

## Mayor`s address at the Sod turning Ceremony of the Tubatse Mall, 22 July 2011, Spekboom River Estate

Programme Director

Executive Mayor

Madame Speaker

Chief whip

Members of the Executive Committee

Developers

Councilors

Officials

Distinguished guests

Business Community

Media

Ladies and gentlemen

We are here today to witness the making of history in the Greater Tubatse Municipality. It is history because it is for the first time people gathering here to officiate over the sod turning ceremony of the first Mall to be erected in our jurisdiction.

Greater Tubatse is experiencing the fastest growing economy in the country and it is befitting to have such kind of facilities within this location. According to the STATSSa Census results of 2001, our population was estimated at 300 000 comprising of 66 000 households. The Census was conducted at the stage where most of the present mines were still at the prospecting stage. To date we have more than 16 mines which are in operation and that have increased our population tremendously.

We are happy to welcome such kind of an investment in our Municipality because they are line with our vision to create South Africa`s first democratic Platinum City in an integrated manner. The Provincial government has also identified Burgersfort as one of the Provincial economic growth points. We would like applaud Cranbrook and their developers for helping us to boost the economy of Greater Tubatse. This Mall will create

many jobs during and after construction which will significantly reduce the levels of poverty in our communities.

Programme Director, this initiative is really ground breaking because the rewards brought by the Mall will yield positive results and will lead to the emergence of other sectors including tourism. Our people will be spoilt for choices in terms of the services which are to be offered in the Mall. Gone are the days where our people were travelling to Polokoane, Emalahleni and Mbombela to access the Malls. They will now spend less in terms of travelling because these services will be within reach.

We would like to make a special request to our developers whom we regard as partners in the social development of our community. Greater Tlokweng is having an abundance of business people who specialize in various disciplines. We would like you to utilize their services by offering opportunities where they qualify. We don't want to delay the construction by dealing with issues from the business sectors. The time is now for us to engage every stake holder because we do not want to leave others outside.

We are full of excitement today and we would like our community including business to embrace the investment brought by Cranbrook. We are now on course in realizing our vision of becoming 'South Africa's first democratic Platinum City'. We will travel this journey and let us make this day a reality.

I thank you