

MEC'S TALKS WITH TRANSNET ABOUT OUTENIQUA CHOO-TJOE SUCCESSFUL

We've done it!

This afternoon, the Western Cape Minister of Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Alan Winde, met with Transnet's Group Executive, Mr Karl Socikwa, to discuss his strong views around the continued operation of the Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe. Acting Group CEO of Transnet, Chris Wells, was called to an urgent engagement and unfortunately could not make the meeting.

Minister Winde asserts that the meeting went very well, with Transnet reconfirming its commitment to keeping the Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe going until the disposable process into a new company is finalised.

Shortly after emerging from the meeting, Minister Winde had this to say: "We will shortly be announcing the date on which the Provincial Government of the Western Cape, in conjunction with Transnet, will hold a public platform. At the engagement, we will release an information memorandum calling for Expressions of Interest from parties who wish to respond to the call for the private sector to take over the Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe.

The information memorandum will contain the executive summary of the business cases commissioned by the Provincial Government of the Western Cape on the George - Mossel Bay line and the George - Knysna Line."

We will be inviting all stakeholders, communities and businesses to respond and join in the public meeting. We hope to see you there!

We'll keep you updated about any new developments that come to light.

Please call at 021 483 3531, or e-mail <u>finmin@pgwc.gov.za</u>, to give your input on how best to save the train.

