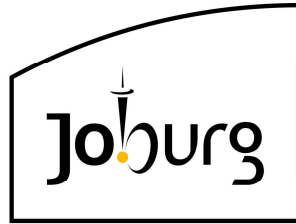




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City's unanimous support for motion on free bus transportation for Pensioners and Persons with Disabilities during off peak hours.

30 April 2018

Release: Immediate

I am happy to announce Council's unanimous support for free bus transportation for the elderly and persons with disabilities during off peak times. This motion was tabled at the Council sitting held last week on the 26th of April 2018, by Councillor Devanand Maharaj (COPE). Councillor Victor Penning (DA) seconded the motion and it received overwhelming support.

Councillor Maharaj is the Chairperson of the section 79 Oversight Committee in the Legislature (OCOL) and a Proportional Representation (PR) Councillor. The seconder, Councillor Penning, is the Chairperson of the section 79 Finance committee in the legislature. Councillor Maharaj believes that enhancing the mobility of pensioners and Persons with Disabilities will improve their access to basic services and economic opportunities. It will also improve their overall well-being in the City of Johannesburg. He is pleading with the transport sector and other stakeholders to partner with the City to roll out free off peak transportation for pensioners and people with disabilities.

Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for transport, MMC Nonhlanhla Makhuba (IFP), amended the motion recommending Council availing budget for the implementation. She further amended the motion with recommendations that the City should initiate a progressive realization of exemption of pensioners and persons with disabilities on Metrobus and Rea Vaya busses by launching the pilot project in 2018/19 financial year. The results of the pilot project, along with the lessons derived from it are to be brought back to Council for information purposes. Her final amendment was that the actual rollout of the exemptions begin in the 2019/20 financial year. The motion and amendments were unanimously adopted by Council.

Councillor Vasco da Gama

Speaker of the Johannesburg Council

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