



Gauteng National Taxi Alliance

Hon MEC Kedibone Diale-Tlabela
MEC for Transport and Logistics
16 Floor
45 Commissioner Street
Johannesburg

29 June 2026

Dear MEC, Diale-Tlabela

MATTERS ARISING FROM RECENT ENGAGEMENTS AND APPRECIATION FOR ONGOING PARTNERSHIP

On behalf of the taxi industry in Gauteng, we extend our sincere appreciation for the consistent working relationship between the industry and the Department of Transport and Logistics over the years. Your department's efforts to regulate, formalize, and professionalize the sector have been tangible and encouraging. We remain committed to continuing this constructive trajectory, as we collectively see the light at the end of the tunnel for a modern, well-governed, and sustainable taxi industry able to provide professional services to its best deserving commuting public.

We write further to the recent meeting held between the provincial leadership of the taxi industry, your office, and the Department. At that engagement, we raised a serious concern regarding instances where your office has met and further intend to meet with local taxi associations without the involvement of the duly elected provincial and regional leadership, nor inclusion of these structures in your programme. The industry's leadership perceives this practice as undermining its mandated role and responsibilities, and we are not clear on the reasons for this unprecedented approach.

Following the meeting, the industry convened its structures at provincial, regional, and association levels through our management committees, the highest decision-making bodies between conferences, to deliberate on the matter.

The following resolutions were taken:

Should the MEC wish to meet associations at local level, such engagements must be coordinated through the provincial and regional leadership, and those structures must be included in the MEC's programmes and activities.

If engagements proceed without this coordination and inclusion, the industry has resolved that it will not support or participate in those programmes.

The industry does not support activities where operating licences are handed out at intervals determined solely by the MEC's calendar, resulting in operators waiting for ceremonial handovers for an undefined period.

Licences are applied for at the regional offices (Tolabs) in the operators' localities; accordingly, operators should collect their licences at those same local offices. Requiring operators to attend regional handovers is costly, time-consuming, and delays the collection of licences.

We therefore respectfully advise that operating licences be released and collected at the local offices as soon as they are ready, without delay pending any ceremonial events.

Further to the above, we also wish to commend you and the Department for decisively addressing the operating licence backlog. The situation has markedly improved, and operators are receiving their licences more promptly, apart from the delays occasioned by waiting for regional handovers. Resolving this final procedural hurdle will consolidate the significant progress already made.

The industry values the cordial and professional relationship that characterized your predecessors' terms and the first part of your tenure. We are eager to return fully to that mode of partnership so that we may continue to support the MEC and the provincial government in the shared endeavour to regularize, professionalize, and strengthen our industry for the benefit of commuters, operators, and the broader economy.

However, we regret to inform the honourable MEC, that we have been directed to advise the MEC, that should the MEC fail to respond positively to the above requests, then the taxi industry will be left without a choice but to among others:

1. Declare a formal dispute with due regard to applicable legislation.
2. Exercise its democratic and constitutional rights. Including, but not limited to the right to withhold its labour.
3. Escalate the dispute to the higher echelons of government.

We remain available to meet at your earliest convenience to confirm a coordinated engagement framework and a streamlined, locally based licence collection process.

Sincerely,



Alfred Mashishsi
Secretary General



Alpheus Mlalazi
General Secretary