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MEDIA STATEMENT

KZN PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACTORS IMBIZO FULLY BOOKED IN RECORD-BREAKING TIME

The KwaZulu-Natal Public Works Public Works and Infrastructure department is excited to announce that the seats for the BUILD KZN BETTER Contractors Imbizo are officially booked out and in record time. It took just 48 hours for 300 existing and new contractors to confirm attendance, which was strictly done via RSVP. This is the fastest attendance confirmation in the history of events hosted by KZN Public Works and Infrastructure.

The speedy response is testament that the event is a much-needed platform that will allow contractors the opportunity to, for the first time, engage directly with MEC, department officials and other stakeholders.

Contractors continue to play an important role in KZN Public Works and Infrastructure's ability to deliver services through projects, however, there has never been an opportunity for the two parties to come together under one roof and address challenges, obstacles and even ideas on how to better coordinate projects. This has led to mounting frustration experienced by contractors who have gone too long without being heard.

As a glimpse, speakers during the Contractors Imbizo next week, Monday, the 9th of June at the KZN Sharks Board, will among others include:

- KZN Public Works and Infrastructure MEC, Martin Meyer
- eThekweni Mayor, Cllr Cyril Xaba
- Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB)
- South African Revenue Services (SARS)
- South African Women In Construction (SAWIC)
- Supply Chain Management (SCM)
- Contractors

This will be an opportunity for the gloves to come off for contractors as they will be given a platform to express their grievances and challenges whether related payments, legislation, corruption etc.

These engagements will be thoroughly documented as part of minutes arising with certain events followed up on.

The issues raised will also form part of a realigned document that will make the working environment and relations between contractors and KZN Public Works and Infrastructure more conducive.

It is to be kindly noted that no walk-ins will be allowed for the event.

Members of the media are encouraged to RSVP by no later than 7th June to allow for accommodation and technical planning.

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