



Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Councillor Mahole Simon Mofokeng

9 December 2008.

It gives us great pleasure to come and share a stage with all of you; important people who are in the fore-front of our struggle to help our people to move from one point to the other. Your role in our day-to-day life is of paramount importance as we cannot do without. It is for this reason, amongst many, that our government must find a way to work and collaborate with you.

This important meeting marks yet another step in our on-going efforts to strengthen Sedibeng as the economic engine of South Africa and a significant player in the regional economy by ensuring that our Public transport system is effective and meets the challenges as we tightens

our bolts and nuts, especially now that we are also preparing for the 2010 and beyond.

But it is also such steps that help us to move closer towards the realization of our vision to become a Globally Competitive City Region. A region that will excel with the systems of transport we provide.

Your meeting makes us even more confident that our chosen road to excellence is the correct one, as it also attests to the high levels of commitment by our Taxi owners, drivers, marshals and other stakeholders of our collective approach to respond comprehensively to the transport developmental challenges facing our region and the province.

I am also highly proud to report and state that in the last few weeks, the Sedibeng District Municipality Department of Transport convened a successful workshop that amongst broader strategic issues that they had captured, included your issues, including taxi related violence which has resulted in many losses of lives. We will further be meeting in February 2009 to enhance transport development in our region as based in the plans available from different sectors, including yours.

That meeting should address the basic principles of safety per the standard of roadworthy vehicles as is required in our roads and provide that drivers should be secured in their vehicles.

I have been reliably informed that today's meeting is a culmination of many hours of hard work and a show of our dedication to the cause of ensuring that the lives of our people are made easier by the day.

We wish to take announce some of our plans:

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Our immediate task is to begin setting the assessment and evaluation of these efforts so as to be able to respond effectively and efficiently when a need arises.

The realizations and success of our aspirations and plans rely on the commitment and dedication of the taxi industry, including all stakeholders from different organizations and the private sector.

I'm confident that this will renew our commitment to work together towards addressing the taxi and other modes of transport developmental challenges facing our region and province.

This we must do so that our collective interventions can deliver maximum impact in the shortest possible time.

I thank you.