



dcstm

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MEDIA RELEASE

08 JANUARY 2025

MEC MORWENG WORRIED BY LACK OF COMMUTER TRANSPORT ON ATAMELANG ROUTES

Mafikeng-The MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management in the North West Wessels Morweng is worried but not shocked by the unavailability of Atamelang Busses on their designated routes around parts of Ngaka Modiri Molema District. The Company which has been part of the commuters daily life in areas like Mahikeng, Zeerust and Lichtenburg stopped to operate around December 2024.

The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management entered into an agreement with Atamelang Bus Transport to provide subsidised commuter transport services in Ngaka Modiri Molema District. The Company experienced serious operational challenges which led to the collapse of operations in the recent months which ultimately contributed to violation of contractual obligations between government and service provider.

Department raised concerns about the collapse of the service with the company and held several meetings between MEC Morweng and Senior Managers of the Department where the company promised to improve on their services but instead the situation deteriorated to the worse.

MEC Wessels Morweng emphasised the importance of putting people of the province first and in this case commuters who must reach their destination on time and safe." It is so disheartening to see our people lining up on our roads waiting for the busses that they are not sure if they will come or not and this also applies to scholars who most of them are from rural communities and rely on the busses to their schools. Our people experienced that with Atamelang and remember I am the MEC but I am also community member so some of this things I see them as I walk around, so I won't hesitate to do what is right , which is to make sure that our people trust those that they have elected to bring services to them", said MEC Morweng.

"We had the same challenge in Bophirima with PUMATRA and we intervene and terminated the contract and mitigated and people in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati have reliable transport now, we will do the same in Ngaka Modiri and get better operators who will not endanger our commuters lives"

The services in Mahikeng, stopped altogether from the 12th December 2024, in Lichtenburg from the 19th December 2024 and in Zeerust from the 18th December 2024.

"Let's Grow North West Together"



This type of situation has inconvenience commuters across the district especially the elderly who solemnly rely on buses, but MEC Wessels Morweng had assures the commuters that there will be a solution soon and apologises to the users more so that the collapse of the services by Atamelang happened during critical times like festive season as well as when the schools are about to reopen.

ENDS!!!

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

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