



public works

Department:
Public Works
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Issued by Chief Directorate: Communication

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MEDIA STATEMENT

According to the White Paper on Public Works towards the 21st century tabled in September 1997, it's stated that there should be better access to buildings for disabled South Africans, along lines suggested in the integrated National Disability Strategy; but some of the old buildings do not have these disability-friendly facilities. However the Department of Public Works will conduct a feasibility study and compile a Status Quo Report for expediting the task of disability-friendly facilities and then implement the recommendations of the court accordingly.

In instances where renovations or maintenance is being done on old buildings, as a Department we ensure that disability-friendly facilities are included.

We will also ascertain with the South African Police Service if a budget is available for making police stations that are not disability-friendly compatible with the stipulations of the White Paper and of the PE Magistrates Court and determine if such projects have been prioritised.

As for the ruling made by the Port Elizabeth Equality Court in favour of people with disabilities, the Department accepts the decision and respects the rule of law.

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