



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG
COUNCILLOR KENNY KUNENE
MEMBER OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE
ROADS & TRANSPORT

MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday, 25 October 2023
For immediate release

METROBUS LAUNCHES WORLD CLASS DIGITISATION TOOLS ON BUSES

As the annual October Transport Month draws to a close, Metrobus today introduced world class technological tools on the buses. MMC for Transport, Cllr. Kenny Kunene officially launched the new fleet management system “eye-on-the-bus”, availability of free Wi-Fi as well as the piloting of the interim Automated Fare Collection (AFC) system.

MMC Kunene reiterated that as the City of Johannesburg endeavours to become a *world class African city*, smart mobility is at the heart of that. “Today, signifies a huge milestone as Metrobus aligns with the strategic direction of the City, we are shaping the future of how we do business as we seize every opportunity to innovate and adapt transportation in creating a better traveling experience for our commuters” said MMC Kunene.

The introduction of our new bus fleet management system will provide Metrobus with real-time data, allowing instantaneous and optimised decision-making processes. The eye-on-the-bus on the buses will enhance the way Metrobus connects with customers, through the provision of greater safety by monitoring driver behaviour, bus-tracking as well as commuter activity. “It will enhance the ability to serve our customers better by ensuring that we are always where they need us to be, when they need us to be there”, said Metrobus Acting MD, Luyanda Gidini. It is indicative to the City’s commitment to customer satisfaction, convenience, and continued progressiveness, in a world that is increasingly reliant on technology. The third element of today’s programme was the launching of an interim AFC system. Though a pilot launch, it signifies the City’s commitment to implementing safer, simpler, and more customer-centricity payment methods, by making the ticketing process seamless and convenient. This will be phased in, allowing both commuters and bus operators to acclimatise to the new system.

According to Acting City Manager, Thedi Moropa, “the City of Joburg recognised the importance of technology in the daily lives of our citizens and had ensured that the smart city agenda features prominently in how we strategically usher in technological transformation”. He reiterated that economic success of any leading city, is founded in smart technology. Technology plays a pivotal role in ensuring such cities thrive operationally and financially.

This year’s Transport Month activities continue to highlight the City’s plans which are aimed towards building an effective, safe, affordable, accessible and reliable transport system. MMC Kenny Kunene together with the Transport Department will continue to provide residents with information to empower them about public transport and road safety through various interactive and face-to-face information sharing sessions.

ENDS

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