

ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR DURING THE SOD TURNING OF THE PROCESS OF REFURBISHMENT OF SHOPRITE TAXI RANK

Protocol observed

Good morning.

I acknowledge with pride the fact that people braved the chilly weather and honoured the invitation to come and be witnesses to the process that is going to change the face of Lephalale for ever. When the strategic session of our municipality adopted a vision statement that says “To build a vibrant city and be the energy hub of Africa”, we meant business.

We know that a vision statement is the starting point of strategic development. It is the spark that inspires and energises people to do better. The vision shows us where we want to be. As a municipality we want to build a vibrant city. The refurbishment of this centre is one of the processes of building a vibrant city. This is just a starting point; you can expect a lot to come. Building a city cannot be a “one-man show”; it needs collective effort. It needs a well-defined Private-Public-Partnership. Fortunately, our municipality has a positive relationship with investors doing business at Lephalale. We always strive to create and maintain conducive working environment for investors; but not at the expense of our communities.

Our actions and programmes are informed by our vision and mission. Our mission statement is loud and clear. It says “we are committed to rural development, provision of quality, sustainable and affordable , financial viability and good governance, local economic development and job creation.”

The message that the office of the Mayor always preach to businesspeople and investors is that they should always consider local SMMEs.

Our municipality is very proud of small entrepreneurs who use their initiatives and starts small businesses like the one we see here. If check our vision statement it says clearly that our municipality is committed to local economic development and job creation.

LED programme of our municipality was informed by this mission when they developed a programme to refurbish this centre. This is in line with ANC-led government's Vukuzenzele initiative Nobody should misinform you by saying that the ANC-led government is against the self-employed small businessmen like you. We will always support your businesses. Your initiatives contribute to reduce the level of unemployment in our area.

WORKING TOGETHER WE WILL MOVE SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD.

MJ MAEKO

MAYOR

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