to ensure their safety at all times. "We urge members of the public not to make use of vehicles that are not roadworthy. Some public transport vehicles are clearly not fit to be on the road. We also ask people not to get into vehicles that are overloaded. It goes without saying that if you drink, you must not drive, or even walk on the roads. As a safety precaution, I ask motorists to please switch on their headlights at all times, put on their seatbelts and check their vehicle's road-worthiness. Please stay safe out there," concluded Bans.

**ENDS**

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