

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA warns: North West Department of Community Safety and Transport must pay workers, restore transport, and uphold Constitution or face province-wide action
DATE	25 August 2025
EMBARGO	NONE
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned by the North West Department of Community Safety and Transport management's dismal performance in the first quarter of the 2025/26-financial year.

Programmes 1 (Administration) and 3 (Transport Operations) achieved only 50% of the planned targets, reflecting a failure to uphold the constitutional mandate of efficient, transparent, and accountable public administration as enshrined in section 195 of the *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996)*. The PSA fully endorses the North West Legislature Portfolio Committee's directive regarding the North West Transport Investment (NTI). The PSA demands immediate disbursement of salaries to NTI staff to uphold labour rights guaranteed under section 23 of the *Constitution*. Criminal investigation and prosecution of any person unlawfully withholding public funds, in line with the state's obligation to protect the public purse under section 213 of the *Public Finance Management Act (PFMA)* is required as well as swift resolution of protracted legal disputes that obstruct the restoration of essential transport services.

In respect of the Ngaka Modiri Molema commuter transport impasse, the PSA insists that short-term contractual arrangements be concluded without delay, leveraging digital contract management tools to ensure continuity of services. Residents' mobility must not be compromised owing to bureaucratic inefficiencies or opportunistic litigation.

The PSA further calls for full disclosure and reporting on operational and financial plans for provincial airports, with digital monitoring of performance metrics, and the relocation and digitisation plans for the Zeerust Weighbridge to ensure operational efficiency. Appointments of traffic learnerships, internships, and the Provincial Regulatory Entity should be done with transparent, merit-based selection processes. The condition, safety, and functionality of all provincial depots must receive attention, monitored via real-time facility audits with comprehensive South African Police Service vetting of all Community Patrollers to safeguard communities and uphold service integrity.

The PSA supports unannounced oversight inspections of all departmental depots and NTI immovable assets. Public servants and commuters have a constitutional right to reliable and safe services. The Department has a statutory duty to ensure accountability and operational excellence. The PSA calls on the MEC, the departmental leadership, and all relevant stakeholders to act decisively, employ technology-enabled management solutions, and prioritise constitutional responsibilities to protect workers, commuters, and public resources.

END