EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Office of the Democratic Alliance

Hon. Dr Malcolm Figg, MPL

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28 September 2026

To: **Minister Barbara Creecy**
Minister of Transport
Republic of South Africa
Per email: TransportMinistry@dot.gov.za

Dear Minister Creecy

RE: REQUEST FOR NATIONAL INTERVENTION: CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF DR02006 (FORMER KIRKWOOD / NQWEBA ROUTE) AND LACK OF PROVINCIAL ACTION

I write to request your intervention regarding the continued deterioration of the DR02006, formerly known as the Kirkwood / Nqweba route, in the Sundays River Valley, Eastern Cape.

This matter has repeatedly been raised with the Eastern Cape MEC for Transport and the provincial Department of Transport. My initial correspondence of 30 October 2025 set out the serious condition of this road and requested urgent rehabilitation and maintenance. A further follow-up was addressed to MEC Xolile Nqatha on 16 January 2026.

Regrettably, despite these repeated representations and the considerable period that has now elapsed, there has been no meaningful action to address the underlying deterioration of the road and no satisfactory indication of when comprehensive rehabilitation will take place.

The matter has also been pursued through the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature by means of Internal Question 1347. Our efforts have therefore extended beyond correspondence and have included the formal oversight mechanisms available to us at provincial level.

The DR02006 is not an insignificant rural road. It is an important economic and social artery

serving Nqweba, Enon, Bersheba, Moses Mabida and surrounding communities. It carries agricultural traffic, public transport, emergency services and ordinary road users and is particularly important to the citrus industry and broader economy of the Sundays River Valley. The original representations recorded approximately 3,000 vehicles using the route daily, with an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 vehicles traversing the four-way crossing at the DR02006 and R336 intersection.

While limited patching has previously been undertaken, this does not constitute the comprehensive rehabilitation required to address the structural deterioration of the route. The continued absence of a sustainable intervention is placing road users at risk while imposing an unnecessary burden on residents, farmers, businesses and transport operators.

Minister, having exhausted reasonable attempts to obtain meaningful intervention at provincial level, I respectfully request whether your office would consider to:

1. Engage the Eastern Cape MEC and Department of Transport to establish why the repeated representations concerning the DR02006 have not resulted in comprehensive remedial action;

2. Request a formal assessment of the current condition of the DR02006 and clarity on the rehabilitation and maintenance work required to restore the route to a safe and serviceable condition;

3. Obtain from the provincial Department a clear implementation plan, including the anticipated scope of works, funding arrangements and timeframes for the rehabilitation of the route; and

4. Advise what assistance or intervention the national Department of Transport can provide, within its mandate, to ensure that this increasingly urgent provincial road infrastructure problem is addressed.

I recognise the respective responsibilities of national and provincial government in relation to the road network. My approach to your office is therefore not intended to circumvent the provincial Department but follows repeated attempts to obtain action through the appropriate provincial channels.

The communities and economic sectors dependent on this road cannot reasonably be expected to endure an indefinite cycle of deterioration, temporary patching and uncertainty.

I therefore respectfully request your assistance in securing a clear, accountable and time-bound response from the relevant provincial authorities.

Copies of my previous correspondence to the MEC are attached for ease of reference.

I look forward to your considered response.

Yours faithfully,



HON DR MALCOLM FIGG, MPL

Shadow MEC for Finance and for Public Works and Infrastructure
Constituency Leader: Blue Crane Route Municipality

CC: Hon Xolile Nqatha, MEC for Transport, Eastern Cape
CC: Hon K Mogatosi MPL, Shadow MEC for Transport
CC: Cllr Karen Smith, DA Caucus Leader