



a world class African city



**SPEECH BY THE MEMBER OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE, CLR SELLO LEMAO AT THE LAUNCH OF THE
FESTIVE SEASON PUBLIC SAFETY CAMPAIGN**

04 December 2012

“Creating Safe communities”

Programme Director
Members of the Mayoral Committee present here today
Managers and Officials of Council
The Media
Ladies and gentlemen

Today we launch “OPERATION MASIPHEPHE” aimed at mobilizing members of the communities to work with law enforcement officers in line with the City’s - Joburg 2040 strategy to create resilient, sustainable and liveable environments in the City of Johannesburg.

The campaign seek to enhance a comprehensive plan, launched by the Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Clr Mpho Parks Tau, on the 24th July 2012 to tackle crime, grime and improve quality of life of communities.

Through this campaign the City seeks to create a safe environment for all residents and to reduce crime through visible policing on main arterials and an extensive public education drive aimed at empowering communities to respect themselves and the environment they live in. Ours is to create conscious communities who will work with the authorities to create liveable communities.

The City’s law enforcement officers and emergency management personnel will, through this campaign, demonstrate their willingness to serve the community with pride.

The City Johannesburg Public Safety has over the years contributed to the massive reduction of fatalities on our roads, crime incidents in our communities

and a number of motor vehicle accidents that occur during festive season. This year marks a new era; where we are working towards an incident free Festive Season and community involvement is critical in the realization of this goal.

The festive season campaign will focus on Traffic Management, Water Safety (Floods, Flash Floods and Drowning), Compliance to Storage and Usage of Fireworks, Pedestrian Safety, Crime Prevention, Roadworthiness and By Law Enforcement.

The City of Johannesburg plays a critical role in the broader National Festive Safety awareness campaign. Johannesburg is a cosmopolitan city with communities from different provinces and countries. Therefore, we want to empower our communities and inculcate a culture of responsible citizenry amongst all our residents.

This is to ensure that Joburg residents going away on holiday continue replicated this culture of responsible citizenry wherever they go this holiday season.

This season is often referred to as the '**wet season**' precisely because of unpredictable heavy rain patterns. It is therefore imperative that the City disseminate safety information and the dangers associated with water especially floods, flash floods and drowning.

Over and above flooding, other risks like road and pedestrian accidents tend to increase as holidaymakers either be drive to Johannesburg, as a popular holiday destination or through our freeways to other destinations outside Johannesburg.

Furthermore this season also falls within the summer school holidays, the period during which many people take leave to get away from normal daily activities and visit places of entertainment, parks, and shopping centres or even go on holiday for a well-deserved rest. It's unfortunate that during this season criminal elements become active, as the community is relaxed and residences are left unattended. We therefore urge the city's residents to be vigilant at all times and remain safe, MASIPHEPHE BANTU BA KITHI.

It is also during this time when there is an increase of illegal trading activities especially at busy intersections and in close proximity of public transport nodes.



a world class African city



Disregard of by-laws such as illegal trading, urinating in public places, illegal dumping and littering will be tackled.

Many events are planned over the festive period requiring police visibility due to irregularities such as abuse of alcohol that may affect the safety of the community. BE Warned, Drinking and Driving we will not be tolerated. Correct procedures will be followed and those breaking the law will face the wrath of the law.

Effort will be made ensure a free flow of traffic on all main arterials However, in an effort to reduce accidents; a zero tolerance approach will be implemented. Rapid roadside checks, road policing, the by-laws enforcement as well as stop and search activities will be implemented.

There is also an increase of Fireworks usage during this period. It is therefore important to create awareness about compliance to by-laws which related to the storage, legislative restrictions, limitations and penalties for the use and selling of fireworks.

Safety is our collective responsibility. We therefore, urge communities to work with the City in its effort to accelerate service delivery, thereby build resilient and safe communities for all.

ENDS

By:

Nana Radebe
EMS Spokesperson
Mobile: 083 444 6849

Wayne Minnaar
JMPD Spokesperson
082 559 3882

Bongani Nhleko
MMC Spokesperson
082 300 5671