

Media Statement: Issued George Municipality, Wednesday 24 April @ 09:30
Alderman Bazil Petrus, Chairperson Section 79 GIPTN Committee

Following the recent letter of request to halt the rolling out of GO GEORGE Phase 4B by the National Minister for Transport Blade Nzimande, the Chairperson of the George Council Committee for the George Integrated Public Transport Project (GIPTN), Alderman Bazil Petrus has requested that due consideration must be given to the plight of the poorest communities to expand the public transport to include roll out of services to the rest of the areas that currently do not enjoy the convenience of the bus services yet. All citizens of George are entitled to a safe, reliable, scheduled and accessible transport service.

“It is imperative for all stakeholders to continue the consultative and open communication processes being followed to attempt to reach agreement on the way forward for the GO GEORGE bus service. Huge progress has been made thus far and it would be a pity if further roll out of the service is once again delayed because of a conflict situation which can actually be resolved through mediation and consultation. The simple fact is that various impediments have prevented the bus service remaining phases from being rolled out for the past three years,” said Ald. Petrus.

George Municipality was reprimanded by the National Department of Transport to either roll out another phase of the bus system or to face the prospect of the national grant funding being withdrawn. The decision was then taken by George Council to roll out Phase 4B in order to ensure the due spending of the grant funding while continuing to engage with all stakeholders. Alderman Petrus welcomes the National Minister for Transport Blade Nzimande’s visit to George and his assistance with the current consultative process to ensure future progressive rollouts of the next GO GEORGE phases.