



Private Bag X54336, DURBAN, 4000  
455a King Cetshwayo Highway, Mayville 4001

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **KZN PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT TO IMMEDIATELY ADVERTISE FOR VACANT SITES, UNUSED BUILDINGS AND LONG-TERM LEASES FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL BUILD KZN BETTER CONFERENCE**

Following the success of the BUILD KZN BETTER conference this week, MEC for Public Works and Infrastructure, Martin Meyer, has announced that his department will immediately move to put out adverts for several properties currently owned by the department. This is one of the immediate measures being taken as a show of commitment towards finding solutions to the many challenges facing the built environment, which the two-day conference held at the Durban ICC aimed to address.

The event, which was attended by just over 550 delegates resulted in great discussions and ideas emerging, especially on the second day at various plenary sessions. These ideas and discussions looked at how to better engage the financial sector, how to uplift rural and peri-urban communities through injected investment, how to boost tourism prospects, lower red tapes, and allow for increased participation of the private sector. The commissions also devised aggressive methods of tackling the increasing number of abandoned government properties.

Prior to the conference, held on Tuesday and Wednesday, MEC Meyer had committed that this would be a gathering marked by action steps taken going forward, with immediate implementations taking place.

To this end KZN Public Works and Infrastructure will be releasing adverts to the public for the sale of:

- 108 vacant sites
- 28 sites for long-term leases and
- 7 underutilized buildings for expression of interest

Among other things, it's hoped that the move will see private organizations coming forward to share robust ideas on how these assets can be utilized. In turn KZN Public Works and Infrastructure will assist in realizing these suggested innovations, especially if it will be to the immediate benefit of the greater public.

MEC Meyer remains committed to making each and every asset owned by KZN Public Works and Infrastructure a mechanism that uplifts the communities of KZN.

During a recent media briefing the MEC also shared that the audit process was on track at around 43% with just over 10 000 assets on the department's registry identified. Once completed, the asset audit will allow KZN Public Works and Infrastructure to better serve the people of this province and to build KZN better.

**END**

**Contact details:**

Steve Bhengu – KZN Public Works and Infrastructure spokesperson

083 681 7928 / 066 1242 766