

STREET CLEANING

Street cleaning is one facet of a solid waste management system in which unwanted street litter carelessly deposited on the physical environment is removed. The waste deposited on the streets create a negative visual impact, particularly on visitors, thus indirectly affects the economy of the municipality. The function is mainly performed for picturesque purpose and visual attractiveness. The costs involved in collecting waste that has been scattered in the street are considerably higher than the costs of collecting the waste by means of conventional containers. The municipalities spend approximately 10 % to 20% of their budgets on street cleaning and sweeping by acquiring tools, equipment, and application of both manual and mechanical methods of litter picking and street sweeping. Because of the tasks and costs involved in the process, street cleaning is also a system in which there are opportunities for savings by simply improving the efficiency of the process.

STREET CLEANING IN LEPHALALE

Litter picking is performed in town and onverwacht by municipal employees, while street sweeping is only performed in only paved streets in town. Since not all the streets are paved, a relatively high portion of the municipality does not receive street sweeping services. A considerable amount of the work associated with street sweeping and litter picking is due to inappropriate behaviour on the part of the public, such as discarding litter in the street. In other parts of the municipality ,particularly in rural areas and informal settlement, a high proportion of street waste is generated from deficiencies in the refuse collection system. Due to the poor coverage of the collection system, several people opt for discarding their waste in the street or in vacant lots. In essence, this situation merely transfers the responsibility for removing waste from the refuse collection crew to the EPWP or CWP litter picking crew in the villages and Marapong township.

TYPES OF STREET WASTE IN LEPHALALE

The municipality collect the following street waste:

- ✓ Waste generated by natural causes such as waste generated by natural phenomena and difficult to avoid i.e. leaves and flowers on the pavements.
- ✓ Waste generated by traffic such as litter thrown out of the windows of the moving vehicles
- ✓ Waste generated by the public such as litter thrown on the streets by pedestrians and residential and commercial waste swept or discarded from private premises.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment used for street cleaning are litter picking sticks, rakes and refuse bags.

SCHEDULING

The planning of an effective litter picking and street sweeping in Lephalale is done taking cognisance of the classification of streets, or section of streets, according to the required

frequency of street cleaning. The classification is done based on location, level of traffic, type of surface and character of the area. The following is the street cleaning classification in Lephalale:

CLASS	CHARACTER OF STREET	FREQUENCY OF SWEEPING
1	City Centre shopping	5 x daily by private companies
2	Market areas	5 x daily by private companies
3	City centre, main streets	2 x daily but currently 1 x daily
4	Suburban area shopping	2 x daily by private companies
5	City centre, minor streets	1 x daily
6	Suburban main streets	1 x daily
7	Residential streets, low-income	3 x weekly
8	Residential, high income	1 x weekly

Frequency requirements and classification systems are determined based on time and motion studies, and site visits. The length of the street that a person can clean is determined by the afore-mentioned factors. For example ,time and motion studies shows that for class 1 streets, one street cleaner can be assigned between 250 and 300m/workday, while for class 8 the length may be as great as 5 kilometers. Based on the above-mentioned a town is divided into routes for both litter picking and street sweeping, resulting in uniform workloads, despite great differences in the lengths to be covered. Besides the frequency, the time of the service is carefully defined to avoid traffic, parked vehicles, and pedestrians. Early morning hours ,particularly in busy streets or areas is preferred and appropriate. Street cleaners work 8 hours each day. In many instances, the shift begins as early as 07:30 and knock off at 16:00.

STREET CLEANING ENQUIRIES

For street cleaning enquiries please contact Mr. Joshua Hlapa at 014 762 1432.