

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR DURING 2016 IDP REP FORUM ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2016.

- Programme Director
- Traditional leaders
- Honourable councillors led by Madam Speaker, Mme Molokomme
- Representatives of National and Provincial Departments.
- Municipal officials led by the Municipal Manager, Mme Tukakgomo.
- Representatives of organized structures in Lephalale.
- Media houses
- Distinguished guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Madam Speaker.

This Rep Forum takes place a day after one of the most celebrated woman revolutionary of our times celebrated eighty (80) years. Some of us watched as SABC and other channels shown a live broadcast of the eightieth (80th) birthday of the well-known Mother of the Nation, Mama Winie Madikidzela Mandela last night. It was nice and entertaining to see the Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, EFF Commander-in-Chief Julius Malema and DA leader and Mayor Patricia De Liele in one roof, sharing jokes. The speech delivered by Deputy President, although full of jokes, had deep meaning just as the speech of Mama Winnie herself.

This Rep Forum is also important as it takes place a day after the Premier of Limpopo announced a reshuffle of the Provincial cabinet that shifted MEC Mapula Mokaba-Phukwana from transport to Agriculture to fill the vacant position of the late MEC Joy Matshoge; and MEC Nandi Ndalane moved from Sports, Arts and Culture to transport and community safety. Member of Provincial legislature, Mme Onicca Molo becomes MEC for Sports, arts and Culture. We believe this move will provide effective and efficient service deliver to our people.

Today is a very important day which will determine how our municipality is going to conduct its service delivery mandate for the coming five years. We all know that chapter 5 of Municipal Systems Act requires a municipality to undertake a developmentally-orientated planning to ensure that it strives for the achievement of the objects of local government as set out in section 152 of the Constitution and give effect of the developmental duties required by section 153 of the Constitution. Together with other organs of state, the municipality is expected to contribute to the progressive realization of the fundamental rights that are contained in the Constitution.

Our newly elected honourable councillors will be working hand-in-hand with municipal officials and stakeholders represented in here to make sure that services are delivered to our people as we promised during our election campaigns. Elections are over, now is service delivery time.

Today we have two important tasks that will be conducted in this meeting and not be repeated in all other IDP Forum in the next five years :

Firstly, we are going to introduce councillors who will be working as collectively as political leadership of this municipality.

Secondly, we are going to launch the IDP Rep Forum. We expect all members of the Rep forum not to represent their jackets but to be the voices of the structures that they represent. We expect them to hold consultative and feedback meetings with structures and constituencies they represent in order to get their inputs. In other words, whatever members of Rep Forum are communicating should be informed by mandate from their structures. Today we will be presenting two important service delivery documents to you, namely:

1. The Annual Performance Report , and
2. The IDP Process Plan.

We request that members of the IDP Rep Forum interrogate these documents so that they can be able to understand them best and communicate these reports to their constituencies.

I appeal to members of this Rep Forum to adopt the words said by our political icon, the first president of the democratic South Africa, Dr Nelson Mandela. During his first mass address after being released from prison. He said : **I quote :**

“ I stand here as the servant of you, the people.”

All members of the Rep Forum should be the servants of the people.

WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE LEPHALALE FORWARD AND ACHIEVE OUR MISSION OF BUILDING A VIBRANT CITY WHICH WILL BE AN ENERGY HUB OF AFRICA.

I THANK YOU

Cllr MJ MAEKO

MAYOR