EMALAHLENI LM

NEWSFLASH

THE EDITORIAL

This is the first edition of Emalahleni news in brief to give members of the community updates on the monthly basis on what is taking place in our area of jurisdiction.

On this edition we will cover few projects as were implemented on various wards. The state of the Municipal Address to take center stage on the coverage on this first edition.

In developing this publication, we appeal to members of the public to make comments and submissions.

This is your newsletter please take ownership of it and make it develop from strength to strength in fulfilling your interests.

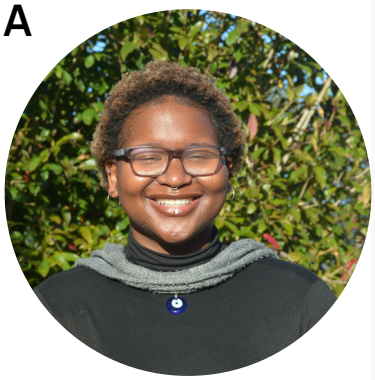
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STATE OF THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS



As part of accountability and transparency, Her Worship Mayor, Councillor Nontombizanele Koni, delivered a State of the Municipal Address to all community and stakeholders of Emalahleni Local Municipality.

"Our vision for Emalahleni Local Municipality is to develop and strengthen our communities by creating a better and sustainable livelihood for all." said Councillor Koni.

We can achieve this through the continued commitment and cooperation from our staff, our senior management, and our councilors. Effective service delivery is the only way we can see our vision come to reality. Service delivery is not at the level we wish to see it at, which is the reason why there is so much unrest in our communities. Our administration is working diligently to ensure effective service delivery, to make a significant impact on the lives of our community members.
Our council committees are fully functional and have taken great initiative to fulfil their duties.

Municipal Public Accounts Committee led by Councillor Badikazi Twala, is an example of such council committees. They do oversight visits to various Emalahleni Local Municipality projects, to ensure that every project is done according to the scope of work provided prior the commencement of the project and to promote public accountability and good governance.

The Intergovernmental Relations Forum is fully functional, although there is room for improvement as not all departments submit information and reports in due time. Unity in development does not only speak to the employees and councillors of the municipality but to the community members.

To achieve the plans set out in the Integrated Development Plan we will need unwavering support and partnership from the residents of Emalahleni.

Our mission for a better life is not without its challenges, but patience and understanding from members of the community is vital. We take full responsibility of our shortcomings and plan to do better in the future.
Our performance on the three quarters was pleasing as it was fair based on the available budget.

Although we performed better, we said to the management that was not enough. Our people deserve nothing less than 100 percent, as achieving all target would mean we set targets based on what we can achieve at the end of the day. It will mean we are planning in a proper way.

STATE OF THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS

Xa icandelo lethu lonxibelelwano belithetha nabantu ukulungiselela olusuku siqaphela oku:

Sive Qabaka: Kungakuhle ukuba umasipala anganenqubo esijongene nophuhliso lolutsha. Ukuvezwa kwamathuba wemisebenzi. Ukukhuliswa kwezakhono nokunye okuninzi.

Sibulela kakhulu ngezindululo zakhe. Ukusa phambili inkqubo zophuhliso lolutsha, sithe sahlaziya iSouth African Youth Council Emalahleni, ngomhla wethoba kule imiyo. Oko sikwenze ukuze abantu abatsha bona ngokwabo badlale indima yabo kuphuhliso lwabo. Ubukho beYouth Council benza ukuba abantu abatsha benze isicwangciso sabo esijongene nazo zonke izinto abafuna ukuphuhliswa kuzo.

Ukuze thina singumasipala siqinisekise ukuba eso sicwangciso kumasebe wonke kaRhulumente sifumana indawo through the Intergovernmental Forum and other government platforms relevant to how government plan.

Kuba ke singurhulumente okhathalele zonke izidingo zoluntu sele sinayo into esithe sayisondeza kubo befika nje eofisini. Ngomhla we23 June 2023 sijonge ukubamba iSeminar apho khona sifuna zonke igraduates zase Emalahleni zibelapha kwiholo ledolophu eCacadu. Sicele kuMinister Thulasi Nxesi ukuba asithumelele zonke iSeta zizo kutsho ngokwazo kubantu abatsha ukuba bangangena njani kuzo ukufumana amava womsebenzi. Nokungena baqeshwe ngokwe zakhono ezo nokuba bethe bakwazi ukufumana ulwazi olupheleleyo.

In February, most areas were affected by disasters. Houses were destroyed and we benefitted on the relief offered by the National Department of Human Settlement. We embrace the role played by Gift of the Givers, Red Cross and Old Mutual during the crisis caused by distasters at the beginning of the year.

Our road networks were severely affected and as such the Department of Transport as part of their mandate assisted us with a set of the machinery so that we may maximize our work efforts to turnaround the state of our roads. This support will help us to review our maintenance plan and increase the number of kilometers on each ward, as well to focus on places where it is almost impossible for people to access other areas and service points.

When the state of roads is not good it affects a lot of services, like healthcare services, education, safety, and security to mention but few. Social activities in a ward are as well disturbed which then makes life difficult. We therefore appreciate what the provincial government is doing in trying to save the situation

Unyaka ka2024 ngunyaka wolonyulo, bonke abantu abakwi minyaka elungele ukuvota, kumele babhalise ukuze bathabathe inxaxheba kuvoto. Ababesele bebhalisile kuhle ukuba bayokuzijonga ukuba basavela na kumqulu wabavoti.

We appreciate the fact that we have got good working relations with the traditional leaders and all community structures. This makes it easier for us to make sure that public participation programmes run smoothly by the office of the Speaker.

EZINGQOLWENI RESIDENTS CHEERFUL WITH APPRECIATION



A village regarded as dark and dangerous can finally see a beacon of light at the end of the tunnel. Honourable Mayor Cllr N. Koni, Portfolio Head of Infrastructure and Human Settlements, Cllr Lali and the Infrastructure department at large, set foot in the Ezingqolweni Shearing shed bearing nothing but good news. In light of violent incidents that occurred in the past years, the purpose of the Ezigqolweni Highmast Lights project handover was to introduce a contractor that will commence with the installation of Highmast lights to the community.

This project is funded by the Office of the Premier with R7 million that will assist in planning and completing the Highmast project. A sum of R5.3 million is meant for the professional fees and installation of lights in the village. The remainder of the money will be used for a developmental project that will benefit the community, especially women and the elderly. The developmental project will be identified by the community of Ezingqolweni through a process of thorough consultation with them.

"This project handover left residences of this grief-stricken village overjoyed by the changes set to occur in the community."

Employment opportunities including skilled, unskilled, security, store lady and Community Liaison Officer are created. 15 people will be employed, with the majority being women, as the Ezingqolweni saga had a profound impact on them. Beneficiation was decided based on the violent killings that occurred in the past. A student with a tertiary qualification in the related field is expected to conduct practical work throughout the construction period.

The community to appoint a project steering committee who will oversee the construction site and later update the community on the progress. Committee members will be compensated with a seating allowance. The duration of this project is 6 months and construction is expected to commence immediately after Easter recess

This project handover left residences of this grief-stricken village overjoyed by the changes set to occur in the community. They perceive this project as a stepping stone to living a more peaceful life, as the installation of these lights will decrease the crime rate in the area. Words of gratitude uttered by the traditional leader were sincere and hopeful that the future will be completely different from the past.

Maintenance of R410 bridges

The South African National Roads Agency LTD will soon start with the maintenances project of four bridges in R410, between Komani and Cacadu towns. This project will take a duration of thirteen months, with mobilization and other elements of the project rollout until the final product is in place.

On the first to the second week of May, Emalahleni Local Municipality facilitated community mobilization on behalf of SANRAL on three affected wards, which are 04, 05 and 06 respectively.

The aim of these engagement session was among other things to inform communities that Project Liaison Committees (PLC's) will be established by SANRAL. This session was coordinated by the municipality after a meeting with SANRAL where an agreement was reached between the two institutions that the municipality inform about the planned works on R410. This as a result of the assessment which was done by SANRAL after heavy rains. So, these projects are done in response to damages caused by the recent floods.

Key to the project and the commencement of work is community mobilization where all stakeholders and role players are taken into confidence in order for them to participate one way or the other.

Meetings to be held with businesses for the beneficiation on the packages during the course of the project.



PAVING A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR YOUNG MEN



The transition from boy to man does not only commence and end in the mountain. It carries on to society where men showcase the teachings and behavioural changes they adopted while undergoing transition. The Mayor of Emalahleni Local Municipality together with Department of Health, Social Development, Department of Education, Department of Correctional Services, South African Police Service, HIV/AIDS, and the Council of Churches hosted an event of welcoming Amakrwala (new men) back to society. The gathering was held at Cacadu Stadium and young men from various schools around Emalahleni were in attendance.

These stakeholders took it upon themselves to educate young men about the importance of education, the roles and responsibilities of being a man in a society of amaXhosa and also encourage them to share their experiences as individuals. The program is designed to ensure that these men are exactly what they should be in society, pillars and protectors of households.

“Mabaye bephila. Babuye bephila.” - Initiation Slogan

Amakrwala were given a chance to speak out after government branches gave messages of support. They raised their responsibility to fight drug abuse in school premises, doing away with disobedience and disrespecting of elders, setting an example for those who are yet to embark on this journey, as well as taking responsibility and being an example at home and community at large.

Honourable MEC Z. Williams - COGTA was an esteemed guest who shared words of wisdom, among other things he focused on; the absence of men in certain households. Mother's loss of hope and scepticism with regards to sending their children to initiation school as some do not make it back to re-join society as new men. Cultural deficiency as we are developing as humans and some tend to shun upon their cultural beliefs. He then emphasised the element of respect as one of the most crucial ingredients that make a man. A man's selflessness is actions, being able to take responsibility, respect their parents and the whole community.

The municipality together with traditional leaders read this program as a great success during the summer revolution because all the young men came back complete.

U/17 MCF TOURNAMENT

The Lady Free Sports Legends officially launched the u/17 soccer tournament beginning April 2023. This annual tournament by the legends is to encourage and educate the youth of Emalahleni through sport and education. Mayor Councilor Nontombizanele Koni applauded this initiative and mentioned how sport brought people from different backgrounds together. Due to the severe use of substance abuse amongst our youth, sport is used as a safeguard for young people. Emalahleni Local Municipality ensured that the sport field was in perfect condition for the tournament. This was a 4-day tournament which commenced on Freedom Day, 27th April until 30th April 2023.



The main sponsor for the tournament is Mfundo and Cecil Foundation and Sinethemba Consultants, both owned by Lwandiso Matti. Other sponsors include Mr Meakana, Mr Mantlane, Vodacom and Coca-cola. The total number of school teams participating is 20. Out of the 20, 19 teams are from Emalahleni Local Municipality and 1 team from Enoch Mgijima. One of the requirements stated by the Legends during the launch was that all participants should be school going. Some of the guests in attendance are the Matti family, South African Football Association, Lady Frere Football Association, Umhlobo wenene Sport Presenter Ongeziwe Miana, Yukani Community Radio Presenters Linda Magazi and Thando Mendezi and Anele Matti, who plays the character of Msimele Mkwetu in the telenovela Ggeberha: The Empire playing on channel 161. Scouts from Cape Town City, Cape Town Spurs and Supersport United were also there to search for raw young talent.

The teams that played the final match were Dordrecht High School and Maria Louw High School. Maria Low High School won the tournament with 4-0. Individuals were also celebrated such as the coach of the tournament, goalkeeper of the tournament, top goal scorer, player of the tournament to mention a few. The scouts identified 20 promising young players as the top 20. It was a delightful experience to all attendees, especially those who saw an opportunity to benefit financially. Stalls for food and sweets were available throughout the tournament and the guests used our local bed and breakfast for the duration of the tournament.





EMALAHLENI LATELY





On a quest to alleviate the after effects of disastrous rainfall that swept away people's homes earlier in the year. Red Cross, Old Mutual, and the Gift of the Givers graced the community of Emalahleni to handover food parcels, blankets and mattresses.

Unity in development meets an entities that are "always needed and always there" for the betterment of humanity.



QWEMPE HIKERS

QWEMPE POOL OF WATERS





GQEBENYA PAVING ROAD

SMMES SUPPORT: MAIZE PRODUCER





INDWE FEEDLOT

LIVESTOCK BRANDING



MUSICAL INSTRUMENT HANDOVER TO NGQOKO WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE



In the spirit of preserving and embracing our culture, Mayor Cllr Koni, along with the LED department at Emalahleni Local Municipality handed over musical instruments to Ngqoko Women's Ensemble in Ngqoko.

Their leader, Nomthandazo Ntese, expressed words of gratitude and stated that their love for music will bridge the generational gap between young people and performers of the ancient dance, as they are trying to attract more young people to join them.

UNITY IN DEVELOPMENT

EMALAHLENI NEWSFLASH



QWEMPE HIKING AND MOUNTAINEERING 2ND EDITION







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