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# NEWS

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### Little hope for CT's congestion-weary truckers

Congestion near and around container depots in the City of Cape Town is not going to ease up in the near future with initial enquiries into the matter clearly showing that cost is a major stumbling block.

The Port Liaison Forum, an initiative of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, called in the City about the congestion outside the container depot just off the Koeberg intersection on the M5 in Maitland which is proving to be exceptionally problematic.

There is daily congestion on the off-ramp affecting traffic onto the N1 as trucks queue to get into the container depot.

Whilst the City has acknowledged the problem and the possible need for extensions and work along the intersection to ease the flow of traffic, cost is a concern.

In a letter to the forum the city's Transport Management Centre states that to address the congestion it would firstly have to relocate underground high voltage cables and secondly expropriate land from a nearby school as there are no alternate solutions or options on the table to address the problem. “

Both will have notable cost implications which would ultimately affect the ability of this project to attract funding from a cost-benefit perspective in the broader metropolitan context,” reads a letter. But the City said it would continue to ascertain the cost benefit ratio and project feasibility.

Business has counter-reacted saying they are going to launch an investigation of their own into the incurred costs to their operations in lost time due to congestion.

“It comes down to a comparison of their cost estimate in relation to the costs incurred by the road users,” said a spokesman for the PLF. “We will continue to work with the City as we believe it is crucial we find a solution to this daily problem.”

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