

THE FOURTH (4th) STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS (SOMA)
OF HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF THE FETAKGOMO LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY CLLR. RAESETSA KUKIE SEFALA, DELIVERED 28TH
MAY 2015, MOSES MABOTHA CIVIC CENTRE, 13H00



HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF THE FETAKGOMO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CLLR. RAESETJA KUKIE SEFALA

Theme: "Together lets move Fetakgomo forward"



THE FOURTH (4th) STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS (SOMA) OF HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF THE FETAKGOMO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CLLR. RAESETJA KUKIE ELIZABETH SEFALA DELIVERED ON THURSDAY, 28TH MAY 2015, MOSES MABOTHA CIVIC CENTRE, 13H00.

Mr Speaker Cllr. Mamphekgo KK, Chiefwhip of the Council Cllr. Phala NT, Members of the Executive Committee, Chairpersons of various Portfolio Committees in Council, Fellow Councillors, Our Traditional Leaders and their entourage, The Business Community, Executive Management of the Mining sector, Leaders of Political Parties; the Organised Labour, Veterans of our struggle for national liberation and their families, Representatives and leaders of Civil Society, Youth, Women and People with Disability, Distinguished Guests, Comrades and Friends, Members of the Media, The People of Fetakgomo – we extend greetings to you all.

We like to thank you for this special opportunity to put before you this fourth (4th) review of the Five Year, 2010/11-2015/16 IDP/Budget. The IDP/Budget review is guided by Article 34 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, No. 32 of 2000 read together with Article 24 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, No. 56 of 2003.

This marks the fourth (4th) official State of the Municipality Address of the third (3rd) democratically elected Council of the Fetakgomo Local Municipality.

Our State of the Municipality Address takes place at the dust of concluding 20 years of freedom and democracy in South Africa. Excited by many successes we have achieved, 2015 is the year in which we celebrate the 15 years of democratic developmental local government.

Naturally challenges still remain as we head towards the 2016 local government elections.

By and large, we still believe that citizen's experiences of local government have generally been positive one. It is nonetheless imperative that our Municipality continues to be at the forefront of improving people's lives and creating conditions for inclusive economic growth and job creation.

Speaking of 2016 Local Government Elections, we are only left with few months which are likely to be among the most important in the annals of our democratic history. As such, it is critical, Councillors, that we do not bask in the glory of our success particularly when still so much work remains to be done.

The Fetakgomo Council and its population therefore need to ensure that our focus remains on making a fundamentally positive impact on the core issues of poverty, inequality and unemployment that continues to blight our country. Principally, it is the Africans, women and youth who continue to carry a disproportionate burden of the challenges.

Over the next decade, both the ANC and all organs of state shall pay a single-minded and undivided attention to overcome these triple related challenges.

Delivering his January 8th Statement, the ANC and State President Jacob Zuma said that:

"To achieve radical and economic transformation it was important for the country to use the Freedom Charter as a guide to shaping policies and legislation that are aimed at serving all South African".

Therefore we call upon all sectors of the society to embrace the Freedom Charter. This year marks the 60th anniversary of this historic document. Let us make 2015 the year of unity and cooperation's among all and sundry as we continue to transform our beloved, beautiful Municipality into the prosperous one as envisioned in the Constitution, the Limpopo Development Plan and the Freedom Charter.

In the result, this State of the Municipality Address is squarely dedicated to about 93 814 people comprising the population of Fetakgomo in general and memories of the heroes and heroines of the struggle like Peter Nchabeleng, Lawrence Phokanoka, Solomon Maditsi, Matsatsi Nchabeleng and many other countless revolutionaries who were produced and mothered by this area.

The month of May is also remembered and revered to Walter Sisulu, one of the architects of our liberation. The late Walter Sisulu was born on the 17th May 1912 and subsequently died on the 05th May 2003.

Mr Speaker

This IDP/Budget speech is being presented at a time when all of us, South Africans should be burying our heads in shame at the senseless xenophobic attacks that are directed at our fellow brothers and sisters. On the freedom day month, we have seen and witnessed shocking and unacceptable incidents of violence directed at foreign nationals in some part of the country which had potential to spread to some parts of our areas. We must emphasize the point that not all South Africans are involved in these acts of violence. South African citizens at all levels have condemned these violence attacks on foreign nationals in our country. We must also all play our part to stop these attacks. We condemn this violence in all strongest possible terms because our constitution says South Africa belongs to all who live in it.

The Fetakgomo Municipality continues to enjoy and have an excellent relationship with foreign nationals. We place a very high premium on our relationship with with the foreign nationals.

The Bible said in the book of Leviticus Chapter 19 verse 33-34:

"When a foreigner lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him. The foreigner living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the LORD your God".

As we continue to fight to destroy this scourge of xenophobia including the so-called Afro-phobia, we must adopt the same determination we had when we were fighting for our freedom, as Oliver Tambo once said:

"The fight for freedom must go on until it is won; until our country is free and happy and peaceful as part of the community of man, we cannot rest".

Truth be told - no amount of frustration and anger can justify the attacks on foreign nationals and the looting of their shops under the pretext of service delivery.

The Mandate

Mr Speaker our work as the ANC led council in Fetakgomo Municipality continues to focus on the implementation of priorities that were raised in the 2011 ANC Election Manifesto to ensure that whatever we do responds to the aspirations of ordinary people who overwhelmingly people who overwhelmingly mandated the ANC to govern this municipality. Our manifesto outline five year programme which among others pays particular attention to:

- Creating conditions for an inclusive economy that will reduce unemployment, poverty and inequality and produce decent jobs and sustainable livelihoods
- Access to education and training
- Better quality health care system
- Rural Development and Land Reform
- Safer communities as serious and priority crimes are reduced, corruption defeated and our criminal justice system is radically changed

Today we stand before this eminent scheduled council to reflect on our performance and look at what next the 2015/16 financial year.

On Governance

Mr Speaker, our municipality believes in participatory democracy where communities are the drivers of development programmes. We do not do this only because of an obligation by statutes to embark on consultation, but also because we have been enjoined by the Freedom Charter which tells us in no unequivocal terms "that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people."

Therefore, we went to all corners of our municipality to gather the people's inputs that inform the Integrated Development Plan and Budget of the municipality. We are able to reach the majority of the community through these meetings and through the use of other communication strategies, including the municipal website.

We do not confine our community interface to these statutory meetings, monthly ward feedback meetings are also convened by our ward councillors. Reports from these meetings are then submitted and examined by Council on quarterly basis.

In developing this budget, we have taken into account the inputs of our people in the IDP/Budget Public Participation Session we held across the municipality in April and May 2015. Our presence here today, is a culmination of a long journey of consultative process reminiscent of participatory democracy. Indeed an umbrella concept characterizing both the IDP and Budget processes is public participation.

Thus, a critical question may be asked:

'To what extent is this IDP and Budget based on the will of the people?'

Mr Speaker, perhaps it important at this stage to interpolate briefly with all present here today about the developmental challenges identified during the consultative process. Catalogued in a descending order of priorities, the developmental challenges identified included:

- Surfacing of D4190 from Ga Nkoana to Leporong
- Construction of SAPS Apel Police Station
- Maximum Utilisation of the former Sekhukhune College of Education
- Department of Agriculture Offices be in Fetakgomo to access services closer to communities

Mr Speaker, the objective reality is that these are outside the amenable powers and functions of the Fetakgomo Municipality. They vest in other spheres of government. Be that as it may, the municipality has brought these to the attention of the relevant spheres of government and service authorities.

We want to thank the people and community structures of our municipality for their overwhelming turnout at various venues where these important meetings were held. We have ensured that the inputs and comments of our communities provide the planks for our roadmap to the future-in a municipality where everyone can and should invest.

The government is embarking on a "Back To Basic Programme" with the aim to strengthening governance and ensuring service delivery in the local sphere. Cognizant of the immense responsibility resting on our shoulders, our Council has adopted back to basic action plan for implementation.

We have also made sure that this budget keeps us on track in the quest to achieve the objective of the 2011 ANC Local Government Election Manifesto which we adopted as our programme of action for this current term.

Mr Speaker

It is common knowledge that our Municipality experienced financial ups and downs in recent financial years. The 2013/14 result was a disclaimer of opinion of our financials. In response and mitigation, we have developed an External Audit Action Implementation Plan with the salient purpose of restoring the sound financial management of the Municipality. We have also appointed the Pricewater Coopers to maintain and update the Asset Register in line with GRAP standards. Moreover, most of the audit findings emanated from the assets. We have also set ourselves to establish Asset Unit. In this regard, we have advertised for the posts of Asset Manager and Asset Officer a view to improving the assets related audit findings. The selection and recruitment is at an advance stage.

The Minister of COGTA Mr Pravin Gordan has promulgated the redetermination of municipal boundaries in the country in preparation for 2016 Local Government elections for comments. Consequently, the Municipal Demarcation Board has in terms of Section 26(3) of the Local Government Municipal Demarcation Act No 27 of 1998 invited submission of written representations or views on the proposed redetermination of municipal boundaries. And on the 15th April public hearing was convened by the Municipal Demarcation Board and citizens have spoken. We should patiently wait for the outcome of the process.



We also recognize the important role played by the Local Geographical Names Committee in an attempt to standardize names of public places and street names. Geographical names play a critical role in society inevitably affecting both cultural and topographical dimensions of a population. It was for this reason, the Council approved the Fetakgomo Local Geographical Names Change Policy. We want to urge the committee to ensure the finalization of the renaming process.

Fetakgomo Municipality: An Overview of the Completed Projects An overview of the Fetakgomo projects indicate that several substantial infrastructure projects were completed. For example, the Construction of Mphanama Community Hall is practically complete at the total cost of over R4 million. We will put together a schedule to officially open this hall and the related major infrastructure projects.



The Upgrading of the Recreational Park's Phase 1 and Phase 2 are both practically complete. The Municipality spent over R4 million for the upgrades. We hope that the facility will be of recreational value to the municipal population.



The Upgrading of Landfill Site as well observed a practical completion in which case over R5 million was spent.



• We have also made a meaningful strides in Upgrading Cemeteries with Concrete Palisade Fence and Enro-Lo Ablution Facilities in almost all our Wards spending more than R10 million in this regard. In the result, the following 18 cemeteries became beneficiaries: the cemeteries of Mphaaneng, Pelangwe, Selepe Madingwana (Maruping), Mmanotwane Checkers, Mashikwe, Mohlahlaneng, Ledingwe Sentlhane, Phasha Makgolo (new site proposed), Mahlaleng Rostok, Tjibeng, Rite, Lerejane, Makgaleng, Apel Mankotsane (Seteneng), Maisela Mahlaba'Phoko, Maleka Kraal (Makopa), Mototwaneng Kudukudu and Ga-Mmela



In an addition, we constructed Pit Toilets at the Mohlaletse Thusong Service Centre (MTSC) in an endeavor to contribute towards its functionality. Further afield, we have appointed a receptionist to be stationed at the MTSC expected to assume duties from the 01st June 2015. It is common knowledge that we are also housing the Fetakgomo Youth Development Brigade at the Centre,



Projects Indicative of Work in Progress
The following projects are work in progress – the Upgrading of Sports Complex as well as the Operationalisation of High Mast Lights.



In regard to the Upgrading of Sports Complex, the overall physical progress is estimated to be at 60%. As a narrative to this quantitative progress, the completed activities include: electrical reticulation, water supply, soccer pitch and steel grand. The contractor is busy with the athletic track lawn as well as the related activities.



As for high mast lights, the project needs a break down into 3 financial years for purposes of elaboration, conceptual clarity and comprehensive understanding of the principal events and characteristics defining this project. In the 2011/12 f/y, 15 high mast lights were installed. This figure increased in the 2012/13 f/y when we installed 51 high mast lights throughout the municipal jurisdiction. An additional of 45 high last lights were installed in the 2013/14 f/y, leaving the 26 out of these 111 high mast lights are currently functional. We have engaged ESKOM for installation of transformers for those high mast lights which are without transformers. We are busy exploring prospects of contracting a suitable service provider for maintenance of both our high mast lights and street lights for optimum functionality purposes.

On building the local economy

In line with government's New Growth Path, the Municipality has contributed towards the creation of 2225 jobs opportunities through municipal supported initiatives. These jobs are in different areas such as waste management, municipal cleaning services, Community Work Programme (CWP), Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), construction of infrastructure projects and the rest.

For instance, Our Municipality has been identified by the Department of Public Works, roads and infrastructure to be the beneficiary of the Expanded Public Works Programme road maintenance. As a result, we have recruited and appointed 495 beneficiaries from poor families. I am reliably informed that beneficiaries will earn at least R1080 monthly for working twelve days per month which translate into three days per week. The duration for this work is 12 months. The duties of beneficiaries for this project include:

- Grass cutting along the roads identified;
- Clean existing drainage;
- Repair and reconstruct road furniture and drainage structure; and
- And any other maintenance activities identified by the employer.

The Local Economic Development Strategy of the Municipality is under review to ensure that we create an enabling environment in which residents are able to work together to achieve economic growth and development and thus improve their quality of life. In pursuance of the objective and the dictates of our Local Economic Development Strategy, we can report at this august house that we have produced a tourism brochure to market and popularize our business sites.

In collaboration with the Fetakgomo Youth Development Brigade, the Municipality has recruited and placed eleven (11) unemployed youth graduates as experiential learners for work placed experienced preparing them to enter the labour market. Furthermore we have appointed five experiential learners to expose them with work experience for duration of two years.

In consultation with canton institution we are currently training 97 unemployed youth on contractions learnership for period of 36 months recruited from all the wards

On Education

In 1995 we declared that the doors of learning and culture shall be opened. 2015 has been declared as the year of the Freedom Charter by His Excellency, President JG Zuma. It is also the year of investing more in our future, by educating our children and the youth about the rich heritage of this country.



We hosted the 3rd Mayoral Annual Matric Award Giving Ceremony on the 16th of January 2015 to recognize the class of 2014. The event took place at Moses Mabotha Civic Hall, with the class of 2015 filling the hall to witness the success of the class of 2014. These awards are about recognizing excellent achievements from students, teachers and circuits' offices. Learners were awarded certificates, trophies, cash, laptops and other accessories that will contribute to their post matric studies. The 2015 awards were pampered with sponsorship from Bokoni Platinum Mine which offered Apple mini ipad, Huawei y22 touch screen cellphone, Nokia 105 cellphone, HP Laptop, Laptop bag and Huawei E173 3G. Standard bank also offered R50 000 (Fifty Thousand Rands).

As part of token of appreciation and good luck gesture for placing the Fetakgomo municipality's name on the map, we also awarded these students each top learner per circuit receiving an amount of R5 000. This is precisely because we have realized that most of these learners comes from a previously disadvantaged background and would need assistance to move on to tertiary education.

The big winner of the day was 17 year old Moroaswi Rantobeng Theophylus who was crowned top learner in the Municipality, for achieving 5 distinctions in Maths, Sepedi, Agriculture, Life Science and Physical Science. He also scooped the top learner in Maths and Physical Science in the Municipality. He is currently doing BSC in Medical Science at the University of Limpopo. He was given R25 000, laptop, cellphone and mini ipad.

The following learners also received R5 000 each:

- · Mohlala Mohubedu Mafiri from Lekentle (now at FET Witbank), Thobejane Thabo Mpe from Frank Mashile (currently with University of Limpopo-MEDUNSA and now Sefako Makgatho Health Science University) doing B.Pharmacy);
- Seroka Ramakgahlele Louisa from Dinakanyane (at WITS doing Mechanical Engineering);
- · Magoma Lawrence from Serokolo (at University of Johannesburg doing Mining Engineering); and
- Phasha Pricilla Ramogohlo from Tlou Phuti (doing BSC at University of Johannesburg).

The top school in the Municipality was awarded to Mphela-a-Marumo Secondary School. Without Education, your children will never meet the challenges they will face.

On behalf of Fetakgomo Council, we would like to take this opportunity and congratulate all newly elected members of the School Governing Bodies within the Municipality. The Municipality looks forward to working with you in the next three years. Your involvement in educational matters will ensure that the delivery of quality education is always prioritized in all our schools. Ladies and Gentlemen, our agenda for radical socio-economic transformation of our society must be anchored on the education system that deliver quality outcome. Our future is in the hands of our children and their needs and aspirations are upper most on our agenda.

We give these students material support because the African National Congress (ANC)'s led government prioritises education too. Skilling of our children is fundamental and over medium to long term will help to improve the capacity of the State and economy. Concerning education, former President Nelson Mandela once said:

"Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that a son of a mineworker can become the head of the mine; that a child of farm workers can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another."

Summary of the 2015/16 Budget

The Fetakgomo Municipality's total budget for 2015/2016 fiscal year can be summarized in broad outline as follows:

BUDGET DESCRIPTION	2015/16
Capital Transfer	R21 003 550
Operating Income	R107 359 507
Total Income	R 128 399 057
Operating Expenditure	R102 346 948
Capital Expenditure	R 26 571 000
Total Expenditure	R 128 917 945
Surplus/Deficit	(R 518 888)

Mr Speaker

The specific and key infrastructure projects we contemplate to implement in the imminent financial year, 2015/16, are as follows:

- Construction of Nchabeleng and Access Culverts Bridge over Mohwetse river budgeted at about R12 500 000;
- Construction of Hoeraroep Portion 2 Internal Street at the cost of about R4, 750, 000;
- Upgrading of Cemeteries with Concrete Palisade Fence and Ablution Facilities R4, 750, 000;
- ∠ Construction of Traffic Station Testing Route R1 000,000;
- Development of Infrastructure Operations and Maintenance Plan -R2 000,000;
- Municipal Facilities Internal Water Supply- R500 000;
- Municipal Envirolo Ablution Facilities R300, 000;
- Supply and Delivery of TLB, Tipper Truck and Waste Truck R3, 200, 000; and
- Maintenance of Completed Infrastructure Projects like high mast lights, street lights, internal water supply and cemeteries R2, 700, 000.

Overarching Planned Projects for 2015/16 by Other Sectors

Eskom will energize the following villages in the 2015/16 financial year, totaling 443 connections:

- · Shushumela for 26 connection at the amount of R639 210.53;
- · Marakwaneng and Matsimela for 194 connection at the tune of R2 245 368.42;
- · Rostock, Mahlabeng and Mooilyk for 53 connection at R796 842.11; and
- · Strdkraal B and Mooiplaas for 170 connections at R1 170 964.91.

The total investment by ESKOM in this regard amount to approximately R4.9 million.

The National Department of Tourism (NDT) has put aside an amount of R13 356 938.12 to complete the tourism Centre. This facility will help the local entrepreneurs to market and showcase their local products. The past two weeks have seen the Fetakgomo Municipality brining along the two of its SMMEs to take part in Durban Indaba held on the 08-12 May 2015. These were Ms Botjeetje Phasha who is a winner of the Fetakgomo Fashion Show 2014 of Ward 05 in Mohlaletse and Ms Modipadi Malatji from Chris Dinoko Guest House located in ward 11, Ga-Phasha.

The Department of Agriculture has put aside an amount of R600 000.00 for construction of Bapedi Storeroom at Mohlaletse village. This facility will be used as storage of farming equipments. The local farmers will also benefit on the Letsema provision of seeds, fertilizers and chemicals budgeted for at an amount of R2.4 million set in motion by the Department of Agriculture.

As part of strengthening strategic partnership, the Bokoni Platinum Mine undertook to carry out the following projects:

We have recently thanked the Bokoni Platinum Mine for officially completing the construction of Mokgotho Crèche in ward 13. The Crèche was officially handed over to the community. Children are no longer travelling long distances for their educational facilities as the Crèche is now closer to them.



The Elephant River Granite Mine has committed to construct Access Bridge at Ga Seroka Malaeneng at the tune of R50-000.

The discussions between the Fetakgomo Municipality and Isagwe-Entle Holdings have commenced regarding the proposed investment and/or development projects in Ward 05 at Ga-Kgoshi Maisela rural community.

Perorating Remarks

As I draw to a close, Programme Director, allow me to express my sincere appreciation to the Executive Committee and all the Councillors for their unwavering commitment and support. Your positive and encouraging contributions have been most helpful.

I also like to express gratitude to the IDP Steering Committee for their sterling role in providing robust analysis into the process. Gratitude also goes to our officials for playing an important role in the management and administration of this municipality.

Time does not allow me to do full credit to the volume of work that has been invested in preparing this budget.

We should not forget our community members who constantly provide a positive feedback on how the Municipality could work better and differently. We all have to boldly say that for the municipality to work, it begins with you and me. We must collectively bring about the transformation we seek as one intellectual stated that:

Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we have been waiting for: We are the change that we seek.

The future we choose today will determine the kind of Municipality our children and their children will live in. The prosperity for all is a struggle worth fighting with all the will and determination that we can master.

In this connection, I am honoured to seize this moment, to extend special congratulations to some eminent sons and daughters of our Municipality, whose different works and achievements, continue to make us proud. I invite this esteemed house to join me in acknowledging:

- Mr Katlego Mashego from Ledingwe in Ward 11 who play for Free State Stars;
- · Kaizer Chiefs captain Mr Tefu Mashamaite a Bokone from Bochum won the Absa Premiership Footballer of the Season, the players' player of the season and best defender prizes at the PSL's annual awards.
- · Mr Ishmael Kgetjepe for re-appointment in the cabinet as MEC for Health in Limpopo Province;
- · Mr Vincent Shoba from Mashikwe in Ward 12 who was elected the Provincial Chairperson of the ANC Youth League in Limpopo;
- Mr Denis Magoma from Ga-Nkwana in Ward 08 who is the Provincial Secretary of the Young Communist League in Limpopo. He also formed part of the National Delegation to China in the recent past;
- · Mr Lucas Kgaphola from Ga-Nchabeleng in Ward 06 who is the SABC News presenter;
- Frank Mashile Secondary School and Morokalebole High School learners for being part of Take a Girl Child to Work for 2015. Take a girl child to work is an annual project held in the month of May throughout the country where different companies and institutions host young girl learners from different schools around the country. This initiative seeks to have a girl child exposed and pave their future in the demanding world of work that lies ahead as they complete their education; and
- All former councillors and struggle activists invited as special guests in our midst. We are confident that your success will inspire many generations to come as role model of our municipality in expanding your intellectual horizon.

You, the citizens of Fetakgomo, are therefore called upon in your various forms of existence – whether as individuals, professionals, youth formations, student formations, churches, business associations, sporting clubs, villages, townships, trade unions, women formations, formations of people with disabilities, residents associations and non-government organisations – to all pull together to help the vehicle propel us towards our destination.

We are the decedents of the great Bapedi people. Together, we are and can move Fetakgomo forward.

It is in this spirit, Master of Ceremonies, I move for the adoption of the IDP/Budget for 2015/16 as well as the related budget policies as contained in the Council package, thereby echoing the spirit and purport of our National Development Plan which read thus:

"South Africa has the means, the goodwill, the people and the resources to eliminate poverty, unemployment and reduce inequality. It is within our grasp."

As a trend for good practice, I further move for the Council to note the submission of the Process Plan for the next, 2016/17 IDP/Budget.

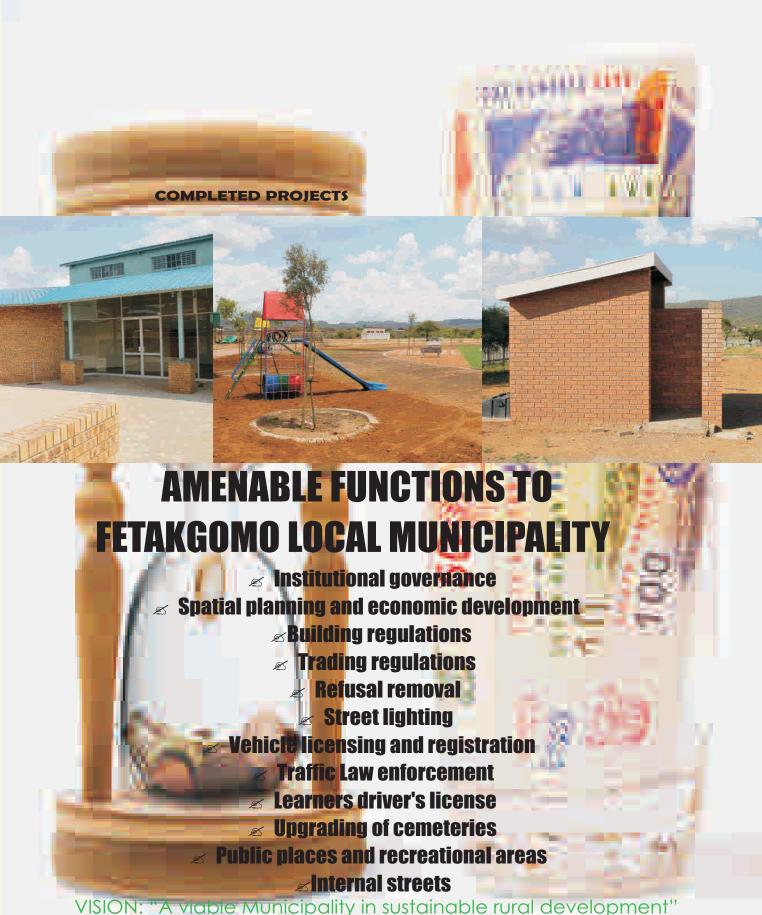
The transcript of the former President Nelson Mandela's speech to Parliament on the 26 March 1999 paid tribute to all the parties represented in Parliament for the progress made. He made the following noteworthy remark: "Though we have our differences, often important and sometimes profound, we have as a collective demonstrated overriding commitment to the new order that we have together established". Similarly, I wish to pay tribute to all the parties represented in this Council for their contribution to the progress we have made thus far.

Ladies and gentelmen, from where I am standing, I can feel as Neil Young did:

I can feel the weather changing
I can see it all around
Can?t you feel that new wind blowing?
Don?t you recognize that sound?
And the earth is slowly spinning
Spinning slowly, slowly changing

- Neil Young: Rumblin? (2010)

Ke A Leboga!



MISSION: "To provide integrated services in enabled environment for arowth and development"