



The GTM
GREATER TUBATSE
MUNICIPALITY

South Africa's first democratic platinum city

STATE OF THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY CLLR
NJ MAHLAKE, LEBOENG SPORTS GROUND, 08 JUNE 2013

Programme Director

Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality, Cllr Mogobo Magabe

Madame Speaker

Chief Whip

EXCO Members

Magoshi le Mantona a rena

Leaders of Political formations

Councilors

Acting Municipal Manager

Directors, Managers and Officials

Distinguished guests

Community structures and Ward committees

Media

Ladies and gentlemen

We are here to present the 2013/14 IDP and Budget to the communities of Greater Tubatse. It is a privilege and honour to deliver the mandate that was given to the Council when it was inaugurated on 2 June 2011. Our vision is to create `South Africa`s first democratic Platinum City` and the IDP and Budget we are presenting attest to our ambitions to make our dream a reality.

We would like to thank our communities for participating in the IDP Consultative forums that were conducted between March and April 2013. We visited all the 31 wards to get inputs and we are proud to announce that most of the inputs have been incorporated into the final document that we are presenting today.

This is a clear indication that our people understand how democracy works and are always ready to be part of the decision making processes. At certain wards our meetings were difficult but at the end of the day we managed to reach consensus and took those concerns into consideration.

During the January 08 statement this year, the ANC President Jacob Zuma said `we remind all ANC deployees that where infrastructure and resources exist to deliver basic service, there can be no excuse for these services not to be delivered. We now know where the gaps exist and it is time to deliver the services that will improve the lives of our people`. As Greater Tubatse we attest to the statement that was made by President Zuma and we commit to deliver services where they are needed in order to accelerate the pace of service delivery to our communities.

During the 2012/13 financial year we made several commitments to deliver basic services to our communities and we are proud to announce that we have met most of the obligations. We promised to deliver access bridges, tarred roads, electricity, fencing of cemeteries and grading of access roads. We have also promised to capacitate our Public works unit which has been struggling with fleet to improve the state of our roads. Last week we received new graders with a value of R7.1 million to augment the current fleet. We are going to station a grader in every Cluster to reduce turnaround time and to expedite service delivery. We have employed operators for the new machinery and they will start grading our roads in a week to come.

Programme Director, I would like to take this opportunity to pay my respect to the late Willies Pokies Morena who was a Councilor for Ward 20. He was a servant to the community and he sacrificed his life to see the lives of our community improving and to him we say rest in peace. We also like to welcome Cllrs Nonyane, Mbuyane and Hlatswayo who joined the Council during this financial year. We would like to urge and encourage you to work hard and dedicate your services to better the lives of our people.

Last year in August the National Planning Commission released the National Development Plan as the document to tackle the problems facing the country. This is a blueprint where all major developments will be centered. As the Municipality we have commissioned a project on Vision 2030 which will integrate all the projects that are going to take place in Greater Tubatse for the next 17 years. Our vision is to create South Africa`s first democratic Platinum City and the Vision 2030 will help with the building blocks towards our destiny.

Programme Director, we are blessed as Greater Tubatse to experience such an economic boom when the country is experiencing an economic meltdown. When we assumed office in June 2011 we promised to take the Municipality to another level. We promised to unlock the challenges that hampered the developments of Malls around Burgersfort and we are proud to announce that since September 2012 we have witnessed the opening of two malls which have created job opportunities for more than 2500 people especially the youth. Very soon the construction of the Casino is going to commence and many people will benefit in terms of permanent jobs and SMME opportunities.

We also like to applaud the role which is played by the mining industry in improving the lives of our people and our communities in general. We have witnessed economic activities happening in Burgersfort which indicate that most of our people are employed and can afford basic things. The mines were able to offer many people jobs and this has improved our economic outlook.

The intervention made through the Social and labour plans are assisting the Municipality to accelerate service delivery but in the same breath we call upon the Mining houses to dig deep in their pockets and join us on the road to eradicate inequalities, unemployment and poverty in our communities. In his State of the Province Address Premier Cassel Mathale mentioned that the Department of Trade and Industry has awarded Greater Tubatse the Special economic zone which seeks to establish the hydrogen fuel cell industry. The hydrogen fuel cell industry will assist both the communities and the mines with alternative source of energy which is lacking in our region. We would like to thank the following Mines for contributing a lot in terms of providing various activities to our communities, Xstrata, Rhino Minerals, Der Brochen, Modikwa Platinum, Dwarsrivier, ASA Metals and Two River Platinum.

Programme Director, one of the major challenges that faced the Municipality when we took office was the financial crisis that nearly plunged the institution into total collapse. The Municipality was operating on a deficit and relying much on bank overdrafts and using MIG funds for operational expenses. Today we are proud to announce that the Municipality is operating with a healthy financial status and we have invested money for other service delivery mandates. We will continue to implement our revenue enhancement strategy and encourage our communities to pay for services that they are getting from government

In the next eight days we will be celebrating 37 years of June 16 schools uprising. The students went to the streets to protest against the oppressive education system and many died for that cause. One of the priorities of this government is to improve the status of education and as the Municipality we are also committed to make sure that young people get education.

Over the past two years we managed to assist over 40 students with bursaries to continue with their tertiary studies and we hope to do so in the next financial year. We want to encourage the youth to emulate the class of 1976 by fighting for their rights as far as education is concerned.

Former President Nelson Mandela once said 'Education is the powerful weapon which you can use to change the world' and Our country can only grow from strength to strength if our young people embrace education and use all the avenues that government has created to improve education.

Programme Director, we have established the Youth Council which is a vehicle to advocate youth development in our Municipality. We call upon all the youth formations to work with the structure in order to develop one common approach to emancipate the youth from various challenges that they are facing. We cannot shy away from this responsibility as all know that majority of our population as revealed by the 2011 Census report are young people and every development initiative should be centered on them. Our doors are always opened for engagements with you.

Programme Director, the municipality's ability to address the basic service backlogs is constrained by the fact that it does not have the authority to perform certain key functions such as water, electricity, fire fighting and district roads. This status, constrains the pace of property development in the area. Going forward and working together with other spheres of government we believe these challenges should be addressed as part of the municipality local turnaround strategy for accelerated development and service delivery to our communities. We would like to thank the Sekhukhune District Municipality for continuing to assist our communities with water and sanitation projects

Last month we accompanied the Premier of Limpopo Cassel Mathale on the visit to De Hoop dam to check the progress thus far. The dam is almost 95% complete and the anticipated date of completion is September 2013. The dam is going to bring much relief to the people of Sekhukhune and Tubatse in particular. We hope that the District Municipality will continue to construct water schemes that will tap into the De Hoop dam. We are also grateful that the Department of Cooperative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs is playing a pivotal role in reducing the housing backlogs in our Municipality. In the 2012/13 financial year more than 1460 households benefitted from the RDP houses allocation.

As indicated in the previous address, the Municipality has entered into Public Private Partnership for waste management. The municipality has developed sound strategies for waste minimisation that can support sustainable environments as we advocates for

an integrated approach in waste management with the main aim to implement waste management hierarchy through reduction of waste by minimisation and recycling of waste. The impact of this programme on residents and communities will be continuous lifestyle improvements including cleaner, greener quality of life in household, community and Platinum city reality. Impactful improvements will turn waste into valuable commodity by encouraging participation in waste exchange projects, addressing poverty and creating jobs while extending available airspace and service to underserved communities and villages.

This is a waste management PPP Project and the first of its kind in Limpopo procured under the National Treasury Municipal Service Delivery and PPP Guidelines. A Project Term of 12 years (including construction) was considered by the Institution. Since the construction component was relatively small, the Institution assumed the private party would take over operations with effect from the start of the concession period. The feasibility study envisaged the raising of 70% of the finance as external senior debt achievable based on the project cash flow ratios and possible favourable consideration by financial institutions on a ring-fenced basis. It was however critical that the parties raising the funding had the required equity contribution

The municipality re-issued the bid in May 2013 as per The Project Team comprised of National and Provincial and Treasury; and Transactional Advisors to the market to ensure that bidder sought has capacity to raise funding to implement the PPP project as planned to achieve the following overarching objectives:

- extending waste services to communities not currently receiving such services;
- assist the Municipality to address backlogs in rendering waste collection service;
- improving environmental cleanliness among local communities and ensuring a safe and healthy environment
- Mobilising and engaging communities in the collection of their own waste
- reducing the level of poverty among communities through job creation
- increasing awareness of waste management issues; and
- providing the beneficiaries with skills through training and capacity building on waste collection and handling and general environmental management

Programme Director; allow me to present the progress report on the projects that the Municipality promised to deliver in the 2012/13 financial year. As stated our powers are limited by the Constitution and we are unable to provide services like water, sanitation and electrification and we only rely on other spheres of government to assist us. We are proud to report that we committed to construct access bridges at the following villages;

- Kampeng
- Phiring

- Madifahlane
- Mahlakwena
- Shaking
- Modubeng
- Tsatsapane
- Ga- Malepe

Some of the access bridges will be completed before the end of the 2013/14 financial year first quarter

The following villages have benefited from electrification and some have been energised

- Motshana
- Moraba
- Malepe
- Maretlwaneng
- Ga-Mokgotho
- Lefahla
- Mamogolo
- Mankele

We are confident that Eskom will get the necessary approval from the Department of Water affairs and Environment so that the feeder line can be constructed in order for Mamogolo and Mankele to be energised as a matter of urgency. We have finalised the fencing of rural cemeteries where all 31 wards benefitted and we hope to continue in the following financial years in identifying other villages to benefit.

Our programme of upgrading our roads from gravel to tar has continued in areas like Praktiseer, Ohrigstad and Ngwaabe. We are concerned about the traffic congestion that is experienced in town on daily basis. We are trying by all means to find solution to the problem. An alternative road to ease the congestion is in the pipeline and soon an announcement will be made to that effect. We have also concluded the first phase of the Mapodile Sports complex and we shall continue with other phases in the outer financial years.

We are happy that we managed to implement most of the projects on a labour intensive method and many of our people were employed. On the same breath we would like to thank the Department of Public works and COGHSTA for providing employment in our communities through Expanded Public Works Programme and Community works programme. We have seen the results of the two interventions in our communities and we hope to continue with the same programmes in the next financial year.

We have received numerous complaints about the state of our rural access roads and up to date we have graded over 1333.83 kilometres of our gravel roads and with the new fleet acquired we will be able to double the number of roads graded.

During our IDP consultative forums various key concerns were raised and I would like to reflect on them. The issues are genuine and must be taken into cognisance. They are common in nature which is an indication that they matter most in the lives of our people.

- Water and sanitation
- Electrification and post connections
- Access roads and maintenance
- Housing
- Fencing of cemeteries
- Job creation and local economic development projects
- Schools including early childhood development
- Health services
- Sporting facilities
- Skills Training
- High mast lights
- Agriculture
- Beneficiation in mining sector

We made provision in the budget to make sure that most of the concerns are addressed. As stated we are constrained by powers and functions to perform other duties but with the support from other spheres of government and the private sector we are confident that issues which affect our communities will be taken care of.

Programme Director, it gives me pleasure to present to the communities of Greater Tubatse a historic budget which was never presented before. This is the biggest budget the Municipality ever had since its establishment in 2000. It is a clear indication that we are serious in changing the outlook of Greater Tubatse and to better the lives of our people.

Our IDP and budget for the 2013/14 financial year stand at R532 224,195. This makes a total increase of more than 50% of the total budget of the 2012/13 financial year budget. The total budget comprises of the following;

- Capital budget R 307 577,140
- Operational budget R224 647 ,055

The Capital budget is funded as follows

- Own funding R44, 6 million
- MIG funding R51,2 million
- Neighbourhood development grant R10,7 million
- Rural household R4 million
- Electrification R117 million

- External loan R80 million

The Capital budget is going to be utilised for the following,

MIG Funding

- Madifahlane access bridge
- Shakung access bridge
- Mahlakwena access bridge
- Tsatsapane access bridge
- Modubeng access bridge
- Pidima access bridge
- Ga-Malepe access bridge
- Maphopha access bridge
- Kgautswane access bridge
- Habeng access bridge
- Resealing of the Burgersfort roads
- Ohrigstad sports complex
- Hawkers facilities in Burgersfort and Praktiseer
- Burgersfort Flea market
- High mast lights for villages to improve safety and security

In the last financial year we promised to implement Operation Mabone to accelerate the provision of electricity in the villages and we are proud to announce that we are going to electricity more than 8667 households in the following villages;

Kutullo, Koppie, Mapareng, Kgopaneng, Buffelshoek, Kalkfontein, Barelong, Dibakwane, Maphutle, Kampeng, Mandela Park, France, Leboeng, Dithamaga, Taung, malaeneng, Sekopung, Makofane, Pidima, Matokomane, Makotaseng.

The programme is going to cost R117 million and we would like to thank the National Treasury for coming to our assistance by pledging the future allocation to accelerate service delivery.

In addition Eskom is going to electrify the following villages with a tune of R34 million,

- Makgalane/Banareng and Makopung
- Mokutung
- Kgopaneng
- Maakubu
- Burgersfort Extension 10

We hope that the protest marches which we were experiencing in relation to electrification will cease. We are also proceeding with the provision alternative source of energy in the form of Solar and the following villages are going to benefit,

- Majadichukudu
- Ga-Mawela
- Appiesdoringdraai
- Mareseleng
- Makgwareng
- Phadishanong
- Alverton
- Leshwaneng

Programme Director, many people have complained that the Municipality is paying lot of money on a property which does not belong to them. Our intentions are to purchase the Civic Centre where we are conducting our business from the owner. We have set aside an amount of R120 million for that purpose and in terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act, we have issued out a notice in the local newspapers inviting the public to make comments on the R80 million loan with DBSA to fund for the property, the closing date is the 20th June 2013 and we expect you to comment whether to continue or not.

The Neighbourhood development programme grant is assisting us with R107 million which is going to be utilised to develop Praktiseer township. In addition R4 million for Rural household development fund is set aside for sanitation projects at villages and it will make a huge impact.

We hope that the budget presented here today will go a long way in addressing the basic needs that are at the heart of our communities.

In addition the Sekhukhune District Municipality is spending over R200 million to provide water in our Municipality. The projects include bulk water supply, connector pipes, water treatment works and reticulation. We are also fortunate to receive the highest allocation of VIP toilets which is 14 517 units.

Programme Director, our operational budget is going to be utilised for the following activities;

- Administrative issues,
- payment of salaries,
- ward committees stipend,
- planning and development,
- Good governance,

- Repairs and maintenance

We would like thank the Administration for the sterling work done in assisting the Council to deliver on the mandate of the electorates. Our people have been patient for 19 years since the dawn of democracy and it is our responsibility as government to repay the faith by accelerating the provision of quality and sustainable basic services.

Our duty is to bring dignity and confidence to our people and as Nelson Mandela once said when a man is denied the right to live the life he believes in, he has no choice but to become an outlaw and on that same breath we cannot wait for the communities to protest before we deliver services. It is our responsibility and we must do so.

Once again we would like to thank our communities for playing a positive role in enhancing our democracy by participating in various structures of governance. This is our journey and whatever challenges we meet and success achieved we must remain a unit in our quest to create South Africa`s first democratic Platinum City. To our partners in service delivery especially the private sector we applaud your interventions and urge you to continue doing so.

On the 18th July 2013, the world will be celebrating Mandela day where we do something valuable to the less fortunate and privilege. We urge everyone to do goodwill and change the life of someone. We hope that 2013 will be different in Greater Tubatse and we can grow from strength to strength if we build formidable partnership.

Ke a leboga Batubatse.

