

Ms N R Bhengu Chairperson Portfolio Committee on Transport P O Box 15 CAPE TOWN 8000

Dear Honourable Chairperson

SALGA WRITTEN SUBMISSION ON THE PROPOSED TRANSPORT LAWS AND RELATED MATTERS AMENDMENT BILL, 2012

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) is an association of 278 municipalities with its mandate derived from Section 163 of the 1996 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. This mandate defines SALGA as the voice and sole representative of local government. To that end, SALGA interfaces with Parliament, the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), Cabinet as well as Provincial Legislatures.

Our role as SALGA, in line with our constitutional and legislative mandate is to:

- Represent, promote and protect the interests of local government;
- Transform local government to enable it to fulfil its developmental role;
- Raise the profile of local government;
- Ensure full participation of women in local government;
- Perform its role as an employer body; and
- Develop capacity within municipalities

This submission should be understood within the context of SALGA's mandate and role as outlined above.

## 2. PURPOSE OF SUBMISION

The purpose of this written submission is to provide input in the areas of the envisaged legislative amendment, such that the Parliamentary processes of considering the necessary amendment that apply, are also informed and guided by the views of organised local government.

While the public notice calling upon interested people and stakeholders to submit written comments sets out specific objectives that the amendment bill seek to address, the input provided by SALGA herein covers

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issues impacted upon by the current South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Act 7 of 1998. It therefore makes a proposal not necessarily covered in the proposed legislation, but which should be understood as an addition to the proposed amendment.

This submission is primarily based on achieving the following objective:

- a) Giving a provision within the legislation for studies on the impact of the diversion of traffic from proposed urban tolled roads into local roads. These studies should be about likely congestion and resultant costs of road maintenance and traffic management and should form the basis for decision making regarding whether to toll a road or not or determining mitigating measures against negative impacts if the tolling has to go ahead.
- 3. WRITTEN SUBMISSION AND COMMENTS ON THE TRANSPORT LAWS AND RELATED MATTERS AMENDMENT BILL, 2012

In general, SALGA supports the proposed amendments as set out in the public notice.

- 4. PROPOSED INCLUSIONS TO THE TRANSPORT LAWS AND RELATED MATTERS AMENDMENT BILL, 2012
- 4.1 WITH REGARDS TO SECTION 27 OF ACT 7 OF 1998

Section 27 of the South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Act, 1998, must hereby be amended by an addition, in Subsection (4) of a new paragraph before the existing paragraph 4(a) which will be as follows:

"4(a) the Agency, in applying for the Minister's approval for the declaration has, in partnership with affected municipalities, undertaken studies on the likely impact of the contemplated road tolling on local roads in terms of diversion and related maintenance and traffic management and has included mitigating measures of such in the application"

## 5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

SALGA appreciates the opportunity that has been made available to stakeholders aimed at enhancing the legislative amendment process as envisaged by Parliament.

We would also appreciate Portfolio Committee's indulgence for SALGA to make a detailed presentation to the Committee at the appropriate time as determined by the parliamentary programme. At such opportune time, SALGA will augment on the written submission made herein.

Yours, sincerely,

THABO M MANYONI CHAIRPERSON

DATE: 06 NOVEMBER 2012