

**VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING: BUDGET SPEECH BY HER
WORSHIP; MAYOR OF LEPELLE-NKUMPI LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY; CLLR MERIAM MOLALA ON THE
OCCASION OF THE TABLING OF 2022/2023 INTEGRATED
DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP), BUDGET AND RELATED
POLICIES**

30 MAY 2022

Honourable Speaker, Cllr Joyce Nkoabela;
Our Chief Whip, Cllr Given Sello;
Colleagues in the Executive Committee;
Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees;
Fellow Councillors;
Our Traditional Leaders:
Ditlou tša gaKekana;
Bakgaga ba gaMphahlele;
Ditlou gaMathabatha;
Dinoko tsa Mafeefe;
Ditlou tša gaLedwaba;
Batau ba gaSeloane;
Ditlou tsa gaChuene
Acting Municipal Manager, Ms Khomotjo Mankga;
Executive Managers and Officials of the Municipality;
Comrades and Compatriots;
Good morning, Thobela,

Honourable Speaker, there is no doubt that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has affected how the Municipality interact with communities, including the negative impact of funding and service delivery. I am standing before this August House today as a sign of victory and commitment to bettering the lives of our people.

Our communities deserve efficient service delivery as enshrined in the Constitution, and as one of the great men and women whose shoulders we stand on, **Ntate Sefako Mapogo Makgatho**, a native of Lepelle-Nkumpi said *"We ask for no special favours from the government."*

Honourable Councillors,

The strategic planning document I am tabling today, is a step towards Lepelle-Nkumpi embarking on delivering on the five-year strategic plan of the new term of Council which was ushered in by the 2021 Local Government Elections. The development of Lepelle-Nkumpi communities is in how we plan for now and the future. It is a collective responsibility to see to it that we plan together with our people for a better and improved life for the people.

Speaker,

We are indeed planning to have a Smart Municipality. According to the Limpopo Development Plan (2009-2014) the future of this province is based on creating an environment that is mutually beneficial, where rural living and smart cities co-exist in harmony and in which new smart green cities with integrated transport systems are being developed. For us it is a Smart Municipality which must give birth to smart rural and urban settlements. What you find in a Smart Municipality are the following:

- **Smart Economy** (productivity/ growth, jobs and inclusivity)

- **Smart Mobility** (availability of ICT infrastructure, good transport system)
- **Smart Environment** (green economy; waste management)
- **Smart People** (highly skilled people – knowledge economy – coding, innovative people who are able to produce Applications)
- **Smart Living** (culture, education, health, safety and security)
- **Smart Governance** (strategic, transparent and accountable leadership)

Cities and towns are the drivers of modern development, and, globally, the number of people living in cities and towns is continuing to increase. We are also fortunate because we have Lebowakgomo township. Let us not forget that our township was one of the creations of the apartheid government, and it was the place where people **lived** but **worked** elsewhere. It is Lebowakgomo town which must drive our vision of a Smart Municipality. Let us transform Lebowakgomo into a Smart Town so that our people can live and work in Lebowakgomo. It is through the Smart Lebowakgomo Town the people of Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality can experience and enjoy the benefits of the knowledge economy. The economic potential of the Town is very strong, and what is required is to use Science and Technology to intensify and diversify it. In Lebowakgomo Town various economic opportunities are found in the areas of property development (residential, commercial), manufacturing, agro-processing (chicken abattoir) and wholesale and retail. As a Municipality we are passionate about the 4th Industrial Revolution, we should be innovative and build information, communication and technology (ICT) infrastructure. That is why we have already started with the rollout of the broadband infrastructure, and we are also hard at work planning to establish a University of Technology in Lebowakgomo Town.

We are aware that each and every space within Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality has economic opportunities. We are going to capitalize on the economic comparative and competitive advantages associated with each of Traditional Authority Areas. We want all our areas to be food secure, and Agriculture development has to take place in all our Traditional Authority Areas. Similarly, the unique tourism characteristics of all our Areas have to be exploited to the benefit of our residents. But when you look at each Traditional Authority Area, this is what you observe:

- Mphahlele Traditional Authority Area is strong in Mining, Wholesale/ Retail and Agriculture
- Ledwaba Traditional Authority Area has opportunities in wholesale/ retail and agriculture
- Kekana Traditional Authority Area is strong in agriculture (orange, cotton, sunflower – link with Roadtan area), agro-processing (orange) and tourism (Zebediela Farm Stay)
- Seloane Traditional Authority Area boasts of its potential in agriculture (cotton, citrus – link with Marblehall area)
- Mafefe/ Mathabatha Traditional Authority Area is part of the Kruger-Canyon Biosphere, and this is because of its unique botanic, zoological and geological qualities (miracle trees, caves, eagles). It is also a host to important nature reserves (e.g. Lekgalamatse). There are also opportunities in agriculture and wholesale/ retail.
- Chuene Traditional Authority Area has few settlements which form part of Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality. Agriculture and tourism could be the main drivers of economic livelihoods in these settlement, and their locations along busy district and regional roads could boost retail economic activities (transit economy).

We are aware that without the following key factors we shall not be able to achieve our vision of a Smart Municipality. We need:

- Good governance
- Sustainable infrastructure
- Land availability and accessibility (governance)
- Social cohesion/ peace

Let me once more express my gratitude for the opportunity afforded to me to table the 2022/2023 Integrated Development Plan (IDP), the Budget and Budget Related Policies. Honourable Speaker, this draft IDP, Budget and related Policies.

Speaker,

The 2022/23 IDP and budget for the corresponding financial year and 2023/24-2024/25 outer years is a result of consultations with various internal and external stakeholders. The Municipality used electronic means such as radio in most of these consultations, especially with the communities.

The following activities and information sources were used in the review and compilation of the 2022/2023 IDP/Budget, among others:

- Desk top analysis of the current situation in the municipality and information sourced sector plans and other government generated reports. These include information from recently reviewed Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy, Tourism Plan, Integrated Transport Plan, Spatial Development Plan, Growth and Development Strategy, Census 2011, Community Survey 2016 and Quantec 2018;

- Results of 2021 Ward based consultations conducted by the Mayor and Executive Committee which were used to determine community development needs and priorities;
- 2020/21 Annual Performance Report and 2021/22 Mid-Year Performance Report; and
- Executive Committee's Strategic Planning sessions which were held.
- IDP/Budget/PMS Steering Committee which took place.

Honourable Members,

The 2022/23 IDP is funded through, and therefore tabled with, the First Draft 2022/23-2024/25 MTREF, and with which they are aligned and be considered as follows:-

Description	Budget Year +1 2022/2023	Budget Year +2 2023/2024	Budget Year +3 2024/2025
Total Revenue	R626,939,891.11	R641,411,644.81	R664,731,803.83
Total Operating Budget	R450,609,755.11	R421,402,894.81	R446,928,868.65
Total Capital Budget	R176,330,136	R220,008,750	R217,802,935

In 2022/2023 budget year we have provided for the implementation of the following projects, as per our KPAs:

(a) Service Delivery KPA

- Electricity
 - R9 Million to electrify 2 811 households
- D-Roads
 - R15 Million

- Access Roads/ Internal Streets and Storm Water
 - R115.2 Million
- High Mast/ Public Lights
 - R5.6 Million
- Community Facilities/ Sports and Recreation
 - R2 Million – Community Hall
 - R500 00 – Wetland Development
 - R12 Million – Vehicle Testing Station (VTS)
 - R5 Million – Lebowakgomo Stadium
- (b) Local Economic Development (Spatial Development)**
 - Land Summit and Investors Conference
 - R1.2 Million
 - LED Programmes, SMMEs Support and Tourism Promotion
 - R1.3 Million
 - LED Municipal and Cluster Forums
 - R100 000
 - Township Establishment (Unit H and Unit R Extension)
 - R35 Million – Funded by Coghsta
- (c) Institutional**
 - Completion of the Construction of Municipal Offices
 - R9 Million
 - Decentralisation of Offices
- (d) We also have District and Sector Department Funded Projects**

As part of enabling oversight by other organs of State, copies of the IDP document will be sent to Capricorn District Municipality (CDM), Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) and the Provincial and National Treasury within ten days after tabling.

As we intensify service delivery, which was slowed down by the COVID-19 pandemic in the last two years, words by Mme Charlotte Maxeke “This work is not for yourselves – kill that spirit of self, and do not live above your people but live with them”, should encourage us.

Honourable Members

It is recommended, in accordance with Section 34(a) of MSA, Act 32 of 2000 and Section 16 (1) MFMA Act No 56 of 2003, that:-

1. Council considers the adoption of 2022-23 Integrated Development Plan and 2022/23-2024/25 Budget
2. Council considers the adoption of 2022-2023 MTREF budget.

Description	Budget Year +1 2022/2023	Budget Year +2 2023/2024	Budget Year +3 2024/2025
Total Revenue	R626,939,891.11	R641,411,644.81	R664,731,803.83
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Council considers the adoption of Budget Related Policies.

- ✓ Supply Chain Management Policy
- ✓ Asset Management Policy
- ✓ Property Rates Policy

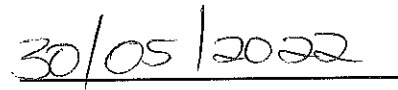
- ✓ Bad debts and write off Policy
- ✓ Tariff Policy
- ✓ Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy
- ✓ Budget and Virement Policy
- ✓ Cash and Investment Management Policy
- ✓ Cost Containment Measures Policy

Council considers the approval of 2022-2023 Tariff Structure. The 2022/23 IDP/Budget with related Policies and Tariff Structure will also be availed for the public through the Municipal website and other electronic media platforms after tabling and Council approval.

We really like to thank and acknowledge our communities, we encourage people to continue paying for services it will enable the municipality to reinvest in infrastructure and develop the township.



Cllr Merriam Molala
Mayor



Date