



Sekhukhune

District Municipality

EXECUTIVE MAYORS CLOSING REMARKS ON THE OCCASION OF 2010/2011 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REVIEW LEKGOTLA, BLYDER-CANYON

We have just concluded a successful midyear performance review, an important legislated requirement which enables us to critically assess our performance in line with the set goals as set out on the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan.

As per the expectation and practice, we as politicians received reports from management on the work that has been done on the past six months. Our key interest as politicians is to measure performance against set targets.

This lekgotla was a success in a sense that it has been able to make a critical appraisal of the work done in the past six months and also pave a way forward on what needs to be done moving forward. The important contribution made by invited guests and representatives of sector departments cannot be overemphasised. The presence of the Executive Mayors Technical Advisory Committee provided us with more technical expertise and ideas in terms of consolidating service delivery in the District.



Like I said in the opening address yesterday, this year marks the end of term of office of the current council as elected in 2006 local government elections. The President will on the 10th February on the occasion of the State of the Nation Address, announce the date for the third democratic local

government elections. All of us, both as officials and councillors have a responsibility to ensure that we contribute in deepening of democracy by delivering on the mandate given to us.

Program Director, the President of the ANC, on the occasion of the 99th



Anniversary celebration made a number pronouncements on key developmental areas, amongst them job creation. As a sphere of Government, we have a direct responsibility in ensuring that we contribute to job creation in our country and thereby fighting poverty and improving people's lives. In response to President Zuma's

speech, we need to ensure as a District that at the centre of our policies, programs and projects is Job creation for our people.

The Lekgotla raised number of critical issues and correctly took resolutions which should help us to accelerate the pace of service delivery. The emphasis was more on implementation that re-starting theoretical debates, this is based on the fact that we are aware of the extent of service delivery challenges in our district and necessary policies and strategies have been developed to address such.

- Infrastructure and Water services is the core of local government developmental agenda and therefore needs to be strengthened so that it has sufficient capacity to respond to massive challenges of basic service delivery especially water.
- We need to as a matter of urgency meet with leadership of traditional leaders to develop a common approach and understanding on land issues especially on areas earmarked as growth points
- We must as a matter of urgency interact with Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to lobby funding for comprehensive rural development projects
- We need to significantly improve on our revenue generation mechanism. It is very clear that we will not be able to address all our developmental challenges relying 100% on grants
- We need to ensure that our District 2025 growth strategy as well as LED Strategy are linked to the LGEP, an important blue print for our Province's economic development

Program Director, we have emphasised the important matter of sound financial management. Once more I to emphasis on the site of management to ensure that this important area is given necessary attention it deserves. We are entrusted with public funds and as such we need to manage them effectively and efficiently within the ambits of the law. We will not be able to attract investors and partner private Institutions if we are not able to manage public resources in responsible manner.

Strengthening Inter Governmental Relations is something we need to improve on, going forward we need to ensure close working relations with our local municipalities, sector departments and parastatals.

The message we sending is very clear, that departments need to work much more efficiently and effectively within the limited resources we have. Moving out of this Lekgotla, we need to see management steering the ship with much more determination and resoluteness in addressing service delivery challenges facing our people.

The State of the District address will take place end of February just after the State of the Nation and State of the Province respectively. The address will incorporate the 10 year review assessment that we are currently engaged on. I will therefore invite Local Municipalities and Sector departments to cooperate and partner with us in making sure that the 10 year review outcome is a true reflection of what Sekhukhune District Municipality has been able to achieve since the inception of democratic local government a decade ago.

Have a safe journey back home

Thank you very much