

**ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR OF LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY,
CLLR MJ MAEKO, DURING DECEMBER 2013 IMBIZO.**

- Programme Director.
- Honourable Councillors present here.
- Magoshi le mantona a rena.
- Sector Departments.
- Municipal Officials.
- IEC officials.
- Comrades and Compatriots.

I bring you revolutionary greetings from the collective leadership of Lephalale municipality.

But before we continue with the business of the day, allow me Programme Director to start by requesting that we all stand up and observe a moment of silence for one of the hard working servant of the people of Lephalale municipality, councillor Thete Chilliboy Majadibodu.

Moment of silence.

_MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.

Programme Director, today is the day to report back to the people of Lephalale what the people they have sent into the council of Lephalale municipality are doing there. We are here to report our achievements and the challenges we encountered. We are your servants and we account to you on how we deliver services.

We decided to hold this imbizo on the first of December because we want to start the business of the day by reminding our people that HIV/AIDS is a reality and it kills. Remember that today, 1st December is the World AIDS Day.

Today, throughout the world, people have assembled to spread one message: AIDS KILLS. This is the message we must spread as we enjoy our festive season. We know that Christmas festive season is the time of celebrations and enjoyments, and it is during this time that people forget about their safety and risk unprotected romance. The message we want to spread today is that the ABC – Abstain, Be faithful or Condomise - was relevant yesterday and is still relevant today. Please don't allow the enjoyment of one minute destroy your whole life. The mistake we use to commit is to generalize whenever we spread the ABC message. Allow me Programme Director to use this opportunity and indicate that A-which stands for abstain- is meant for our youth. Let the young generation concentrate on A only and leave B and C for adults. The ABC message may sound old fashioned and boring but it saves lives.

Let me remind you that we are at the middle of 16 Days of Activism against Women and Children Abuse. We want to take this opportunity and condemn any act of family violence in no uncertain terms. None of us should look away when he or she see domestic violence in action. We must work together to do away with this immoral behaviour.

Allow me to present to you our projects for the 2012/ 13 financial year. We know that the ANC-led Lephalale municipality has achieved a lot for the past 19 years; but I will limit this report to 2012/13 Financial year. We will present to you the twenty years report next year when we celebrate twenty years of our democracy.

The summary of projects for this financial year is as follows :

1. Today we celebrate the completion of two projects here in Matladi, namely, the construction of access road and park.
2. Construction of Mohlasedi and Mmaletswai access roads is in progress.
3. We have completed the Witpoort-Seleka Regional Water Scheme.
4. The Mokuruanyane- Shongoane Regional Water Scheme is in progress.

5. We are upgrading sewer network at Thabo Mbeki.
6. The renovation of Thabo Mbeki stadium is in progress.
7. Stormwater channel is also in progress at Onverwacht.
8. We developed parks in three villages, namely, here in Matladi, at Bangalong and at Moong.
9. We are in the process of purchasing Zeeland water works.
10. Most of us are aware that private hospital has relocated from Marapong to Onverwacht, next to the municipality. We are now in the process of taking over Marapong private hospital and convert it into 24 hours community clinic.
11. We have already turned the sod for the construction of a multi-purpose Thusong Centre at Steenbokpan farms, thereby bringing government services closer to farm dwellers and farm workers.
12. We have also turned the sod for a multi-million Private-Public Partnership road project from Sefihlogo village to Letlora village.

Those are some of our 2012/13 projects. Looking at them you will see that we have spread them to all our 12 wards. We are biased in favour of villages; but this is in accordance with the vision of our municipality. Part of our mission state that we are committed to rural development.

Programme Director, please allow me to emphasize what Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) stated earlier during their slot in that 2014 is the year for elections. I want to add that the 2014 elections are unique and important because it is the year in which we will be celebrating 20 years of democracy. We therefore add our voice to the request of IEC that all of us who qualify to register to vote should do so because it is your civic duty. Fortunately, the first weekend of February next year has been pronounced as the second registration week-end. Lets make sure we register and vote, and vote correctly next year.

As the first citizen of Lephalale let me be the first one to wish each one of you a merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. The festive season has started and we humbly request you not to do anything that you will regret in future. Don't drink and drive – Arrive Alive. Don't use money irresponsibly because you will need it when children go back to school next year. Don't engage in unsafe sex, because AIDS kills.

KGOTSO E BE LE LENA!

I THANK YOU!

CLLR MOLOKO JACK MAEKO

MAYOR- LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY