



FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The third(3rd) State of the Local Municipal Address(SOLMA) Address of her worship the Mayor of the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality Cllr Tlakale Naume Phala, Delivered on the 21st June 2019, Moses Mabotha Civic Hall;11h00

Theme: The Year of United Action To Grow Fetakgomo Tubatse Together

Mosepedisi wa modiro Pheladi

Sefepi segolo sa Masepala Kgalengwaana

Khuduthamaga ya council

Marumo a Kanyane le Kanyane a Ngoato

Madulaphate Ka mafateng a matelele

Bo rakgwebo ba rena le bo rakgwebo potlana

Councillors

Mokgatlo wa Modimo le badimo and le mekgatlo e mengwe

Acting Municipal Manager(Matladi a Phogole) and the Senior Managers

Baeng ba rena

Bashumi

Media

Setshaba ka moka

Thobela; Dumelang; Khotsong

Moshutelala ga a naabe

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Re kopana mo lehoho re kgonne sennko ka masetla pelo ao a re wetsego bjale ka Profense ya Limpopo moo re lobilego maphelo a baswa ba masemepedi le metso ye mene a na mo kweeding ya Ngwatobosego. Ka tlhompho ke khopela setshaba re emelele re kgopele meboya ya ban aba bo rena gore e robale ka kgotso. A modimo a ba amogele ka atla tse pedi.

Re sare ke tseo ra hwetsa gape molaetsa wa gore Mokhantselara wa maloba wa Fetakgomo Morena Herbet Mathiba Mogale o ile boya batho. A moya wa gagwe o robale ka kgotso. Homotsegang Modimo o tsere gomme Modimo o tla busha

We are gathered here to present to the community the 2019/20 State of the Local Municipal address. This marks the third (3rd) official state of the Municipal Address since the merger between Fetakgomo and Greater Tubatse Local Municipalities. It is a citizen's report mainly focused on the progress made from the previous commitment and pronounce on the projects for the financial year. We are grateful that our communities are behind the leadership of the Municipality and with this kind of collective we can do more to change the lives of our people.

A rebeng bankoana re kwaneng; re tlemagane rebe ngata ka e tee; meetse re noshane a mokgako gobane kopano ke maatla

This year's state of the Municipality Address takes place hardly after 44 days after our country's sixth (06) General Elections observed on Wednesday 08th May 2019. It also occurs 27 days after the inauguration of His Excellency ANC and State President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa who accepted with humility the mandate to lead this great nation for the next five years on Saturday 25th May 2019.

We want to congratulate ANC for being given a fresh mandate to lead the country in the next five years with a clear mandate to accelerate inclusive economic growth, act with greater urgency to tackle triple challenges of poverty; unemployment; inequality and improve government services; fight corruption and end state capture. This shows that the majority of our people still have confidence in the ability of the ruling party in transforming the lives of our people.

On the same breath we would like to thank the community of Fetakgomo Tubatse for recording highest voter turnout in Sekhukhune District during the recent elections. This is the demonstration that our people understand democracy and want to hold government accountable. We believe that many regions can emulate us in order to deepen our democracy that our fathers and mothers fought for.

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Programme Director, we are saddened by the recent developments taking place in our Municipality which are aimed at destabilising the institution and bringing confusion amongst our people.

We must rise above such petty issues of tribalism and regionalism which should not be allowed to prevail amongst. South Africa is a unitary state with a Constitution that allows freedom of association and movement. It will be sad if Fetakgomo Tubatse (predominantly ANC) is acting against the 2017 54th National Conference Resolutions of bringing unity and cohesion amongst our people.

We would like to condemn this act in all forms and call upon our people not to be used by faceless and rumour mongering people who wants to reserve the hard work done in bringing stability in our Municipality. Our lesson from these experiences is that every freedom needs to be jealously guarded, consolidated and advanced .We believe that in South Africa we have set out all the machineriessn to defend and advance our constitutional democracy. We should consider ourselves fortunate that our people are well educated to understand and detect any of the tendencies which are meant to destabilize their hard won freedom and democracy.

It is also common cause or conventional knowledge that we are meeting in the context of 25 years review of our democratic transition.

We call upon our employees not fall into this trap. Our responsibility is to bring quality services to our communities and our officials are at the centre of the provision of the services.

In the body of his recent Inaugural Address on the 25 May 2019 at Tshwane;His Excellency President Matamela Ramaphosa acknowledges that South Africa want actions and not just words and promises. This narrative is also validated by the Limpopo Premier concluding his acceptance speech on the 22 May 2019 when he said"it is my primary mandate to ensure that the resources of this Province will be used for the benefit of the people and not the selected few. Every single cent at our disposal must and will be used for intended purposes".

As required by Legislation, we have embarked on a public participation programme where various stakeholders were consulted to make inputs into the IDP and Budget for the 2019/20 financial year. The IDP is based on community needs and priorities aimed to coordinate the work of local and other sphere of government in a coherent plan to improve the quality of life for all the people living in an area. It takes into account the existing conditions and problems and resources available for development.

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Re le kwele bana ba Thulare a Masele ka Lekopelo.Re mmusho wa go teeletsa batho gomme dikgopolo le dikakanyo tsa lena re tla di esha hloko.

We must mention that our institution is operating under tight financial situation and therefore we are unable to cater for all the needs the community have raised. It will need our collective effort to find ways towards financial recovery.

As Council, we have resolved to recoup the investment made with VBS Mutual bank and we hope whatever we get shall go a long way in assisting with the provision of basic services.

The Municipality will continue to implement cost containment measures until the financial situation is stable.

Youth matters

June month is dedicated to celebrate the strides made by young people and to look into challenges that are hampering their aspirations. As Fetakgomo Tubatse, we are serious about youth development and we want to partner with all youth formations to tackle their challenges. On the 12th June we launch our youth month programme at Burgersfort Extension 10 which was followed by drugs and substance abuse campaign in a form of door to door. What we have seen at Extension 10 is the reflection of socio-economic challenges facing our young people and must be addressed if we want to save the future.

Drugs are killing our society and it must be our collective responsible to confront this disease. We met young people who are willing to change their lives and leave drugs if they can be kept busy with various programmes and life skills. I want to make it my priority to mobilise resources to make sure we open avenues for young people addicted to drugs and other substances. The health workers and Police cannot win this war of drugs if we don't join them in the drive to rid our society of drugs.

We must mention that our youth month programme is driven by the Interim Youth Council which was established in 2018. We must commend them for the work done in preparing for the elections of ward based structures and the Municipal council. The events that took place between December 2018 and February 2019 disturbed their programmes and recently we have revived the programme leading to the Assembly. Soon we shall unveil the road map to elections and call upon ward councilors and political formations in Council to lend support in making the programme successful.

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During our visits to schools since 2017, we have discovered a dire need of sanitary towels for girls as most lose school days because they cannot afford to buy them. I would like to challenge everyone here especially big corporate like Mines to join us in the campaign to distribute sanitary towels to our schools on a regular basis. We want to make this initiative, a year long programme in order to minimize absenteeism amongst our young girls. I will be the happiest person if we can start making pledges towards the campaign before we go home today to Mmaswi a Bauba(Thabiso Mokwena)

Township Economy

Programme Director, our objective as government is to deliver basic services to our communities and also to create conducive environment for business to invest in order to grow our economy. Annually our communities especially SMME`s are benefitting in the form of providing various services to government. To date, government remains the largest sector in terms of procurement of goods and services.

On the contrary, we have failed many of our SMME`s because most of our programmes and projects were shelved as a result of financial constraints due to the loss of investment made with VBS mutual bank. We must confess that the loss affected the Municipality negatively as we were on the brink of total collapse. In the last financial year we adjusted our budget twice in order to comply with Treasury regulations and based on the actual cash available at hand.

We are asking for our business community to bear with us until the situation is back to normal. However we want to discourage the new tendency of disruptions fueled by the frustrations of not getting work from the Municipality. We want all of us to sit around the table and resolve all challenges facing the institution.

We would like to encourage our people especially women and youth to tap into Agriculture as one of the drivers of our economy. Analysts are predicting that by 2030 our country will face a serious shortage of food as people are shying away from agriculture. Food security must be guaranteed by channeling resources into farming. There has been a call of expropriation of land and that land must be used effectively to preserve food security.

In the last financial year we made a promise that various agricultural projects will be supported with resources and funding. We are happy to announce that through the assistance with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development we managed to assist the following schemes with cultivation and LEDA granted them R10 000 each

- Nonokwena Disability Primary Cooperative
- Grass to Grace

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- Baile Kae Batlokwa
- Itapise Multipurpose Cooperative
- Baroka Farming. (NB.let us include wards and village)

Besides these projects, the Department of Land reform assisted the Phiring irrigation Scheme with R 3 million to revitalise their project and the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development assisted the Maretlwaneng irrigation scheme with cultivation of their land.

In the next financial year, we have set aside an amount of R1,1 million to sustain 8 agricultural projects and assist 5 new projects. Although the allocation is not enough, it will go a long way in making those projects to kick off the ground and be sustainable. We will continue to engage the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to assist the Municipality in funding other new projects and sustain those active.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the following for representing Fetakgomo Tubatse in the District Young farmer awards which held at Nthame Primary School on the 4th June 2009

- Moraswi S Mishack from Apel won on the best backyard project category and he scooped R30 000, certificate and a trophy.
- David Magabe from Phiring won Third prize in informal market category and he scooped R20 000 and certificate.
- Kgapane Nature Produce Dresden won on the National market category and they scooped R60 000, certificate and a trophy.
- Modipa Secondary school from Strydkraal ward 37 won on the best secondary school category.

We hope that they will represent the Municipality very well in the Provincial awards and what makes us proud is that these projects are the brainchild of our youth

Programme Director, we have identified Tourism as one of the sector that grow and stimulate the economy of our region. Our Municipality is strategically situated in a gateway to many tourist attractions in our Province and the neighbouring Provinces. We have to use that to our advantage by encouraging our people to create business opportunities in sectors that will attract tourists using our routes.

We have continued to assist those in the hospitality industry to register for the grading of their facilities. **This is a positive move because we want the industry to grow especially in our rural areas as people as sceptical use their facilities.** This year we assisted the following establishment to be graded and all are in rural areas except one;

- Lesolo lodge
- Mzansi lodge

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- Sekhukhune lodge
- Clifford's lodge

As stated during the 2018 State Of Local Municipality Address, the Municipality promised to revive the Tjate heritage site due to its importance to our culture and as one of our tourist attraction sites. We have channelled resources towards the maintenance of the site and the provision of water. Through the collaboration with the Provincial Department of Sports, Arts and Culture we managed to host a successful Tjate heritage festival during the National heritage day and it was a huge success judging by the turnout on that day.

We are still confident that government through Department of Trade and Industry will grant our Municipality Special Economic Zone license which will go a long way in attracting investors from abroad and internally. This will assist our economy to grow and to open up many job opportunities and the diversification of the economy.

Consultative/Engagement Forums

Programme Director, we are required by law to continuously engage our communities in matters that are closer to their hearts. Since the beginning of the financial year we have visited all corners of the Municipality to meet with various stakeholders to hear their views on how government is addressing their needs. We must mention that in all the forums that the engagements were robust with a high level of discipline and maturity.

In April and May 2019 we embarked on a public participation programme to solicit comments and inputs into the draft IDP and Budget. This year our programme was divided into sectors and special groups and the purpose was to give individual attention to all stakeholders unlike in the past where everybody attended the same forum. It was an eye opener as everybody was free to engage and express views towards the development of the IDP and Budget. However we are still worried by the level of participation amongst community members

Our interaction has revealed that our communities want the following to be prioritised and be speed up in their wards;

- ✓ Provision of clean and reliable water
- ✓ Fencing of cemeteries
- ✓ Access roads
- ✓ Tarring of roads
- ✓ Provision of electricity

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- ✓ Construction of RDP houses for beneficiaries on the list and the improvement quality of those houses
- ✓ Access roads to tribal authorities
- ✓ Extension of the EPWP programme to all wards
- ✓ Construction of Clinics and Active 24hours services
- ✓ Employment opportunities
- ✓ Business opportunities in government and Mines

We shall strive by all means to address the challenges raised together with government and private sectors. However as the local sphere of government we are operating under difficult conditions and we are required to generate own revenue and our tax base is mostly rural and indigent.

This will make our efforts to provide **all services to take** while because we depend on grants which are also limited.

We would like to use this opportunity to encourage our people especially those who cannot afford to come and register as indigents in order to assist them to access free basic services like water and electricity.

Service Delivery Report

Programme director, it is known fact that Municipality operated under difficult financial burden to the loss of money and technically bankrupt. We had to readjust our budget especially on operational matters in order to stay afloat. Many projects were scaled down or suspended as we did not have enough resources to cater for them.

We are here today to apologise to our communities for not fulfilling the promises made during the 2018/19 IDP and budget consultations. It was a difficult decision not to implement all the projects and we had no means to survive. We have learnt a lot from the financial crisis and we are working around the clock to restore the credibility of our institution. It will take a lot of hard work to win the trust and confidence of our electorate but it is a mission that we want to achieve at all cost.

Allow me to present a service delivery report for the 2018/19 financial year. During the State of the Local Municipal Address in 2018 we made several commitments to our communities and it is our opportunity to report back to the electorates.

We must mention that the Municipality is operating under severe financial pressure and our people should understand as we are heavily dependent on conditional grants from Treasury and COGTA.

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The following projects are multi year and will be completed before the end of the calendar year;

- Leboeng access road
- Tukakgomo internal streets
- Praktiseer testing station upgrade
- Motodi sports complex
- Mapodile sports complex
- Praktiseer drainage system

Most of the delay in the completion of these projects was a result of the cashflow challenges that we faced. Our revised plan will assist to finalise the projects in no time.

Recently the appointments of the following electrification projects were concluded and we are hoping that before end of this financial year all contractors will be on site commencing with the work

- Phelindaba
- Khalanyoni
- Dithabaneng
- Mashamothane North and South

Last week the bids for the following projects closed and it is our wish for the appointments to be done before the end of July 2019;

- Construction of Magotwaneng access bridge and road
- Construction of Magakala access bridge and road
- Construction of road and storm water at Burgersfort extension 58
- Construction of road and storm water at Burgersfort extension 71 and 72

Housing

Kgoro ya geshu ya pusho tirishano; dintlo le bodula bja magoshi ba re feele dintlo tse 875 gore badudi ba rena ba be le moo ba dulago. Bo rakontraka ba thwetswe gomme moshomo o tla tshaba diatla.

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Electricity

Our Municipality is still experiencing the highest backlog in the Sekhukhune District due to many factors and amongst them the mushrooming of new settlements due to the mining industry and other economic opportunities. At the moment figures of households needing electrification is over 21 000 which is a huge number.

We want to apologise to communities affected by Operation Mabone programme for not fulfilling our promises made during the 2018/19 financial year. We were forced by circumstances beyond our control not to implement the programme in the remaining villages except Koppie and Buffelshoek where Eskom has energised. In the 2019/20 financial year we have put aside R20 million to complete the project. The money set aside is not enough to cover all villages but we have embarked on drive to solicit funds from the Mines to adopt other villages and an announcement will be made soon on the progress made.

In addition government has allocated additional R20 million which will be utilised in areas like Bothatshoek and Mashamamothane.

Eskom has also allocated an amount of R21.5 million to electrify the following villages;

- Tjibeng
- Appiesdoring phase 2
- Dresden phase 2
- Strydkraal A/B extension
- Molageng
- Malaeng/Mahlakwena/Garagopola
- Tsakane
- Mabopo Sehlabeng
- Riba Cross(Legabeng and Madithongoane)
- Ga Nkoana Mashung extension 2
- Podile

A total of 1604 households will be electrified.

In addition our social partners in the form of Mines have amended their Social and Labour plans to accommodate the electrification of villages where they have operations.

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The contribution made by the Mines will go a long way in reducing the huge backlog we have in the electrification of our villages. We would like to make a special appeal to other Mining houses to join forces with the Municipality in a quest to electrify all our villages.

On Roads

Roads infrastructure continues to play a significant role in the economy of our municipality and as a people

Programme Director, many strides have been made to make our roads in rural areas accessible. We have seen the construction of access bridges in areas where it was difficult to cross over during rainy seasons. Our programme of grading access roads have assisted a lot but unfortunately due to rain, many roads were washed away.

We were also hampered by the lack of money to grade other roads but it is mission that will be continued in the next financial year. We would like to thank Road Agency Limpopo and the Mines for tarring roads in the rural areas which will created road network that will reduce dependency on national roads. We are anticipating the completion of the 18km D4190 road from Mabulela to Apel in the next month or so which will cut travel time from Apel to Polokoane.

Ga ke nyake go ruthisha mmutla madi eupja ngwago o ka sefele re tlabe re sepela sekontiring.

Water and sanitation

Water remain the important commodity in our lives and our wish is to see every household having continuous supply of water. We would like to thank Sekhukhune District Municipality for prioritising water schemes which will alleviate the shortage of water in most parts of the Municipality.

The following water projects will be undertaken in the 2019/20 financial year;

- Construction of Mooihoek Bulk Water Supply pipeline Phase 4E, phase 4G1, 4G2, 4H1 and 4H2
- Upgrading of Ga Malekane Water Treatment Works (WTW) within Nebo BWS
- Tukakgomo water intervention and refurbishment.

- Bothashoek Water Supply
- Rutseng Water Intervention
- Mokgapaneng Water Supply
- Maebe/Mohlaletsi interventions

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- Nkadimeng RWS Extension 2(Phase 9 to 11) (Fetakgomo) Ga-Mmela to Mashilavele, Ga-Phaahla, Molapong, Ga-Magolego, Mankontu and Masehleng

We are hopeful that the implementation of the above mentioned schemes will bring much relief to our communities as water is a scarce commodity. We are also pleased that the Mines are making a meaningful contribution in assisting with water projects in various villages.

A total of 4500 VIP toilets will be constructed in all wards and we appeal to Ward Councillors and ward committees to prioritise families which are in dire need of sanitation.

Mining Contribution

Programme Director, Mining remains the main pillar of the economy of our region especially Fetakgomo Tubatse where more than 30 mines are operational. The lives of many of our people have changed as a results of job and business opportunities created by the Mining sector. In the last 3 years we have seen some Mines being placed under care and maintenance and most of our people were affected negatively especially SMME`s and the lodging industry. We are positive that in the last quarter of the year, there will be improvements which will be plus to the economy.

However we have also seen the emergence of protests resulting in the blockading of our roads especially the R37 and R555 which are strategic routes due to its economic importance. The main concerns raised by the communities are employment opportunities to the local in particular young people.

We must find ways on how to equip our youth skills which will assist them entering the job market not only in the mines but other sectors as well.

Despite the frustrations we are facing as government, communities and Mines, there should be continuous engagements to resolve our difference and chart way forward which will be beneficial to all. Recently we gave recognition letters to community structures in Ngwaabe/Steelpoort and Tjibeng/Mooilek areas to be engagements forums with the Mines on socio-economic issues affecting their constituencies. There has been some resistances from other Mines to work with the forums and we would like to use this occasion to call for a cooperation between the Industry and the community. Our role is to bring sanity between parties and we shall do so until peace prevails in our valley.

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In some areas, other structures are complaining that they have been left out during the formations of the engagement forums and we are working on a solution to the challenges raised. We cannot allow our communities to be divided on socio-economic issues and be blamed for taking sides. We are pleading for calm as the protests are not good for the image of our Municipality and it is scaring potential investors away.

Since April 2019 we have embarked on drive to visit all the Mines to strengthen relations and to find ways on how to improve our community. To date we have visited Samancor, Glencore and Anglo American Platinum and we can report that our engagements were positive and a step in a right direction. We shall continue with our visits to all other Mining houses before the end of September 2019.

Allow me to convey our sincere appreciation to the Mines operating in our area for assisting government to speed up the provision of basic services and local economic developments projects which have assisted many people especially women. The implementation of the Social and labour plans in our villages is welcomed as most projects are executed by the local SMME`s. As most of your SLP`s are coming to an end we urge you to consult thoroughly with the communities and the Municipality so that we can channel resources in areas where there are challenges.

The following Mines have made significant contribution towards our IDP and Budget and we therefore request them to make available more resources for the development of our area

- Modikwa Platinum Mine
- Glencore
- Marula Platinum Mine
- Twickenham Mine
- Dwarsrivier Mine
- Two River Mine
- Northam Booysendal
- Samancor
- Black Chrome Mine
- Chromex Mine
- Bokoni Platinum Mine
- Rhino Minerals
- Sefateng Mine
- Bauba Mining

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They have also committed to improve and construction social amenities like,

- Classrooms
- Health facilities
- Local economic development initiatives
- School enrichment programmes
- Bursaries
- Learnerships and internships
- Tribal authorities offices

2018/19 IDP and Budget

Programme Director, we are here today to unveil to our communities the projects and programmes that Municipality will embark upon in the 2019/20 financial year starting on the 01st July. This is culmination of the interactions which were held with our communities to solicit inputs into the IDP and Budget.

The Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality's total budget for 2019/2020 fiscal year can be summarized in broad outline as follows:

Our total budget for the 2019/20 financial year is R731 million made up of the following:

Revenue from Grants and Subsidies amounts to R 524 million for 2019 / 2020, the major categories being the following :

- Equitable Share is R415 Million,
- Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) Funding is R84 Million,
- Integrated National Electrification Grant (INEG) is R20 Million

Revenue from own Sources Amounts to R206 million for 2019 / 2020, the major categories being the following

- Property Rates R140 Million,
- Refuse Removal R16,4 Million,
- Interest on Late Payments and Penalties of R27 Million,

The following anchor projects are going to be implemented in the 2019/20 financial year,

- Motodi Sports complex
- Leboeng access road
- Construction of Praktiseer storm water drainage

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- Magakala access bridge
- Magotwaneng access bridge
- Tubatse Highmast lights
- Ga Debeila to Mohlaletsi internal street
- Strydkraal to Thobehlele internal street

The above mentioned projects will be implemented with funding from Municipal Infrastructure grant.

Appreciation

Moswaramarapo ntumelle ke lebishe ditebogo go Magoshi a rena ka tshomishano le thekgo yeo ba re fang yona ka mehla. Re shoma go naga yeo e laolwago ke Ma apara Nkwe gomme ka tumelelo ya bona re kgona go tlisha tlabologo mo metseng. Re dira boipiletso bja gore tshumishano ya rena ga e tswele pele gore mmogo re kgone go tlisha diphetogo mo setshabeng le go godisha ekonomi ya Masepala wa rena. A re swarishaneng gore re tle re kgone go ka fenya dihlotlo tseo re lebaneng le tsona eleng bodiidi, go hlokega ga meshomo le go lekane rele setshaba. Fao re ka beng rele shaeditse re re seatla godimo ga se sengwe gomme ka thekgo ya lena re tla gola ra hlankela setshaba.

We would like to thank all our community structures and various special programmes forums for volunteering their services to make our Municipality to functions effectively and efficiently. It takes a lot of dedication for one to give services without expecting any form of remuneration.

Ward Committees are playing an important role in making the Municipality to have strong presence in the community. We know it is not easy to operate under such conditions but your dedication towards community development should be appreciated.

Conclusion

Programme Director, our Municipality has experience many challenges in this current financial as a result of the loss of investment made with VBS Mutual bank. This has disturbed the normal running of the institution which necessitated the Provincial government and the ANC intervening to save the situation. Our former Mayor was recalled and both the Municipal Manager and Acting CFO suspended. The disciplinary case is continuing and the outcomes shall be reported as the case is in the interest of the public.

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Section 139(b) of the Constitution was invoked by the Provincial government wherein Ms Ntshudisane MJ and Mr Mulenga Sasa were sent to the Municipality to assist in stabilizing finance and governance issues. We are positive that when they leave, the Institution would back at its feet and able to discharge responsibilities as per the legislation.

We are grateful that Councillors and officials are cooperating with their directives to improve our institution. The road ahead is too long and working together with our communities, Magoshi, civil society, employees and social partners we will be able to build a better Fetakgomo Tubatse.

Re lebogisha go kgwethwa ga Mahlatji A Hlabirwa bjale ka Mopremier wa Limpopo le go thwala malekgotla pedishe a gagwe. Mogoma o tsene tshemong gore ka nako ya go buna bana ba tla bea lesaka ka morago ga lemati

Ke a Leboga

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