

FTM NEWS

2ND
EDITION
2020/2021



Youth **Council** Conference

Progress of **Leboeng Access Road**

Mayor's Budget **Statement 2021**

Vaccination Registration Campaign



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A note from the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the FTLM News the official mouthpiece of the Municipality. The objective of the publication is to inform, educate and share information on the activities of the institution. The emergence of Corona virus has necessitated the global community to embrace 4th industrial revolution as an effective means of communication. This is done to move away from large gatherings in order to avoid the spread of the Corona virus. The virtual platform has become an 'in thing' and as Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality embrace it as part of our digital communication. We are aware of the limited network connectivity in our area and the challenge is attended to by relevant authorities. We shall strive to use traditional communication methods to cater those without internet access.

Covid 19 has affected many people and most were laid off or salaries reduced at work and make life unbearable at work. In the light of the current situation confronting all of us, the Council has approved 50% rebates on rates and taxes to ease burden to those who are unable to pay off their debts. We encourage residents and businesses to take advantage of the offer and do the right thing. We have also launched a campaign to register consumers on the Municipal indigent register. Those who are qualifying must visit our offices with relevant documents in order to be assisted. We also have a helpline where people can register, seek statements or any information relating to billing. The number is 087 352 6878 and email is support@fetakgomo.online.

The 2020/21 financial year has come to a close and welcoming the 2021/22 financial year commencing on the 01st July 2021. Covid 19 has affected the Municipality in many ways and one of those is the limitation on the public participation programme. Even this year, we

conducted our IDP and Budget consultative meetings through electronic media and virtual platforms. We thank all those participated in these platforms by phoning in during radio engagements and send comments, concerns and inputs through whatsapp, smses and emails. This is an indication that our people are having interest in how services should be provided to them.

Most of our infrastructural projects have been completed and awaiting handover and some will be completed before the end of the current year. We are excited that contractors for electrification projects have been appointed and soon they will be on site commencing with the electrification of many households.

Once more we appeal to our communities to be vigilant as the third wave of Corona virus infection is upon us. We have seen the devastation that was brought by the second wave and it is only us who can flatten the spread of the virus. We must at all times observe the Covid 19 health protocols by washing and sanitizing our hands, wear face masks and maintain social distancing. The second phase of vaccination of people over 60 years has begun and it is our responsibility to give information about registration procedures and vaccination sites to our elders. Let us encourage them to vaccinate to reduce the effects of the virus and also to save lives.

We call upon our communities to engage with the Municipality on service delivery issues by using the following emails:
info@tubatse.gov.za for general enquiries
complaints@tubatse.gov.za to register complains

Let us be careful at all times to **SAVE LIVES!**

Contributing Team:

Mr Kubane Tolo, Mr Moagi Ditabeng,
Ms Tebogo Tebele and Mr Tshepo Marobane

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Youth Council Conference



Cllr. Hlatswayo and Cllr Mashego with members of the youth council

The Municipality has hosted the **Youth Council conference at Karibu Lodge in Tzaneen**. The conference was held from 09 - 11 June 2021 where youth were supposed to elect new leadership and engage on various policies dealing with youth development. In February 2020, the Municipal Council appointed a task team comprising of youth members from Political parties serving in Council and other progressive youth forums. The Task team was given a mandate to conduct and establish ward based youth forums which they managed to do by the end of April 2021.

The conference was attended by members from the Ward based youth forums and Political formations in Council. In his address, the Mayor of Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality Cllr Mamekoa appreciated the efforts of the youth for being present to elect its representative and he further appealed with them to engage peacefully until they reached a consensus, as disagreeing in ideas doesn't make them enemies but an indication of maturity as young people. He further wished them well in the new endeavors that they will be undertaking.

Chairperson of youth council Tebogo Mafahla, appreciated the trust bestowed in him for being elected and he promised the young people of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality to work with them to bring change in their lives. He further said, "As young people they will ensure that youth benefit on economy and employment opportunities that they should be empowered economically and get job opportunities. And they should work on the draft policy document whilst the leadership is working on a program to coordinate for a session to work and finalize on the policy". In his closing remarks he thanked everyone who made the event a success and hoped that all will be safe and work towards youth emancipation.

The conference was attended by representative of Sekhukhune District Youth Council, NYDA and office of the Premier. The elected youth council is as follows:

Chairperson:	Tebogo Mafahla
Deputy Chairperson:	Beckenham Makola
Secretary:	Phumelelo Makola
Deputy Secretary:	Zanele Vuma
Treasurer:	Kanyane Manotwane

Additional members

- Mokoko Fikile
- Morele Khutšo
- Phasha Phosholo
- Phokane Raymond
- Magolego Portia
- Makofane Tladi
- Mathipa Moffat
- Tshehla Pertunia
- Mnisi Gift
- Langa Paulina



Exco members, Cllr Mashego and Cllr Pholwane, youth council top five and the additional members.



Amongst the attendees was Jeffery Mashoue, Chairperson Sekhukhune District Youth Council



Members of the youth council



The Mayor Cllr. Ralepane Mamekoa addressing the youth conference



Mafahla Tebogo, chairperson of youth council addressing youth conference



Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality Youth Council top five, Chairperson Tebogo Mafahla and Deputy Chairperson Beckenham Makola, Secretary Phumelelo Makola, Deputy Secretary Zanele Vuma and Treasurer Kanyane Manotwane

Municipal Access Bridges

The strategic objective of the Local Municipalities is to provide basic services to the communities they serve. **Three access bridges** have been constructed at Magotwaneng and Magakala in Apel Region in the financial year 2020/21 respectively. The aim of the projects were to upgrade roads from gravel to tar and give community access of mobility to nearby villages. During the construction of the access bridges various engagements were conducted with relevant stake holders. Local labours and Small Business benefited massively from the two projects. The inspection team was led by Manager in the Mayor's Office Mr Komane M.L (May his soul rest in peace).



Officials from Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality conducting site inspection on municipal access bridges constructed at Magotwaneng and Magakala village.

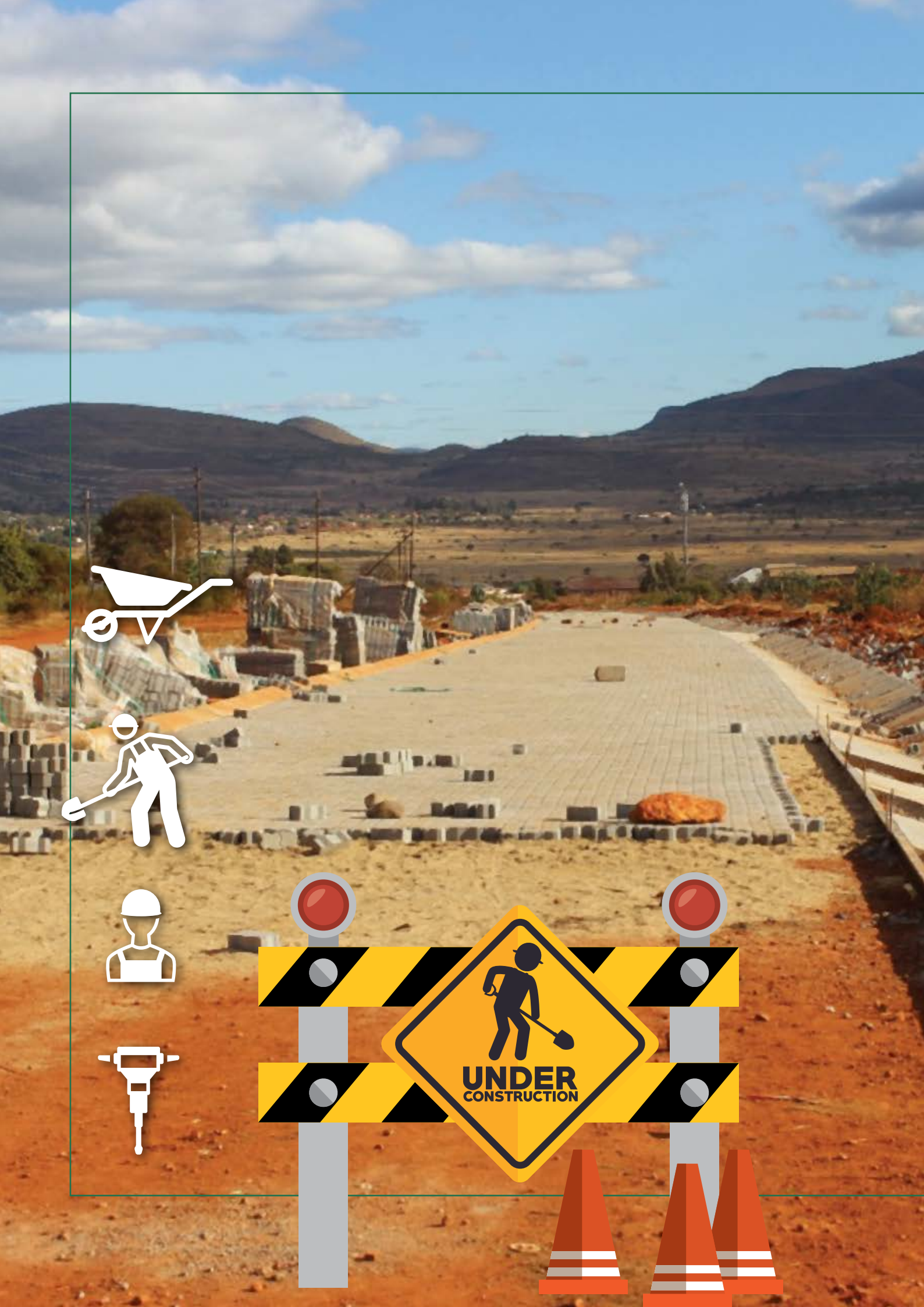


One of the three access bridges that are constructed in Apel Magotwaneng village.

Mapodile Sports Facility

The inspection team further visited Mapodi Sports Facility to check progress made at sports complex. The state of art facility was design to accommodate all soccer and netball teams around Steelpoort and Ngwaabe areas to utilise. The project comprises of netball court, ablution facilities, grant stand and change rooms. The facility is one of other two sport complexes still under construction at Ga Motodi and Ohrigstad which will be completed in due course.





Progress of Leboeng Access Road

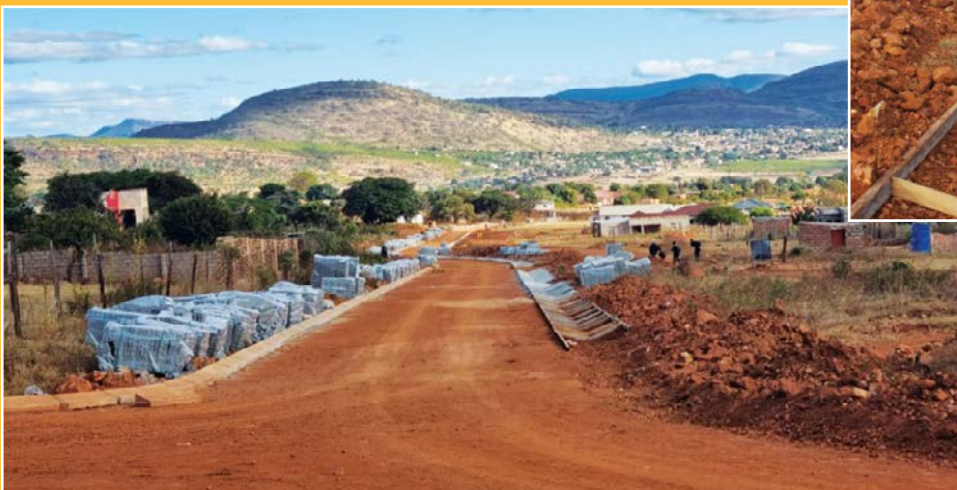
The Municipality has appointed a service provider to continue with Phase two of paved access road and four access bridges at Leboeng village.

The access road is **5.9 km long** and started on the 25 March 2020, a day before the President declared the country to be under lockdown due to Covid 19.

The construction resumed again in August 2020 after lockdown restrictions were eased. The project has employed 37 people from the community of Leboeng and it is expected to be completed in August 2021.



Internal access road under construction





Ga-Ratau Platinum Mine

to bring

relief to many



The Mayor of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality Cllr Ralepane Mamekoa has welcomed the launching of Ra-Ratau Platinum mine as the catalyst that is going to change the lives of many people in the Municipality. The Premier of Limpopo Province Chupu Mathabatha officially launched the mining project much to the delight of the local community.

The occasion was graced by the presence of the Deputy Minister of Police Cassel Mathale, MEC of LEDET Thabo Mokone, the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Cllr Stanley Ramaila and other dignitaries.

The Mine is owned by Zijin Mining Group which is a leading Chinese gold company, through its South African subsidiary platinum developer Nkwe Platinum Limited. Zijin mining Group is an established company that have many mining operations across the African continent.

Premier Mathabatha is confident that the GaRatau mining project will bring difference to the people of Fetakgomo Tubatse on creating more jobs that can help the government to eradicate poverty within the Sekhukhubne land. "The project is visualised as the one that can create no less than 6 000 jobs for local communities. We really need to work together as government and private sector towards a clear aim

of creating black industrialists." Mathabatha said The Zijin Mining Group have allocated an amount of \$700m (R9 926 000 000) for the construction of mine and as a result, Nkwe Platinum is expected to be ranked amongst the top 10 platinum suppliers in the world when the project is in full operation. Millions of rands has been put aside to develop the community of Maandagshoek village. The life span of the mining project is estimated to 29 years.

Nkwe CEO Zhiyu Fan said "The mine will offer jobs, training and education. It will develop infrastructure and provide financial and social upliftment to the local communities, the municipal district and the province.



Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality visits **Black Chrome Mine**



The LED Unit of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality has embarked on a programme to visit all Mines under its jurisdiction to monitor the implementation of Social labour plans. Social and labour plans are the commitments which are made by the Mines to bring change in the communities of their influence.

Maroga village in Ward 11. The delegation from the Municipality was briefed of the progress and made in the implementation and also taken on various sites to witness what is on the ground.

Black Chrome Mine was able to implement the following under the period review;

- Completion of 4 water projects
- Renovation of two blocks and the construction of new block at Sebope Primary school
- Regravelling of Mooihoek internal road
- Donation of Covid 19 PPE(Masks and sanitizers) to all schools in Ward 11
- Donation of sanitary towels to all schools in Ward 11
- Donation of chairs, tables and fridge to Molapo crèche
- Provision of masks to Dilokong hospital

The Social and labour plan entails basic services and socio-economic activities.

The programme kicked off by conducting a monitoring visit to Black Chrome Mine which is situated at Ga-

The Municipality is concerned and disappointed by the spate of vandalism and theft that occurred at Moeng water project. It is disturbing for people to steal equipments meant to alleviate water shortage in our Municipality. This is depriving people of their basic right which is access to water and we are making an appeal to all community members to report such criminal activities to law enforcement agencies. The programme will continue to other Mines for monitoring.



Vaccination Registration Campaign

The Department of Health in Limpopo in collaboration with Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in Sekhukhune district Led by Mokgoma Nkopodi recently visited Kgautswana village as part of the campaign to encourage people of the age of 60 to be vaccinated against Corona virus. Government has opened up second phase of the vaccination targeting people over the age of 60.

Kgautswane was identified as one of the areas to launch the campaign as most people especially the elderly do not have access to internet or facilities for electronic registration. People came in large numbers to get information on how to register for the vaccination.

When addressing the large crowd Cllr Hluphi Mnisi, the Ward Councillor of Ward 24 encouraged all qualifying residents to register on the system in order to receive the vaccination. She also urged those in attendance to spread the message far and wide in order to minimise the spread and the risk of the Corona virus. Registrations were done onsite conducted by community health care workers. Rietfontein clinic has been chosen as the site for vaccination.

All members of the communities must visit their local health centres to get more information on how to register and timetable for vaccinations.



Premier launches Sekhukhune District Development Model



On the 23rd of April 2021 the Limpopo Provincial Government led by Premier Chupu Mathabatha launched the Sekhukhune District development model. This concept was launched by President Cyril Ramaphosa in September 2019 at Waterberg District Municipality. The launch by the Premier took place at Tubatse Chrome club in Steelpoort.

The objective of the District Development Model is to accelerate, align and integrate service delivery under a single development plan per district or metro that is developed jointly by national, provincial and local government as well as business, labour and community in each district. Each district plan will ensure that national priorities such as economic growth and employment, improvements to living conditions, the fight against crime and corruption and better education outcomes are attended to in the locality concerned.

This development approach ensures that planning and spending across the three spheres of government is integrated and aligned and that each district plan is developed with the interests and inputs of communities taken into account upfront.

The launch was graced by the presence of MEC of Treasury in Limpopo Seaparo Sekwati, Sekhukhune district Municipality Cllr Keamotseng Ramaila

and Sekhukhune Traditional house led by Acting Chairperson Kgoshi TA Kgwete. In his welcome address, the Mayor of Fetakgomo Tubatse Cllr Ralepame Mamekoa made a call to all Traditional Leaders, Civil Society, Business Forums and the Youth Organisations in attendance and the people of Limpopo to receive the concept of District Development Model because it's the country's reason to bring Services to the people and to encourage the community to participate in development.

The Premier of the Province Chupu Mathabatha said, "It is a one district, one budget and one plan development approach that will bring much needed service delivery to the people of Limpopo in each District under the ambit of Kwauleza that has been initiated by President Cyril Ramaphosa." "Kwauleza is about cutting the red tape but ensuring that services are taken to the people faster and quicker," Mathabatha said. He stressed the importance of District Municipalities co-ordinating with Local Municipalities and so coming up with innovative ways of bringing much awaited and anticipated services to the people of the Province by partnering with different stakeholders like Civic Society, Organisations, Companies and the Private Sector which has been encouraged by the State President Ramaphosa.

This event held under strictly Covid 19 regulations.

Mayor's Budget Statement 2021



Mayor's budget statement at the presentation of the 2020/21 IDP/
BUDGET, VIRTUAL SPECIAL COUNCIL, 28 MAY 2021

Madame Speaker
Chief Whip
Members of the Executive Committee
Magoshi
Chairperson of MPAC
Councillors
Municipal Manager
CFO and other Senior Managers, and Officials

We are here today to present the 2021/22 IDP and Budget to the house and the communities of Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality which is the last one in this term of Council. It also signals the end of the Five year IDP cycle that was adopted by Council in 2016 after the local government elections. It has been a journey characterised by many incidents of which many were achieved and still our road is long to satisfy all the needs of our communities.

Since presenting the 2021/22 IDP and Budget on the 29th May 2020, our Municipality has moved some steps to improve governance, financial sustainability and the general provision of services to our communities. Under the period review, we managed to appoint an Accounting Officer and the Chief Financial Officer which brought stability to our administration. On the flip side, we lost the services of Director Infrastructure and Technical services and we can report that the filling of the vacancy is at an advance stage.

The matter of the Director Corporate Services is still pending due to court processes however we anticipate finalisation soon. It is always important for the Municipality to have a full complement of Senior Managers as this strengthens the administration and expedite service delivery.

Of great importance is that the Council has approved the purchase of the Municipal offices in Burgersfort and it is huge relief as now the building is ours permanently.

We started our 2020/21 financial year when the Country was still under hard lockdown and this has destabilised the Municipality in many ways. The Council had to approve the rebates on rates and taxes as many of our regular customers were highly affected by Covid 19. We would like to use this opportunity to call upon all of our affected residents and businesses to take advantage of the offer at hand, pay for rates and taxes due to the Municipality.

We want to remind our communities that Corona virus is real and it is our collective responsibility to flatten its spread. We have seen the devastation caused by the second wave that occurred between December 2020 and February 2021 where

many of our beloved brothers, sisters and parents succumbed to the disease. The country now is on the verge of third wave of infections and it is only us who can stop it happening by observing all Covid 19 health protocols at all times.

The country now is on the second phase of vaccination targeting people over 60 years and it is our responsibility as leaders to encourage our senior citizens to go and register to get the jabs. As local leaders we must show leadership by being at the forefront of the fight against Covid 19 by getting information and assisting our people to register and also know the sites where vaccination is to be done when other phases are coming in.

Our Covid 19 compliance programmes have taken us to all corners of the Municipality where visits were conducted in schools, churches and businesses. We have realised that many were complying and practising health protocols and we want you to continue doing so in a quest to flatten the spread of the virus.

The advent of the Fourth Industrial revolution has played a critical role in how the Municipality conducted its affairs as a measure to reduce the spread of the Corona virus and to save the lives of our community. We have conducted most of our engagements on virtual platforms and we are happy that most of our stakeholders have embraced that as the safest way of doing things.

During the IDP and Budget consultation phase, we have resorted to use digital platforms to source comments and inputs from our communities. We recognise the fact that our network coverage is limited to certain extent but besides that, people participated in the process by submitting their comments and inputs into the IDP.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the phone-in programmes that were conducted at Thobela, Tubatse and Sekhukhune FM's respectively to voice their concerns and robust engagements to improve the provision of basic services. Some have brought written submissions, send emails, sms's and whatsapp containing constructive submissions and suggestions. All your inputs have been consolidated into the final IDP and many will be met subject to availability of resources at our disposal.

We want to thank the department of Budget and Treasury under the leadership of Cllr Mamogale MI and the entire team by embarking on a drive to collect much needed revenue for the Municipality. Our revenue enhancement strategy is in full swing and it is bringing positive earnings into the coffers of

the Municipality. We are pleased that a campaign has been started to clean up our indigent register and soon we shall have a full picture of the extent of indigents in our Municipality. We want all of Councillors especially Ward Councillors to work together with the team to spread the information and assist our deserving and qualifying community members to be registered on the indigent register.

I would like to highlight that the Municipality is facing challenges to speed up the provision of basic services like electricity, access roads and bridges, portable water, decent housing and sanitation to the standard we want. Most of these services belong to other spheres of government and our role is to facilitate their provision. We are having sleepless nights in terms of electrification due to reasons which are beyond our control. Recently Eskom told us that they are facing capacity challenges and this makes other finished projects not to be energised. We are hopeful that the issue will be resolved soon in order to stop vandalism that is taking place on our infrastructure.

Road infrastructure still remains a challenge which requires the cooperation of all stakeholders to resolve. We welcome the construction of R37 road expansion which has been in the pipeline for many years. The construction of the road will ease congestion and contribute positively into the local economy as it will make travelling easier for trucks and other commercial vehicles. We also like to thank the contribution which the Department of Public Works Roads and Infrastructure has made to prioritise strategic roads in our Municipality. Some communities have brought complaints regarding unfinished routes and the department is looking into that and we are pleading for your patience in this regard.

We must mention that the budget is based on cost containment measures and the rate of collection from our communities. The Municipality is not out of the woods yet as we are still feeling the pinch of the loss of the investment made with VBS Mutual bank. Our budget is funded from Grants and own revenue sources. We are still worried by the high level of debts from our consumers and government departments hence we have approved rebates to ease the burden. Government across has reduced spending in order to cater for the socio-economic needs brought by the emergence of Covid 19 and its consequences.

Our 2021/22 budget is summarised as follows which is made up grants, subsidies and own revenue

- 1. Revenue (Grant and subsidies) are as follows;**
 - Equitable shares are at R478 million
 - Municipal infrastructure grant at R99 million
 - INEP at R20 million
- 2. Own revenue is made up of the following**
 - Property rates at R147 million
 - Refuse removal at R25 million
 - Sale of assets at R17 million
 - Interest on late payments and penalties at R25 million

Madame Speaker, allow me to present the 2021/22 IDP and Budget for the consideration by the Council on the following;

That Council approves the draft annual budget for 2021/22 financial year for adoption as follows:

- Total revenue be budgeted at R853 million for 2021/22, increasing to R861 million and R890 million for the MTREF period,
- Total operational expenditure be budgeted at R 766 million, increasing to R773 million and remaining at R779 million for the MTREF period,
- Total capital expenditure be budgeted at R 200 million, decreasing to R149 million and decreasing to R146 million for the MTREF period,
- That Council approves the implementation of the draft annual budget related policies from 1 July 2021 as follows:
 1. Principles and policy on credit control and debt collection,
 2. Principles and policy on Indigent consumers,
 3. Assets management policy,
 4. Tariff policy,
 5. Borrowing policy,
 6. Budget policy,
 7. Virement policy
 8. Cash management and Investment policy,
 9. Property rates policy,
 10. Supply Chain Management Policy
 11. Standard For Infrastructure Procurement and Delivery Management
 12. Funding and Reserves Policy and
 13. Cost Containment Policy
 14. Insurance Policy
 15. Loss Control Policy
 16. Claims & Loss Control Committee Policy
- That Council approves the reviewed draft tariffs to be implemented from 1 July 2021 for billing purposes,
- That Council authorizes Accounting Officer to explore Public Private Partnership mechanism for the development of new Burgersfort Landfill site.
- That Council authorizes Accounting Officer to explore the possibility of including the Makua and Praktiseer Library in the Social Labour Plan.
- That Council authorizes Accounting Officer to engage the mines on the funding of Western Ring-road.
- That Council authorizes Accounting Officer to apply to National Treasury for the Neighbourhood Development Partnership Grant.
- That the annual budget for the financial year 2021/22 MTREF be submitted to National and Provincial Treasury and relevant stakeholders in the prescribed format.
- That the annual budget for 2021/22 MTREF be placed on the Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality website as prescribed by MFMA section 75(1).

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Administration for the sterling work in conducting public participation on the IDP and budget and also consolidating inputs from all the internal departments.

I thank you



LET'S BEAT COVID-19

STAY HOME. BE SAFE



WEAR MASK



WASH YOUR HANDS



SOCIAL DISTANCING

The newsletter of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality was published
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