

2021/22 IDP and Budget Presentation by the Mayor of Lepelle-Nkumpi Local  
Municipality Cllr Meriam Molala at Civic Centre Hall

31 May 2021

Honourable Speaker, Cllr Makonko Matsimela;  
Chief-Whip, Cllr Tswaledi Thobejane;  
Members of the Executive Committee;  
Chairpersons of Section 79 and 80 Committees;  
Our Traditional Leaders;  
Leadership of the Opposition parties represented in Council;  
Acting Municipal Manager, Ms Khomotjo Mankga;  
LNM Management and other Officials;  
Members of the media;  
Distinguished Guests,

Thobela

As we continue to recognise Africa month – a time when the continent commemorates the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the forerunner to the African Union (AU) on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 1963. Since its establishment – Africa Day,

marks the beginning of a quest for the unity of the continent and for the political and economic emancipation of its people as well as co-operation among them.

Let us take a moment for the continent to pause, reflect, commemorate, and celebrate our Africanness, and to promote the African Agenda that embraces peace and stability, democracy, non-racialism, non-sexism, unity and prosperity.

We are in the local government election year as declared by President Cyril Ramaphosa and we are preparing to close the curtain on the Municipal Council term which began in 2016. The progressive "pro-poor" agenda we adopted when we came into office in 2016, would be skewed if we did not continue with our noble gesture of a social package for the most vulnerable and indigent members of society. This, we do because we believe in a better life for all. We will continue to make life more liveable for thousands of our people. Therefore, this is the time to consolidate all the success since the beginning of the term. We must admit that as a Municipality we grappled with many challenges of roads, electricity, unemployment, corruption, non-spending on Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) and lack of project management, monitoring and evaluation.

As we continue taking stock of challenges that hindered completion of many capital and operational projects, **we have**

identified and reprioritised completion of projects and appointment of service providers before the end of October 2021. These include among others:

- Upgrading of internal street from gravel to block paving in Zone B (Ward 15) -R 8.5 million
- Upgrading of internal street from gravel to Tar Mamaolo, Ward 22 (2km) - R6 million
- Upgrading of internal street from gravel to block paving Zone S ward 16 (2km) - R6 million
- Upgrading of Mashite Road from gravel to tar and storm water control: Multi Year (Ward 25) - R8 million
- Upgrading of Rakgoatha access road from gravel to Tar and storm water control (Multi-year) (Ward 9 and 11) - R8 million
- Upgrading of Mogoto to Moshongo access road from gravel to Tar and storm water control (Multi-year) (Ward 9 and 11) - R8 million
- Extension of Municipal Offices (Ward 17) - R9.6 million
- Construction of grade A VTS (Lebowakgomo) (Ward 18)- R12.5 million
- Construction of Community Hall at Maralaleng (Ward 19) - R3.5 million
- Construction of Road and Stormwater: Kliphuiwel (Ward 01) - R8.5 million ( to start with phase 2 )

- Upgrading of Gravel to Tar of Maijane/Makaung/ Makaepa Access Road (Ward 24 & 19) 4.8 km multi-year funded - R8 million
- Electrification of Manaileng Village.

Speaker, all these must progress, and some completed on or before the new Council starts with its business. To achieve that, we will utilise the existing budget for the 2020/2021 financial year. This budget will be complementing with the budget for the 2021/2022 financial year, as we are presenting for adoption now.

Honourable Speaker, we consulted with our communities based on the mandate they gave to us and their inputs as stakeholders in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget. This explains why much of our budget projected for the Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) period will mainly be used for key infrastructure projects and dealing with challenges impacting on accelerating service delivery. We have received various comments and views from our communities on issues of roads.

Honourable Members, we engaged the Limpopo, Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure (DPWRI) on the return of D-Roads to the Municipality and how we can assist each other in prioritising the roads in our villages, as it is a thorny issue that needs urgent attention. We will then start with the designs in the new financial year.

It was former Liberian President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf who said, "Future generations will judge us not by what we say, but what we do." Honourable Speaker, for the first time in 10 years we have received an **Unqualified Audit Opinion** and we need to retain the Audit opinion whilst further striving for a clean audit.

Speaker, it is my honour to present to this house, the Council meeting of Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality, the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget for the 2021/22 financial year. This budget seeks to allocate resources to priorities that the new Council will implement in its first financial year, since our vision is to be a financially viable municipality. This will be achieved through effective systems of Spatial Planning that will ensure that we utilise the land we have in a productive way, this will include the existing stand end designs are compliant to ensure that payment are correct and new sites are developed for new properties to increase our revenue.

It also enables us to substantially fund the start of a new mandate term considering the diverse aspirations of our people to have universal access to water and other basic services and live a better life, as well as upgrading storm water and gravel to tar of access road both in rural and urban.

Most important issues of Local Economic Development will be at a centre stage of our Economic recovery Plan, with Agriculture, ICT, Property Development and Retail, mining and manufacturing both at Primary and Secondary level of Economy.

Institutionally we have to capacitate our staff and councillors to enable each to shine in their space. Consultation with communities and giving them feedback about our progress and challenges.

Honourable Speaker, let me remind this Council that this budget speech is a culmination of a long consultative period with all partners.

Therefore, it gives me pleasure in terms of Section 16 (1) of Municipal Finance Management (Act 56 of 2003), to present to the Council a revised IDP and Budget for the 2021/22 financial year.

As you know, Council must approve an annual budget for each financial year in preparation for the start of the next financial year. Section 16(2) of the MFMA states that *the Mayor of the Municipality must table the annual budget at a Council meeting at least 90 days before the start of the budget year.*

Honourable Speaker, Council members, the total budget for the 2021/22 financial year is **R563,067,503.14**. The budget comprises of **R145,662,750** Capital Expenditure and Operational Expenditure of **R417, 404,753.14**. The focus of this

budget will be directed to key service delivery areas in line with our promises to improve the lives of the people, further, to ensure good governance and accountability.

Honourable Speaker, all budget policies need to be reviewed on an annual basis and as part of this submission, the following Budget Related Policies are being tabled for Council perusal and approval:

- The Final IDP 2020/21;
- Supply Chain Management Policy
- Asset Management Policy
- Property Rates Policy
- Bad debts and write off Policy
- Tariff Policy
- Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy
- Budget and Virement Policy
- Cash and Investment Management Policy
- Indigent Policy


Special thanks to the political leadership from both the governing party and opposition parties, our traditional leadership, the people of Lepelle-Nkumpi and all stakeholders.

The Acting Municipal Manager and her team, we have come this far and there is a lot more to do ahead. We therefore call upon all of us to take extra-ordinary efforts to bring relief to our people, as we continue creating a conducive atmosphere for the growth

of the local economy. The electorate has mandated us to improve the quality of services we provide to communities, further, to be accountable and work closely with communities.

I, therefore, in terms of Section 16 (2) of the Municipal Finance Management Act, accordingly, table the IDP and Annual Budget for 2021/22 MTREF, the proposed tariffs and tariff increases for 2021/22-2022/2023 and Budget related policies.

I thank you.



**CLLR MOLALA MM**  
**MAYOR**

31/05/2021  
**DATE**