

# City plan for public transport

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RIDING on an ambitious vision, the City of Cape Town has launched Transport for Cape Town, a transport authority that aims to ensure all modes of land-based transport in the metropole are seamless, safe and affordable.

The city also wants to introduce a single ticket system for all modes of transport in Cape Town.

The colorful launch ceremony in a packed City Hall yesterday was punctuated by speeches from a high-powered delegation from three spheres of government.

Among those who spoke were Transport Minister Ben Martins, Cape Town mayor Patricia de Lille, transport and public works MEC Robin Carlisle and Mayco member for transport, road and stormwater, Brett Herron.

Martins said the event highlighted progress being made in providing “safe and reliable transport for all”.

He said providing such transport involved “effective” regulation of public transport, an integrated approach towards public transport planning and ensuring that different public transport modes complemented each other.

He said the national department would continue to support the city to ensure that the transport regulatory entity was a success.

Herron said the apartheid legacy was deeply embedded into the fabric of our beautiful city and the majority of our residents still struggle on a daily basis to overcome it.

“When we make our commitment to fix our public transport system, we are mindful that we are addressing so much more than mobility, we are, in fact, addressing this apartheid legacy.

“Our vision is for a commuter-focused, integrated, multi-modal public transport service, universally accessible to all, within 500 meters of nearly every home,” he said.

Speaking to the media following her address, De Lille said she hoped the taxi industry would agree to be included under the new authority.

According to De Lille, those who refused to work under the inclusive transport authority would be paid a compensation to opt out of the industry. – WCN