

# Lephalale Municipality

*Building a vibrant city and be the energy hub of Africa*

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# OFFICE OF MEC FOR SAFETY

## VISITS BORDER POSTS

The office of Limpopo MEC for Transport, Safety, Security and Liaison led by HOD Nelly Nchabeng alongside Lephalale Local Municipality Councilors visited the Stockpoort and Groblersbridge port of entry on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, the main reason for the visit was to assess the status of Limpopo-Botswana Waterberg District entry ports to hear the challenges the Port of Entry faces and also to see what the Department can do to assist to strengthen the Ports of Entries, while getting an overview focusing on challenges and successes during the 2016/2017 festive holidays.

The main users of the Stockport Port of Entry (PoE) are mainly tourists, ordinary Botswana national coming to Lephalale for visits/attend funerals/economic reasons which operates from 06H00- 18H00 on a daily basis from Monday to Sunday.

Some of the challenges raised by the Stockport PoE were that there is no proper office for the Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) with officials working in the counter area of the PoE, no room for SAPS to interview suspected illegal and undocumented foreigners, shortage of staff for DoHA amongst others.



Meanwhile in Groblersbridge (PoE) there are challenges of parking space which is not adequate especially during peak season with space getting fully occupied quickly, medical facility where injured and sick staff members or commuters are forced to wait for an Ambulance from Witpoort hospital in order to receive medical attention, a cargo scanner was also mentioned as a need in order to effectively expedited processing of containers, shortage of staff in all the departments and smuggling of illegal foreigners in and off the republic amongst others.

Some of the remedial measures as identified by the Port Managers at Groblersbridge are that a re-development of the port be done, sufficient parking space be provided, have Cargo trucks recovery capability and scanner be available, intercom with speakers placed at strategic points, pounding facility to keep detained vehicles and medical facility to offer expedited service.

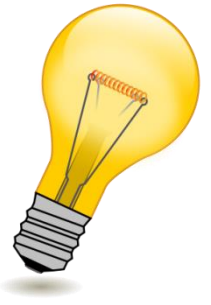
In her Welcome Address Lephalale Local Municipality Speaker, Reggie Molokomme said that there HOD needs to send a message to the MEC that there is stability in Lephalale Municipality, and unlike other Municipalities, the council is working well together to take service to the people.

HoD Nelly Nchabeng said that she will take all the reports that was gathered to the MEC of Safety, Nandi Ndalane to ensure that remedial action is taken before the commencement of the Easter festive holidays.





# ***ELECTRICITY FOR VILLAGES***



**L**ephalale Municipality Acting Mayor, Cllr Alpheus Thulare, kick started a three day programme of introducing contractors to six villages(Hlagalakwena, Reabetswe, Senoela, Botalalnong, Ga-Mocheko and Moong) on Monday 13 February 2016.

As part of the municipality's programmes to deliver quality services and improve the lives of rural communities, the contractors will electrify more than 500 households respectively. Traditional Authority representatives welcomed the more than 50 temporary jobs that will be available for local community for the duration of the project.

The acting Mayor, appealed to the communities to work together with the appointed project steering committees and community liaison officers in order to ensure that there are not disruptions to the project. The Mayor also urged the communities to adhere to environmental and safety precautions to avoid accidents which may lead to a delay of the project which is scheduled to be completed at the end of March.





# “We must have the SOMA” says the Mayor

Speaking at the second council sitting which was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 at the Lephalale Local Municipality Council Chamber, Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko said that in his State Of the Nation Address President Jacob Zuma, declared this year as the year of unity in action by all South Africans and economic transformation- The year of Oliver Tambo.

The Mayor reminded the house that previously LLM was amongst the Municipalities that were praised by the Premier of Limpopo Stan Mathabatha for spending their Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) well, but during the Premier’s State of the province this year, which was tabled out on the 24th of February 2017, Lephalale was not amongst those Municipalities.

“The Premier praised top ten of the municipalities that have spent fifty (50%) of their MIG by mid-term and we were not among them, with that said we are amongst the municipalities which the premier urged to improve, so we need to improve our MIG spending performance” Maeko said.

The Mayor also acknowledged the need for radical socio-economic transformation this year, which was emphasised by the President of SA, Jacob Zuma during his SONA, meaning that LLM must make sure that there is local entrepreneurship empowerment. “We must make sure that our local SMMEs are developed and empowered. We must make sure that companies that are doing business in our area develop and empower our local entrepreneurs”.

“We need to make sure that participatory democracy is alive at Lephalale, and that can be achieved by having regular report back meetings, and my ANC councillors are not holding their monthly meeting to report back, on what the community are saying”.

In conclusion the Mayor said that this year there should be a State of the Municipality Address, to outline the progress made by the municipality and also challenges that LLM faces, so that the community can know what is happening in their Municipality.





**LLM Municipal Manager, giving words of condolences to the family of OJ**

LLM Staff held a heartfelt memorial service for the late OJ Mabula, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 at the Municipal Lapa. OJ as he was affectionately known amongst his colleagues worked at the Parks Division. OJ born on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 1964 passed away on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February at Ellisras Hospital, survived by his five children and a wife. He served the Lephalale Municipality for 21 years and his former colleagues sang praises for his dedication, hard work and commitment.



**Lephalale Staff, whom came out in numbers to honour the memory of their late colleague.**



**OJ Mabula s friend remembering the memories they shared together.**





# **ELECTRIFICATION OF STEVE BIKO**

## **PHASE 4**

Lephalale Local Municipality, Acting Mayor, Cllr William Motlokwa, introduced Zim Electrical Contractor for the much awaited electrification of Steve Biko Phase 4 village on 02 February 2017. The project is expected to be completed end of March 2017 and temporary job opportunities will be created for the duration of the project. Local community members will be given priority in the recruitment process.

Community members welcomed the project and applauded the Municipality for the project which is part of developing rural areas of Lephalale. They also took the opportunity to raise some of their needs such as High Mast Lights (Apollo Light), water and grading of roads in the area. The light will assist in reduction of crime as there will be more visibility of people on the streets at night.

The Acting Mayor said the Municipality takes note of the issues raised by community members and highlighted that it is very important that communities take part in the Municipal IDP public participation programmes which will assist in terms of prioritising service delivery projects.



# AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

## BANK VISIT

Representatives from the African Development Bank visited Eskom Medupi Power Station and Lephalale Municipality on 22 February 2017 as part of their responsibility to assess, monitor and ensure that Medupi project is completed without any disruptions and contribute towards the development of local communities. The role of the African Development Bank (AFDB) is to spur sustainable economic development and social progress in its regional member countries (RMC) by contributing to poverty reduction through mobilizing and allocating resources for investment in RMC and providing policy advice and technical assistance to support development efforts.

Some of the sustainable development goals of the bank which were the main points of focus of their visit to Medupi power station are: ending poverty in all its forms, ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all and Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Lephalale Local Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, acknowledged and appreciated the importance which the AFDB monitoring team attaches to Medupi Project and he also applauded Medupi for their role in community development projects “The fact that you came here today to assess progress made by Eskom since your visit here in May 2015 is an indication of your commitment to ensure that this project is completed with little disruptions. Today’s event is an indication of how African Development Bank and Eskom take all stakeholders serious. We appreciate the fact that Medupi’s CSI projects included refurbishment of tribal halls. However, as African we know the status of traditional leaders in our society and we should give them that royal treatment by always considering programmes that seek to improve their lives. As municipality we can confirm, with appreciation, the healthy working relationship that the current project manager has established with local stakeholders. The relationship should ensure that local communities feel the impact of this project”





# ELECTRICITY AWARENESS IN SELEKA

Lephalale Local Municipality alongside Eskom, held a safety awareness campaign with the community of Ga-Seleka 4, on Saturday 25 of February 2017, at Captain Thulare Stadium. The awareness campaign comes after the residents of Seleka 4 households being recently electrified.

The campaign was to help and educate the community on how to use power safely, help the community to become energy efficient and save money and also give them tips on how they can report those who have illegal connections around them.

“Electricity theft kills and injures many innocent children and toddlers every year. Illegal connections are extremely dangerous because incorrect wiring is used, and the wires running across floors, pathways or streets are often not insulated” said Eskom Electrician Mr Ramoshaba.

He also added that people and animals are at risk of death or serious injuries if they come into contact with these wires. In most instances, it is young children who are the innocent victims of illegal connections.

Community members were also taught how to save electricity in and around their homes, such as using the geyser, refrigerators, showers, cooking and ironing amongst other things.

“Choose a refrigerator of a size based on the needs of your family, a refrigerator operates at peak efficiency when filled and do not overload your fridge, excessive products in your fridge will lower the quality of the food and use more electricity” Ramoshaba continued.

When using a stove community need to use cooking utensils with flat bottoms and tight fittings covers, be sure that pots and pans completely cover the stove plates, and make sure that they take advantage of the heat sensing control for stove plates.





# MARAPONG CRU PROJECT

## UNDERWAY

Marapong Community Members gathered at the Site office of the Marapong Community Rental Unit (CRU) on Tuesday 21 February 2017, where the Mayor of Lephalale Local Municipality, Moloko Jack Maeko was informing them about the upcoming CRU project, which will see the construction of 514 units of flats.

He also told the community that 15 people to be recruited on the day as labour to start the ground works, while another 200 will be identified as the project continues.



The Mayor announced that Cllr Lesibana Monare of Ward 2 and Portfolio for Labour will constantly hold consultative meetings in order to facilitate the process of the required number.

Marapong CRU is situated on Relebogile Street just after Manamela Park, near Marapong cemeteries.

## BE ON HIGH ALERT AHEAD OF THE ARRIVAL OF TROPICAL CYCLONE DINEO

At least 116 government buildings, including hospitals, had their roofs blown off and more than 170 000 people were affected when strong winds and downpours swept through the cities of Mozambique.

Dineo's trail of destruction has left seven people dead, scores injured and a bridge and 24km of roads were damaged in Mozambique.

Despite warnings from the SA Weather Service, there was little damage reported in Mpumalanga and Limpopo.

