

Sekhukhune

State of the District Address

SODA 2018 SPEECH

THE PRESENTATION OF THE 2018
STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS
BY HIS WORSHIP EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF
SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
CLLR KEAMOTSENG STANLEY RAMAILA
HELD MOREKO SECONDARY SCHOOL,
PHOKWANE VILLAGE MAKHUDUTHAMAGA
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ON THE 16TH MARCH
2018 14:00PM.

www.sekhukhunedistrict.gov.za



Executive Mayor
Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila



Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality



Elias Mokoedi Municipality



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



SEKHUKHUNE
District Municipality

Honourable Speaker of Council, Cllr Maria Manamela;
Honourable Members of the Mayoral Committee;
Your Worship Mayors of our Four Local Municipalities;
The Chief Whip of Council Cllr Tseke Lepota;
Speakers and Chief whips of our four Local Municipalities;
Chair of Chairs Cllr Oginia Mafefe;
Chairperson of Municipal Public Accounts Committee Cllr Kukie Sefala;
Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees and Honourable Councillors;
Chairperson of the Local House of Traditional Leaders Kgosi Manamane Mogashoa (Nape a Hlabirwa);
Chairperson of CONTRALESA in Sekhukhune Region Kgosi Lehwelere Matlala (Nape a Kanyane);
Go tswa ntlong ya Bogoshi Kgolo bja Sekhukhune re hlompha Hlabirwa a Bauba, elego KK
Sekhukhune le Bauba a Hlabirwa, elego Thulare Victor Thulare;
Former Executive Mayors of our District Mr Dickson Masemola and Mr David Magabe;
Members of Parliament and Members of the Provincial Legislature present;
The Regional Secretary of the ANC in Sekhukhune Mr Jerry Maseko and other members of the
Regional Executive Committee;
Leadership of all our Tripartite Alliance structures;
Leaders of political parties represented in Council;
Our esteemed Traditional Leaders;
Board Members of Sekhukhune Development Agency;
Provincial Executive Officer of SALGA Limpopo Province, Thapelo Matlala;
Municipal Manager Mme Norah Maseko and your Senior Managers;
District Senior Managers from our Sector Departments;
The CEO of Hospitals and Cluster Commanders of our police stations;
IEC and other Chapter 9 Institution strengthening our democracy;
Business community and Religious bodies;
Employees of our Municipalities and Officials of Sector Departments;
Friends from the Media;
Comrades, Compatriots, Ladies and Gentleman
My special guests, the Matlala family (please rise)
Good Afternoon, Thobela, Lotshani!

Fellow citizens of Sekhukhune

This year marks 60th Anniversary of SEBATAKGOMO uprising, a rural resistant movement of Bapedi immigrant workers established in 1958 to challenge apartheid unjust laws. We stand on the shoulders of giants, we are proud descendents of the heroes and heroines of Sebatokgomo.

The 1958 Sebatokgomo Uprising is recorded as one of the most influential rural resistant movement which laid a firm basis for the adoption of armed struggle as one of the strategic pillars in the fight against the tyranny of apartheid oppression. Our forebears have been part and parcel of the struggle for emancipation of the oppressed indigenous people since time immemorial.

Today as we gather here, in paying tribute to that gallant generation of Sebatokgomo, we welcome the historic national assembly successful motion on expropriation of land without compensation. For we understand that access to land and ownership is at the centre of any real economic development paradigm. Indeed we remember that historic declaration of Morogogo which said " political freedom without economic freedom is meaningless" .

Madam Speaker

This year marks 60th Anniversary of SEBATAKGOMO uprising, a rural resistant movement of Bapedi immigrant workers established in 1958 to challenge apartheid unjust laws. We stand on the shoulders of giants, we are proud descendents of the heroes and heroines of Sebatokgomo.

The 1958 Sebatokgomo Uprising is recorded as one of the most influential rural resistant movement which laid a firm basis for the adoption of armed struggle as one of the strategic pillars in the fight against the tyranny of apartheid oppression. Our forebears have been part and parcel of the struggle for emancipation of the oppressed indigenous people since time immemorial.

Today as we gather here, in paying tribute to that gallant generation of Sebatokgomo, we welcome the historic national assembly successful motion on expropriation of land without compensation. For we understand that access to land and ownership is at the centre of any real economic development paradigm. Indeed we remember that historic declaration of Morogogo which said " political freedom without economic freedom is meaningless" .

Madam Speaker

I am deeply honoured to be given this opportunity to address this august house on the occasion of 2018 State of the District Address. This moment represents a special opportunity to interact with the more than 1.1million people of our district and those beyond our borders.

This address comes exactly thirty (30) days after the maiden State of the Nation Address by His Excellency President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa on the 16th February 2018.

That was when as our new Commander in Chief, President Ramaphosa unleashed his marching orders which in the main, centered around a new dawn, one nation, renewal, unity and jobs. And President Ramaphosa's speech was followed by the State of the Province Address on the 23rd February 2018, delivered by our Premier Honourable Chupu Stanley Mathabatha.

And today's citizen's report, follows the maiden address that I was privileged to deliver last year in Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality at Moses Mabotha Civic Hall. And this will obviously be followed by the State of Local Municipal Addresses by our family of four (4) local municipalities.

Madam Speaker

This year we mark anniversaries of several milestones in the history of our struggle for liberation and freedom:

- It is 105 years since the 1913 land Act and 95 years since the Native Urban Areas Act;
- 55 years since the start of the Rivonia Treason Trial, during which Nelson Mandela and other leaders of Umkhonto We Sizwe were sentenced to life imprisonment;
- 30th anniversary of the battle of Cuito cuanavale which liberated Angola and other Southern African states;
- 35th Anniversary of the formation of United Democratic Front, just to name but a few

Most importantly, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa has declared 2018 as the centenary celebration of the birth of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. And we are called upon to intensify efforts to realise Mandela's vision of a united South Africa in which all live in peace with equal rights and opportunities.

Coupled with that, this year again, we will also celebrate the centenary of the birth of Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu, a stalwart of our struggle who is remembered for her strength, compassion and tireless commitment to the people of our country.

Mma Sisulu was a prominent leader of the ANC, ANC Women's League, the Federation of South African Women and the United Democratic Front (UDF). Ma Sisulu represented the epitome of selfless service to the people and we will use 2018 to remember her remarkable life.

We also remember that it was Ma Sisulu who came here in our region in 1992 to pay tribute to one of our own, Mohumagadi Madinoge on the occasion of her funeral. In her memory and honour we say "Malibongwe igama la ma kosi kazi"

Fellow Councillors

2018 is '100 YEAR OF NELSON MANDELA: THE YEAR OF RENEWAL, UNITY AND JOBS'.

During this year of Nelson Mandela, we are reminded of the dock statement he rendered on behalf of Rivonia Trialists after the guilty verdict was passed. They knew that we were destined to be executed by the apartheid state, however, their unwavering commitment to the overarching vision of a free and democratic South Africa eroded their fear.

It was during that time when the case was concluded and the leaders sentenced to life at the Palace of Justice, where Mandela said these words and I quote:

"During my lifetime I have dedicated my life to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is the ideal for which I hope to live for and to see realised. But, my Lord, if it needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die"

Close quote.

Here we learn a lesson that true revolutionaries are the ones who conquer fear as they are driven by revolutionary zeal to execute the mandate given to them by the masses, particularly that of fighting the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

Presidential

Honourable Speaker

This special Council sitting, comes after the presentation of the State of the Nation Address on the 16th February 2018, by His Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa. As the new Commander in Chief, he issued a clarion call using the lyrics of a renowned musician Ntate Hugh Masekela 'thuma mina".

We welcome pronouncements made by President Ramaphosa as he ushered in a new dawn that is inspired by our collective memory of Nelson Mandela and the changes that are unfolding. Because indeed though we are diverse people, we are one nation.

The president has stressed the message of oneness, commitment to work together to find jobs for our youth, to build factories and roads, houses and clinics, to prepare our children for a world of change and progress.

We welcome the policy directive from the president with regard

to our determination to build a society defined by decency and integrity that does not tolerate the plunder of public resources, nor the theft by any kind of criminal of the hard earned savings of ordinary people.

The central message from the new President is that our challenges are not insurmountable, it is through collaborative action and partnership that we can be able to reposition our country to new trajectory of economic growth, job creation and development.

It is for this reason that the President emphasised the building and consolidation of a social compact in South Africa. A multi-facet compact of government, business, labour and civil society towards realising the objectives of the Nation Development Plan.

Material Conditions

Madam Speaker

Ntumelele ke bontshe gore Sekhukhune lehono ke lefelo lele kaona go fapana le ka 1994. Lege gole bjalo, re sa lebagane le ditlhohlo tsa tlala, tlhokego ya meshomo le go hloka tekatekano.

Be that as it may, our electorate has bestowed upon our shoulders a mandate to tackle these challenges by confronting the injustices of the past and the inequalities of the present and we dare not fail in this regard.

And we are expected to do so under the current difficult conditions characterised by weak economic growth, current budget deficit, increased poverty levels, increased unemployment rate, lower investment, raising cost of living, etc.

However, we are motivated by the positive indicators following the 54th National Conference of the ruling party as well as the election of new President and Cabinet. Amongst the positive indicators we have recently seen are:

- Strengthening of the rand against major currencies;
- Stabilising commodity prices;
- Governance and policy certainty; and
- Upward adjustment of growth projections, etc.

And in his own words, President Ramaphosa calls upon all of us to and I quote "pursue higher levels of economic growth and investment, we need to take additional measures to reduce poverty and meet the needs of the unemployed in our country" close quote.

On that note, we also welcome the decision to provide free higher education for the poor, since we are one of the most poorer district municipalities in the country. The qualifying threshold as announced by the former President is for families earning between R0 to R350 000 per year.

Our task as government working together with the private sector and other partners is to ensure that all qualifying students have access to higher education. We must devise means and ways of assisting those who fall outside the threshold yet still have financial challenges to pursue their studies.

Premier – SOPA

Comrades and Compatriots

Tulo ye ya lehono e latela polelo kgolo yeo e filwego ke tonakgolo ya porobense ya rena Mohlomphegi Chupu Stanley Mathabatha kala masome pedi tharo February 2018. Yona ebe e itshemile go moshomo wa mmuso wa porobense, ditlhohlo tseo di bilego gona le mananego kgoparara ao a lebesitswego go kaonafatsa seemo sa ditaba.

Among key pronouncements made by the Honourable Premier, was that:

- The Limpopo Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill (SPLUMA), which has been a cause for concern particularly from our Traditional Leaders is nearing adoption. The bill has been submitted to the Legislature and it is awaiting final inputs;
- The Kgatla Commission of inquiry into Traditional Leadership disputes has completed its work. And to this effect, consultations with the House of Traditional Leaders will unfold to deal with the findings and the recommendations of the Commission;
- Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) and cooperatives will be given special attention as key economic drivers towards economic growth, which can be used to provide much needed jobs;
- The partnership among the provincial government, South African National Road Agency (SANRAL) and Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) is fruitful. In the main,

this partnership has resulted in the completion of the Ga-Phasha, Mampuru, Tukagomo to Longtill road, construction of Ga-Nkoana to R37 road, Riba Cross to Ga-Riba village road, to name but a few;

- Young people should be placed at the centre of our economic agenda. To this effect, a clarion call has been made for the development of clear and workable implementation plans to support the Limpopo Youth Development Strategy

Ka bo ripana, rele mmasepala wa selete sa Sekhukhune, re

hlakelele polelo ya Tonakgolo Maahlatji gomme re ikana go abathekgo yeo e feleletsego go diphetho ka moka. Kudu tabeng ya magato a kgalemo kgahlanong le mahodu le dibodu mmusong.

District Status Quo

Fellow Councillors and Citizens

During the State of the District Address last year 2017, we have reported that one of the most pressing challenge facing the district municipality is that of unsustainable liquidity ratio which is indicator of our financial health as an institution. And we wish to report that this situation still persists this financial year amid some noticeable improvements.

Current Ratio

The municipality's current ratio at year end was 0,67:1 and improved to 1,67:1 at end of January 2018. The municipality's creditors (48%) is made up of retention balance which will not be redeemed within 12 months.

The challenge of this type of liquidity ratio is uncertain future financial sustainability where we do not have enough money to pay our debts. And the mitigating factor therefore is for us to drastically improve our revenue collection, while smaltenously addressing all historical debts and litigations.

As the Fourth Council of Sekhukhune, we have resolved to robustly address the issue of revenue collection in order to place our municipality on a trajectory of growth and sustainability. In pursuing this noble objective, we have identified villages that are we are going to start collecting in this financial and obviously this program will be rolled out to other villages in the district.

The following townships and villages have been earmarked for collection:

- Motetema, Leeuwfontein, Letebetjane, Elandskraal, Dichoueng, Morarela, Tsantsabela, Phetwane, Matjering and Ga-Nkoana.

We will need cooperation from our communities, Traditional Leaders, political parties and the entire people of Sekhukhune.

This we must do for the future of this municipality and the generation to come.

We must encourage and inculcate a culture of payment of services in order to make provision for operations and maintenance of the infrastructure on the ground.

Ours is a developmental local government, which places people at the centre of governance and service delivery. We are therefore appealing for maximum cooperation and support especially from those who can afford to pay such as business people, teachers, doctors, lawyers, councillors, nurses, police officers, clerks, municipal employees and many other professionals and the middle class sector of our population.

We call upon stakeholders, rate payers and the community in general to ensure that we support the municipality in its endeavour to collect revenue and stabilise its finances.

For the 2017 – 2018 financial year, we had originally budgeted for a total of one point five five five billion (R1 555 469, 00) rand and it has since been adjusted by twenty million R20 260 636,00) to one point five seven six billion (R1 576 730 262,00) rand. Meaning that the total capital expenditure budget moves from the original budget of six hundred and seventy two million rands (R672 172 001,00) to six hundred and eighty seven million rands (R687 345 543,92), while the total operating revenue moves from the original budget of eight hundred and eighty four million (R884 424 626,00) to eight hundred and eight nine million (R889 384 718,08).

Finances

Honourable Coucillors

In our quest to rebrand, repackage and remodel the Sekhukhune District Municipality, we need to be conscious of the current financial situation as reflected summarily before. And to that effect, I need to update you on some of the key factors to be considered as we traverse this journey. They are:

Cash Cost Coverage Ratio

We are saying that the municipality cannot cover monthly operating expenditure from available cash excluding conditional grants.

Overspending on operating budgets

We are reporting that the municipality has spent 6% over allocated budget at mid year due to the fact that most contractual obligations were not adequately funded.

Audit Opinion

We are pleased to report to the Honourable Premier and the people of Sekhukhune District Municipality that, in the previous three financial years, we have sustained a unqualified audit opinion outcome (2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17).

Now our main focus is on achieving clean audit opinion and we are working very hard to achieve that. That is a commitment we are making before you.

We have obviously noted matters that the Auditor-General has emphasized and we have tasked our Audit Steering Committee to implement the Audit Action Plan which Council has approved to realize our shared destiny of a clean audit opinion.

Through our Inter-Governmental-Relations Structures, we also support our local municipalities in particular, Fetakgomo-

Tubatse, Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale to improve their audit outcomes. In the same vein we congratulate Makhuduthamaga Municipality for keeping up with the district in attaining third consecutive unqualified opinion, to them we say well done but let us together march forward to clean audit.

SDM and its people

Madam Speaker

Naga ya gesu ya Afrika Borwa e tsere sephetho sa go matlafatsa lesolo la radical economic and inclusive transformation, gomme rena mo mmasepaleng wa selete sa Sekhukhune rare, ya rena e tla ba 'radical economic and agrarian inclusive transformation'. Kege re gata ka mosito o tee ka mokgwa woo.

And in order to achieve this vision, we collapsed into a strategic retreat on the 6th December 2018. Among others, the key purpose of the planning session was to connect all the dots emanating from our decision making meetings like Mayoral Committee, Mayoral Lekgotla and Council meetings.

We did this notwithstanding the need to consolidate all the facts and figures derived from the engagements we held with other stake-holders like the Traditional Leaders, the Mining Sector, Business Community and members of the general public.

During the session, we looked deeper into our strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. And in one voice we agreed to denounce the 'toxic mix' of incompetency, corruption and laziness.

And our common denominating factor was to emphasize dereliction of duties within our space, that officials are responsible for outputs and as politicians we are responsible for outcomes.

In other words our work is dependent on the productivity level of our officials. Without outputs, we politicians will not be able to report on outcomes to our communities.

Outcome based approach

Honourable Members

In order to give concrete expression to our resolve for outcome based approach, we needed to do serious introspection on ourselves as the district municipality and take serious decisions to turn-around the situation.

Re bolela ka boitekolo gore anaa re dira dilo ka mokgwa wa maleba? Naa re hlankela setshaba ka tshwanelo? Naa re bahlankedi ba mmapale ba setshaba se? Naa re nale lerato la go phethagatsa mosomo owe re o filwego? Goba maikemisetso a rena kego phela maphelo a manobonobo gomme setshaba se sa Sekhukhune se hlaka?

Ge re itekola, re hweditse gore lebotho la basomi lona re nalo,

ka gore ka kakaretso basomi ba mmasepala keba makgolo senyane masome pedi tharo. Bothata ke bokgoni, boikgafo, bobodu, matsogwana le moya wa tlasana wa go soma.

Gomme ra kwana gore re swanetse goba le mananego a tsoeletso ya lerato la mosomo go basomi. Re kwana go fedisa go sa somise tshetele yeo re e filwego go aba diterelo (eradicate under expenditure and roll-overs).

Ra kwana gape gore re be le dipolane tsa go soma (Operations and Maintenance Plans le Water and Sanitation Master Plan). Dipolane tse di tlile go re thusa go fedisa taba tsa gore phiphe e senyene gomme e tsee matsatsi esa lokiswe ke moka setshaba se hloke meetse.

Re kwane gape go matlafatsa dikomiti tseo di hlomilwego ka Oktoboro 2018 tsa meetse le keelatlshila metseng ya bo rena (Ward based water and sanitation community forums). Re tenne go bona dikoloi tsa Sekhukhune di kitima le mmasepala woo gomme batho ba sena meetse.

Mission, vision & values

Fellow Councillors

For our agreed upon outcome based approach to succeed, we have consciously agreed to relook and reignite our mission, vision and values as the Sekhukhune District Municipality. And we therefore acknowledged that the current status quo while it is in order, needed to be changed.

And we therefore said the following:

Our vision:

"Integrated Economic Development and Sustainable Service Delivery"

Our mission:

To improve the quality of life for all communities through:

- provision of a democratic and accountable government;
- promotion of inclusive and egalitarian economic transformation;
- promotion of a safe and healthy environment;
- fostering of community involvement and stakeholder engagement;
- Strengthening institutional capacity and
- Promotion of social cohesion.

Our values: "The heart values"

"Honesty, Excellency, Accessibility, Respect and Transparency".

And our key Strategic Objectives are as follows:

- Basic Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development;
- Local Economic Development;

- Institutional Development and Organization Transformation;
- Good Governance and Public Participation; and
- Financial Viability.

Speaker

We are saying that based on the above, we are highly optimistic that we will achieve our common and shared vision of a new Sekhukhune, which is inspired by patriotism, love and care for our communities.

We are aware that changing mindset is a journey and we are prepared to traverse this journey side by side. And to put this in context, let us remember the words of Tata Madiba during his inaugural speech in 1994 when he said and I quote:

"Today we are entering a new era for our country and its people. Today we celebrate not the victory of a party, but a victory for all the people of South Africa". Close quote.

Education

Madam Speaker

Ntumelele hle ka tlhompho ke gopole mogale wa rena ngwageng woo wa 2018, Tata Madiba ge a bolela mantsu a, ke a motsopola:

"I am fundamentally an optimist. Whether that comes from nature or nurture, I cannot say. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lays defeat and death" ke motsopotse.

Thuto ke lesedi. Nka fao re tseago sebaka se go ikgantsha rele mmuso wa ANC ka sephetho sa go aba thuto ya mahala dikolong tsa dithuto tsa godimo (free higher tertiary education).

Golebjalo, naa mo Sekhukhune, re tlile go roma mang? Re bolele se ka lebaka la gore dipelo tsa rena tsa mphato wa marematlou ga di kgahlise le ga tee tee (unpalatable matric performance).

In 2017, 22 439 learners wrote their matric exams, only 11 634 passed, amounting to 58,8%. Placing us as the least performing district in Limpopo for the past three years. We are deeply touch by this situation.

We once again reiterate the call that says " education is not a departmental matter but a societal matter". I call upon my fellow councillors to ensure that we adopt schools and play oversight.

To this extend the district municipality will convene an Education

Lekgotla in June 2018 to bring together stakeholders in the sector in order to galvanise a collective endeavour towards finding lasting solutions to this challenge.

We, however, wish to take this opportunity to congratulate schools like Hoer Skool Ben Viljoen, Ester Maleka, Moreko Secondary and St. Thomas College, which continues to rise our flag as Sekhukhune higher each year.

SDM Bursaries

On our part as the district municipality, we are pleased to announce that by 2016, we have allocated full bursaries to twenty seven (27) students. From the 27 bursars in 2016, eleven (11) were new intakes and sixteen (16) were continuing students.

The number of students in our bursary scheme as in 2017 are eighteen (18) and there are no new intakes. The number of students in 2018 is sixteen (16) and three (3) are new intakes.

The total budget that we spent as the district municipality for external bursaries in 2016 was three million two hundred thousand (R3,2million). And the total spent in 2017 was two million twenty eight thousand rand (R2 028 830.00).

This figures are not inclusive of the internal bursaries that we offer, ie one (1) in 2017, one (1) in 2018 and eight (8) in 2018. In addition to that, we are also participating through interventions like:

- Adult Education and Training (for our ageing I&Ws department);
- Water and Waste water Reticulation and Processes;
- Plumbing;
- Computer Training etc

Through the above-mentioned interventions and other collaborations with non-governmental organisations, we are mobilizing our communities around taking education serious. Education is the only bedrock through which a foundation for development can be built.

STRATEGIC LED PROJECTS, PLANS AND KEY INITIATIVES

Honourable Speaker

We have characterised our comparative economic advantages as :

- Mining;
- Agriculture; and
- Tourism

And we have said a considerable amount of work and strategic thinking needs to be applied in order to turn these three comparative advantages into competitive advantages. In the mining sector, we must agree that we continue to

produce raw materials in the form of Platinum Group Metals without expanding the industry through building local industrial capabilities, value chain and cluster development.

As part of our endeavour to transform the mining industry and ensure that the industry empowers our people through ownership, job creation, procurement, skills transfers etc, we will convene District Mining Indaba in October 2018.

The Indaba will bring together key stakeholders in the mining sector such as DMR, Investors, operating mines, license holders, Magoshi, local forums, etc, to map a way forward on how to leverage on the comparative advantages of the mineral endowments in our region.

On Tubatse Special Economic Zone (SEZ)

The South African mining industry has seen trying times over the past few years although it continues to be one of the major economic sectors of the Limpopo Province, with more than 20% contribution to the Provincial Gross Geographic Product (GGP).

The Limpopo province contains the largest reserves in the world of unmined platinum group metals and largest chrome resources. On the economic front, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM) is endowed with abundant mineral reserves that have attracted large scale mining giants such as in Marula, Twickenham, Modikwa, Sammancor, Bokoni etc.

We have therefore, since submitted an application for designation of Tubatse Special Economic Zone to DTI in September 2016.

The application was recently returned back to LEDA with identified gaps and a request for the review of the application based on the identified gaps. Review of the application is underway with the assistance of the DTI.

The Tubatse Special Economic Zone (TSEZ) Steering Committee is a government formed technical team aimed at spear heading the implementation of the TSEZ Steering Committee vision and objectives.

Primary to the FTSEZ is the acceleration of speedy development in key strategic industrial and cluster development areas in the Limpopo Province, nationally and internationally. And we are optimistic that we will achieve this important milestone.

And today, we want to reiterate our commitment to this decision. We are saying that South Africa is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of mineral wealth. Our country has 1700 mines, contributing to 7% of the Gross Domestic Product. And mines alone employs more than 500 000 people, women and youth included in our country.

Statistics tell us that in Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

alone, there are more than 30 mines currently in operation. And our mines are one of the biggest contributors to job creation and socio-economic growth of our district.

Like we said last year during the State of the District Address, we wish to report that 'Executive Mayor and Business Leaders of the Mines Forum' continue to hold successful meetings regularly.

In the main, the meetings which have been held dealt with issues ranging from community concerns, IDP and SLPs implementation, Special Presidential Package projects, to name but a few.

In order to consolidate an institutional collaborative mechanism for engagements and participation in the mining sector, the Executive Mayor is leading a program to establish Sekhukhune Mining Forum. This forum will be launched this year and will be multi sectoral and reflective of all stakeholders and affected groups.

Enterprise Devevelopment

Setshaba sa Sekhukhune

One of the catalytic projects for development is Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Programme. This is one of the five elements of BBBEE codes of Good Practice and is part of the B-BBEE policy to advance economic transformation in South Africa.

ESD means empowerment of black owned businesses to participate and contribute in the supply chain of medium and large companies in South Africa. The code list ESD as one of the qualifying contribution which can reflect positively on a company's B-BBEE scorecard.

Now, the district municipality (SDM) has advertised Request for Proposals on the 22nd of January 2018 and the tender was closed on the 06th of February 2018. The tender is at bid evaluation level.

The municipality will enter into a 3 year contract with 2 successful bidders. The successful bidders will equitably share the district. This is because of the vastness of the district and the number of potential corporates/cooperatives with which Professional Service Providers (PSP) will work with.

The district will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the PSP which will outline the legalities, roles and responsibilities of the two parties. We know that the ESD has a potential to revitalize rural and township economy by empowering SMME's and Cooperatives.

Agriculture

Honourable Councillors

Last year during this address, we spoke about the establishment of the Agri Parks, which has been announced since 2015.

Agri Parks are areas designed for multiple activities that accommodate small farmers, commercial farmers, public areas, processing areas and natural habitat.

Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality allocated 40 hectares of Portion 39 of Klipbank Farm 26JS for the Agri Park development. The site is reserved for establishment of Agri Hub which will serve the headquarters of the Sekhukhune Agri Park project.

Two sites have been identified at Vleeschboom and Praktiseer in Makhuduthamaga and Fetakgomo Tubatse local municipalities respectfully for establishment of Farmer Production Support Units.

Progress has been made regarding this project. I am pleased to announce that during this financial year, a process of fencing of the Agri hub site in Groblersdal and development of Storage facilities for grains and fencing of Vleeschboom FPSU site will be finalized.

And in addition, I am happy to report that negotiations with Daybreak Abattoir in Delmas are underway for the establishment of Poultry Abattoir which will benefit Sekhukhune poultry farmers.

Speaker

We take this opportunity and welcome the decision by the parliament of the Republic of South Africa regarding 'expropriation of land without compensation', with proposed amendments from the ruling ANC of course.

And most importantly, we appreciate the condition that this programme will be dealt with in the outmost care so that it does not compromise food security. And for that we are looking at the vast hectares of land in our district to be redistributed to the people who are willing to farm the land.

I wish to take this opportunity to leverage this opportunity as available in agriculture, including using the Tompie Seleka College of Agriculture for skills development, refresher courses and practical purposes.

Ka setso sa gabo rena, re tseba 'lehumo le etswa tshemong' gomme re tseba tlhagong rana ba thari ye ntsho re be re iphedisha ka mabele thoro, tirimane, leotsa, merogo le ditsweletswa tse dingwe tsa masemong le dirapaneng tsa ka gae.

Ke dira boipeletso bja gore lege borwa bo fetoga fetoga

(effects of climate change) re sahlwe re tseba gore selemo le marega, lehlabula le seruthwane di neng, tla re boeleng masemong setshaba sa gesu. Malwetsi siya a re tsenetse ka baka la dijo tsa sejwalejwale, setshaba sea fela. Gomme tharollo, ke dijo tsa se gabo rena.

Fellow Members of the House

One of the envisaged projects that we are persuing is 'the Sekhukhune District Spray Painting and Auto Body Repairs Learnership and Training Programme'.

This programme is aimed at skilling unemployed youth in Auto Body repairs. And more details about it will be made available to the public once it is formalized.

We do all these because the 2011 statistics showed that unemployment rate stood at 51.6% and average household income is R45 977.00 for those who are employed.

The above figures paint a dire situation, non-indicative of the amount of mineral and agricultural wealth the district is endowed with. Part of the contributing factors to the high unemployment is lack of skills. Skills Development Act 97 (Act 97 of 1998) section 10.1.b provide for Sector Education Training Authority (SETA) to implement its sector skills plan.

And one of the implementing mechanisms is through learnerships. Learnership is a vocational education and training programme to facilitate a linkage between structured learning and work experience funded by a relevant SETA.

Aquaculture Development

Madam Speaker

Developmentalists have always raised the issue around using De Hoop Dam precincts as a site for development like it is seen at Hartebeestpoort Dam. And to this effect, I am pleased to announce about an initiative called 'De Hoop Dam Resource Management Plan (RMP)'.

This plan was approved on the 19th of July 2017. It is a tool or plan that provide guidance on how the dam can be utilized and managed for recreational purposes, in a way that promote community participation and beneficiation, environmental conservation and to unlock socio-economic potential of the water resource (De Hoop Dam Business plan, 2017).

And to put more impetus to the RMP, De Hoop Dam Business Plan was approved on the 20th of July 2017. The Business plan provides for aquaculture development in the dam and recommends a feasibility study to determine the viability of introducing aquaculture at the dam.

Responding to the recommendation on aquaculture, the district municipality has commissioned a feasibility study on aquaculture development in the De Hoop and Flag Boshielo Dam. And to this effect, Urban Econ Development Economists were appointed on the 16th of February 2018 to conduct a feasibility study at the 2 dams.

SDA is the implementing agent for the implementation of De Hoop Dam Resource Mngement Plan. Our vision is to turn De Hoop Dam into a state of the art nautical tourism and ecotourism precinct with facilities such as hotels, resturants, fishing, boating, water parks, etc.

This we can achieve with the assistance and partnership with private investors, tourism product owners, operators as well as inter-governmental collaborations.

Regional Industrial Development Master Plan Development and Implementation

Madam Speaker

The current economic environment puts pressure on all regional economies to align and plan trade and investment regimes, and it therefore calls for a more creative industrial development planning to enhance the productive capability, capacity and efficiency of industrial sectors specifically the manufacturing sectors.

In accelerating the radical economic development within its area of jurisdiction, Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) endeavours to develop a Regional Industrial Development Master Plan that will:

- Enable local industries to be competitive, innovative and diversified into value-added products;
- Generate higher labour incomes and raise the living standards of the local communities, thereby contributing significantly to eradicating poverty amongst others

And to this effect, we are pleased to announce that, we have successfully established Regional Industrial Development Task Team on the 30th of January 2018 to facilitate the development of the Master Plan as well as enhancing its implementation.

And we are in the process of sourcing funding for the development of Regional Industrial Development Master Plan .

KEY PARTNERSHIPS CONCLUDED WITH PRIVATE SECTOR

Speaker

I am also pleased to announce that, our district municipality (SDM) and the Human Science Research Council have agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which represents

a statement of intent by the parties to work together and outlines the basis for their collaboration and joint activities in fields of mutual interest.

The two parties have also agreed in implementing activities and projects of cooperation in areas of social and human sciences in line with the HSRC's research programs and local economic development in South Africa.

A Memorandum of Understanding was developed and submitted to the legal services of the two parties for vetting. The two legal services units were satisfied with the contents of the MOU.

STATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE DISTRICT

The persistent problem of high unemployment rate particularly amongst the youth is a disturbing phenomena. Census 2011 Limpopo Municipal Report indicated that, unemployment rate in Sekhukhune stood at 51.6 %. It showed a great improvement compared to 2001 and 1996 with 61.0 and 61.6 respectively.

This may be attributed to the increase of mining operations in Tubatse. Lege gole bjalo, re gatelela sephetho sa gore re ka se bopate boroko, ge efela baswa ba selete sa Sekhukhune basa humane mesomo. Ke maikarabelo a rena go netefatsa gore tlhobaboroko ye eya fediswa.

JOBS CREATED SINCE 2016 TO DATE

Setshaba sa Thulare

In the 2016/2017 financial year, Sekhukhune District Municipality through its various projects and programmes managed to create 1340 job opportunities. Out of the 1340 jobs that were created, 805 were males and 535 females. Youth comprised 686 job opportunities and there were only 13 people living with disabilities that were employed.

By January 2018 in the current financial year, work opportunities recorded on the EPWP Reporting System were as follows: 611 job opportunities. Out of the 611 jobs that were created, 365 were males and 246 females. Youth comprised 290 job opportunities and there were only 5 people living with disabilities that were employed.

LAND FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Sekhukhune District Municipality has agreed with Bapedi ba Mamone Traditional Authority on the 7th November 2016 for the allocation of land for the future construction of municipal offices. .

The agreement reached was that the land will be secured

on a lease agreement to be finalised through community participation resolution. The District is currently finalising the negotiations with land claimants for their consent for development. .

The District Municipality has developed land acquisition Process Plan. Service Providers to conduct the land Valuation and preliminary studies were appointed and are currently busy with the studies.

In addition, Council has instructed officials to equally pursue land that is available in Jane Furse, including the land from the Anglican Church next to the police station.

We reiterate our undying resolve as the fourth Council to make sure that the district municipal offices in Groblersdal and sector departments offices in Lebogakgomo, are brought to Jane Furse in Sekhukhune to serve their rightful people.

Water / Sanitation Infrastructure

Madam Speaker

Our late international icon Nelson Mandela once said and I quote "A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of" close quote.

And therefore, we are saying that the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) is a Water Services Authority (WSA) and Water Services Provider (WSP) in accordance with its powers and functions in terms of In terms of Water Services Act, Act 108 of 1997.

Based on the above, we are still continuing with our plans for bulk water supply in the district using our schemes, namely: Mooihoek-Tubatse, De Hoop Dam, Nebo Plateau, Nkadimeng, Olifantpoort, Flag Boshielo, Zaaiplaas-Carbonites, Groblersdal, Moutse East and West bulk water schemes.

And it is worth noting that with the current drought condition in our country, exasperated by climate change, water is increasingly becoming a scarce resource. We need to use it sparingly and wisely, while we enjoy it.

And in the main, we need to move with speed towards reticulating areas which are ready to be reticulated and collect revenue on water usage, while acknowledging the available indigent policy.

The Municipality is currently providing full water and sanitation services in the main towns such as Burgersfort (12 815 people), Marble Hall (4 025 people), Groblersdal (6 312 people), Steelpoort (3 374 people) and Ohrigstad (1 520 people). These areas have access to other high-level services such as refuse removal and roads.

The most villages in the vast rural areas are being provided with

ground water as alternative sources and water tankers where necessary. Most of the rural villages in the Flag Boshielo Water Scheme are receiving water services in a much more improved way than most rural other villages.

In 2016-2017 financial year, a number of villages have begun benefitting from water provided by a main pipe from De Hoop dam, namely: Mpelegane, Maepa, Ratau, Maphopha, Rantho, Masha, Malekana and Maseven.

This is a notable progress as De Hoop dam's provision is beginning to reach villages. And we are optimistic that our target to supply Jane Furse with water from De Hoop Dam is within reach. A contractor is on site and the bulk pipeline from Ga-Malekana Treatment Plant to Jane Furse is being commissioned currently.

On the other hand, we are currently implementing a massive sanitation programme and providing Ventilated Improved Pit latrines (VIP's) to various households. In the 2016/2017, financial year 17 481 VIP Sanitation units were built across the district as part of providing communities with sanitation.

INVESTMENTS ON INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT DURING 2016/17 TO 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEARS:

During 2016/17 Financial Year, SDM Invested six hundred and fifty four million (R 654 162 650) in Infrastructure development in terms of project implementation. And the following infrastructure grants and equitable shares were spend during 2016/17 financial year on water and sanitation projects:

- Municipal Infrastructure Grant (GRANT): three hundred and thirty three million rand (R 333 775 818).
- The SDM has implemented 17 water infrastructure projects and 5 VIP sanitation projects during 2016/17 financial year;
- Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG): Nineteen million rand (R 19 161 992).
- The SDM has implemented 18 intervention water projects during 2016/17 financial year;
- Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG): R 85 168 554
- The SDM has implemented 14 bulk water projects during 2016/17 financial year.
- Equitable Shares (EQ): two hundred and sixteen million (R216 056 286)
- The SDM maintained and operated the existing infrastructure during 2016/17 financial year

In the current 2017/18 financial year, SDM is investing One zero two three billion (R 1 023) in infrastructure development in terms of project implementation.

And the following infrastructure grants and equitable shares are committed to be spend in the current financial year on water and sanitation projects:

- Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG): four hundred and eighty four million rand (R 484m).
- The SDM is currently implementing 16-water infrastructure projects and 4 VIP sanitation projects (per Local Municipality) during 2017/18 financial year.
- These projects include main water pipelines, water storages (reservoirs), pump stations and reticulation networks;
- Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG): Ninety five million rand (R 95m).
- The SDM is currently implementing twenty two intervention water projects during 2016/17 financial year;
- These projects include refurbishment and rehabilitation of the existing water infrastructure;
- Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG): Two hundred and twenty six million rand (R 226m).
- The SDM is currently implementing seven bulk water projects during 2017/18 financial year
- This projects includes bulk pipelines, bulk water storage and main pump stations;
- Equitable Shares (EQ): Two hundred and eighteen rand R 218m).
- The SDM maintained and operated the existing infrastructure during 2016/17 financial year.
- The maintenance & operations includes the day-to-day provision of water services and planned maintenance on the existing water infrastructure.

Speaker

BACKLOG IN ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION IN 2017/18 AS COMPARED TO 2016/17

The Sekhukhune District Municipality has the total population of one coma one million people (1 169 762) with one hundred and ninety four thousand nine hundred and sixty two (194 962) households. (palo moka ya milione o tee fegelwana tee ke setshaba sa Sekhukhune)

The Sanitation -Ventilated Pit-latrine (VIP) infrastructure backlog was at one hundred and fifty five thousand and two hundred and thirty eight (155 238) in 2015/16 financial year and reduced by seventeen thousand four hundred and eighty one (17 481) in 2016/17, thus the current sanitation backlog is at one hundred and thirty seven thousand seven hundred and fifty seven (137 757).

The Water infrastructure backlog was at thirty nine percent (39%) in 2015/16 financial year and reduced by four percent (4%)

in 2016/17. The water backlog is currently at thirty five percent (35%).

The water services backlogs fluctuates based on the availability of new residential developments without water provisions. The operation & maintenance patterns on the existing water infrastructure also affects the water services backlog.

KEY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED DURING 2016/17 TO DATE

- The SDM continued with the implementation of Nkadameng Bulk Water Supply Scheme, which is currently at Phase 11 to complete the water pipeline and reticulation network.
- The commissioning and testing of Bulk pipeline from Malekana Water Treatment Works to Jane Furse command reservoir under (Nebo Plateau Bulk Water Scheme) to be completed in June 2018.
- The implementation of phase 4 for Mooihoek-Tubatse Bulk Water Scheme is continuing in the current financial, which includes the bulk pipelines and concrete reservoirs. This projects will be completed in the next financial of 2018/19.
- The Lebalelo South Bulk Water Scheme commenced with construction in the current financial and to be completed 2019/2020.
- The Phase 2 of the Lebalelo South Water Distribution and Reticulation scheme will commence in 2018/19 financial year.
- The Olifantspoort South Bulk Water Schemes is currently under implementation at Phase 24 to complete the bulk pipeline and water distribution pipeline.

INCOMPLETE PROJECTS UNBLOCKED FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEARS

- The Praktiseer water reticulation project under Mooihoek-Tubatse Water Scheme has been unblocked and will be completed in the current financial year, 2017/18.
- The Dindela reservoir and Bulk pipeline under Zaaiplaas Bulk water sub-scheme has been unblocked and will be completed in 2018/19 financial year.
- Roosenekal Waste Water Treatment Works has been unblocked and will be completed in 2018/19 financial year.

SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CONTRACTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SDMCDP) OBJECTIVES AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

Speaker

I am pleased to announce that since this Fourth Council took office following the August 2016 Local Government Elections, serious and far reaching decisions have been taken to radically change how we have been doing business in order to empower our local people.

On that note, I am pleased to report about a brand new programme in our district municipality, called, Sekhukhune District Municipality Contractor Development Programme.

Its main objective is to increase the capacity, equity ownership, sustainability, quality and performance of CIDB local registered contractors – effectively raising the contribution of the construction industry to South Africa's accelerated and shared growth initiative.

This shall be achieved by providing business opportunities and further training to historically disadvantaged (new and existing) contractors registered with CIDB in Grade 1 to 3 in the building industries thus ensuring that they become successful, independent contractors over time.

These contractors will then be expected to employ people from disadvantaged communities thus contributing to the reduction of unemployment and alleviation of poverty through the following factors:

- Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME's);
- Local Economic Development;
- Skills Transfer;

This intervention will make a difference in the fight against unemployment within Sekhukhune District area. It will also create entrepreneurs, as well as sustainable employment for the less and semi-skilled unemployed people. The SDMCDP will focus more on youth, women and people with disability to participate in the programme.

Linked to this contractor development program is the establishment of sanitation technology manufacturing factory locally. Through Sekhukhune Development Agency, we have initiated a program to partner with a private investor to set up a factory around Marble Hall.

The project is aimed at manufacturing VIP toilets top structures in order to support the contractor development program but equally enhance local manufacturing capabilities, create jobs and stimulate our local economy.

The factory will be operational by June 2018 and will create 65 direct jobs and other indirect jobs in the value chain. We say all the VIP top structures that are erected in our district should be manufactured locally in order to create jobs and fight poverty.

War Room on service delivery

Speaker

To give concrete expression to all of the above mentioned initiatives, we are pleased to report that we have established what is called 'a War Room'.

A War Room is a high level gathering of all Members of the Mayoral Committee, the Chief Whip of Council, Municipal Manager and all Senior Managers, Projects Managers and all Social Facilitators, chaired by the Executive Mayor.

During all its previous meetings held this year 2018, the War Room has been able to track progress with regard to the implementation of all projects under the district municipality, appraised itself with existing challenges and developed resolutions to unlock all the bottlenecks that exists in this regard.

We are also using the War Room as a yard stick to measure performance on variety of issues of service delivery and we are guided by the principle of 'consequence management' should the need arise.

Water and sanitation community forums

Honourable Councillors

This Fourth Council is guided by the principle of 'business unusual approach'. And we do not have time for rhetoric, cheap politicking and games. That is why on the 30th November 2017, we have successfully established a district 'water and sanitation community forum'.

This district forum is expected to spearhead the establishment of ward based water committees, which among others will:

- ensure government direct interaction with different communities on issues that affect them on daily basis and come out with agreed resolutions;
- reduce increasing number of service delivery protests that are mainly due to lack of communication and feedback;
- promote two way flow of information about provision of reliable water and sanitation services to the communities in terms of envisaged developments/plans, challenges and progress etc

We take this opportunity to call on all our people to utilize this forum for their own benefit.

Community services

Honourable Members

During the State of the District Address 2017, we have reported about the process to absorb 19 Environmental Health

Practitioners. Today, I am proud to announce that we have successfully completed Devolution process which started in August 2012.

These Environmental Health Practitioners have since started work on the following fields:

- Food Safety monitoring;Waste Management;Disposal of the Dead;Chemical safety;Surveillance of communicable diseases;Water quality monitoring;Vector control; and
- Environmental pollution control.

To date; through the EHP, we have succeeded in:

- Dealing with the recent typhoid cases in Tswaing;
- We are busy with the case of listeriosis and are appealing to our communities to avoid the kind of foods mentioned by the Minister of Health and that food from landfill sites should not be eaten. Food disposed in bushes and elsewhere should not be eaten to avoid sickness;
- We are awaiting the arrival of air quality monitoring station to be based in Dilokong for surveillance of the ambient air in that mining region;
- We are awaiting a hydrage smoke meter to measure the level of smoke emitted by the diesel vehicles for air pollution monitoring within our district. On this we are going to collaborate with the traffic departments from our Local municipalities;
- We are also piloting a bio-gas project in Mamphokgo which is intended to ensure that we respond to the challenges of climate change and resort to green energy, to name but a few.

Emergence services

Speaker

The district municipality's fire and rescue team has grown from seven officers to ninety six officers spread across the district. The unit is also having fire station at Elias Motswoaledi, Makhuduthamaga, Fetakgomo Tubatse and Ephraim Mogale Local Municipalities.

Thus far, the units are able to provide backup response to emergency calls also in joint operations from within the district and in the neighboring province to fires, rescues, drowning's and recoveries.

FIRE SAFETY

The unit operates fire safety activities overseeing new and old business establishments more especially Malls, Mines and office establishments for a fire compliance once the building complies with fire safety requirements.

TRAINING ACADEMY

The unit has to date trained and certified one hundred (100) firefighters who are employable anywhere in the world. And in

order to contribute to skills development, a sustained EPWP 12 months contracts in firefighting is maintained at a rotational bases.

The Academy is registered and accredited with Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority as well as Southern African Emergency Services Institute.

The institute will offer various accredited firefighting courses like Firefighter1, Hazardous Material Awareness level, Fire fighter2, Operational Level, First Aid and Pump/Driver Operator courses

Disaster Management

We are a district municipality that is combat ready to deal with any eventualities that might arise from nature. Fully equipped with disaster officers who have already proven their worth by:

- Assisting one thousand and thirty six (1036) people who were affected by disaster in the district with relief material like blankets, mattresses and food parcels including sixty seven (67) Emergency Houses; and
- Allocating one hundred (100) disaster relief houses to disaster affected victims following major disasters which the district has endured in 2016/2017 financial year. From this allocation fifty (50) were from Makhuduthamaga and fifty (50) were from Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality.

Traditional Leaders

Honourable Speaker

In this developmental trajectory as we chase all the cardinal points are stated in the National Development Plan (Vision 2030), the Freedom Charter and all other law of the Republic, we have managed to build a solid relationship with our Traditional Leaders.

Rena mo ga Sekhukhune, re mmasepala wa dinaga magaeng, mabung a kgosi, e bile re hlompha magoshi a rena. Re soma lebona mererong ka moka ya tlabologo e bile re ikgantsha ka seo.

Re kgonne go fa maapara Nkwe a rena ka moka a 75 di laptop gore ba kgone go phethagatsa mesomo ya ditshaba tsa bona. E bile re tswelapele go ba thekga nakong tsa melotlo le mahloko.

Khanseleng ya rena ba nale kemedi ebile re thekga lekgotla la ntlo ya magosi. Re itiya bonyatsi ebile re sa busega.

E bile re tiiseletsa gore ka tshomisano ya rena le magoshi a rena, meago ya mmasepala wa selete sa Sekhukhune le

dikantoro tsa dikgoro tseo di lego Lebowakgomo, e sa ya Jane Furse. Re dira tsohle maatleng a rena go netefatsa seo. (Jane Furse Township Development).

Capacity of Administration

Speaker.

During SODA in March 2017, we have made a commitment that we will stabilize senior administration in our district municipality. We said that as we were all concerned about the large number of employees in acting capacities, particularly senior management positions.

I am glad to announce today, that we have managed to recruit competent, experienced and credible team of senior managers. Let me take this opportunity to introduce the new team;

- New Municipal Manager: Ms Norah Maseko who assumed duties in May 2017
- New CFO: Ms Norah Mokgadi Lion who assumed duties in march 2018
- New Director IWS: Mr Lekgau Maja who will assume duties on the 1st April 2018.

We are in the process of recruiting a new director for Coporate Services before June 2018, and this will make us have one hundred percent (100%) senior management team.

Part of strgthening our capacity to adequatly respond to water challenges is to ensur ethat we absorb all pumb operators who have been volunteering for the district for many years. This process is going smothtly and will be concluded in the coming finanical year.

We wish them well and hope they will always remember that they are the engine of this municipality. It is them who must lead and inspire a team of almost one thousand (1000) employees. As councillors we are ready to support them but equally demand performance and hold them acountable.

Madam Speaker

I take this opportunity to also thank all councillors and political parties represented in this 4th council for their sterling work in enhancing oversight. We are indeed one council with five (5) political parties united by service delivery and good governance.

I also want thank section 79 and 80 committess, Audit committee , Risk committee etc for their sterling work in ensuring that instruments of accountability are enhanced within our municipality.

I also wish to thank my family, particularly my wife for having agreed to offer me to the people of Sekhukhune, Ke a leboga mma.

Honourable Speaker

Tla re reng mmogo re gopole mantsu a mokgalabje Mandela ge are, kea tsopola:

“Difficulties break some men but make others. No axe is sharp enough to cut the soul of a sinner who keeps on trying, one armed with the hope that he will rise even in the end” ke mo tsopotse

Gomme tla re kgaritleleng ka mantsu ao a latelago:

“He touched my mouth with it and said, “Behold, this has

touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, “Here am I, Send me”

Isaiah Chapter 6 from verse 7 – 8. Gomme ka mantsu a re tla gopola His Excellency President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, nakong ya polelo kgolo ya naga kala lesometshela February 2018.

‘Thuma mina, roma nna ditshabeng’. Ka ona mantsi a, kere ke yona pego ya mmasepala wa selete sa Sekhukhune.

I thank you!

Kea Leboga!

Baie Dankie!

Sekhukhune District Municipality

Members Mayoral Committee



Council Speaker
Cllr Maria Manamela



Executive Mayor
Cllr Stanley Ramaila



Chief Whip
Cllr Tseke Lepota



MMC Corporate Services
Cllr Alfred Matlala



MMC Budget & Treasury
Cllr Thembekile Sihlangu



MMC Infrastructure &
Water Services
Cllr Mbusi Mahlangu



MMC Office of the Executive
Mayor (Women & Gender
Empowerment)
Cllr Yvonne Mmakola



Deputy MMC
Infrastructure & Water Services
Cllr Lorraine Manganeng



MMC Planning & Economic
Development
Cllr Samson Nkosi



MMC Community Services
Cllr Thokozile Nchabeleng



MMC Office of the Executive
Mayor (Children, People with
disabilities & Youth Development)
Cllr Peter Mnisi

Join us to in making sure that together "Re aga, Siyakha."

