

MAYOR'S FOREWORD



Executive Mayor's Foreword: Clr. Mahole Mofokeng

The year 2010 is a seminal year in the history of South Africa, being the year in which the Republic of South Africa will be hosting the first FIFA World Cup Tournament on the African continent, the year which marks the 50th commemoration of the Sharpeville massacre and also the year declared by the President, Mr. Jacob Zuma, as the Year of Action.

Our 2010/2011 Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget may not, and dare not, be the same as the preceding ones as it must reflect the action prescribed by the President, and the inherent reality that it is the last IDP, before the Local Government Elections, that determines our mandate as a Municipality.

It is for this reason that this current IDP and Budget must and will be externally focused, driven by community needs and geared towards meeting community aspirations gleaned from stakeholder consultations and engagements throughout the past years.

In order to deal with the envisaged growth in our economy, Local Economic Development (LED)

and Supply Chain Management Department have prioritized capacity building for the financial year 2010/11, with an Incentive Policy, pencilled for council approval pending public participation targeted for April 2010. A Business Week is scheduled for May 2010, with Sedibeng Procurement Strategy aimed at accommodating designated groups scheduled for October 2010. A lot is being done in this area, and a lot more is in the pipeline. A report on Tourism Development and Research targeting Institutions of Higher Learning has been tabled. Designated groups including ex-combatants have been involved in tourism programs. Continuous training with the involvement of THETA has been provided. Women and Youth have completed training in Agricultural Cooperatives conducted by the Stakeholder Committee involving Vereeniging Fresh Produce Market.

Land as a commodity, geared towards renewing our communities, is diminishing, with a 2% decrease due to huge developments along the Vaal River. On the other hand township and rezoning applications have increased by 2%. No land has been released as most is in private hands and is not readily released because of the slow pace of the "Willing Buyer-Willing Seller principles. The price of land has also gone up as a result of increasing property prices globally.

An Inclusive Housing Policy has been developed which is aimed at promoting equal access to service delivery.

The need for training and employment of designated groups during the construction of the regional sewer works cannot be left to chance, and this has to be carried out in line with the Extended Public Works Program (EPWP) principles, including but not restricted to the employment of designated

groups in secondary spin-offs such as the water recycling and re-use of sludge.

This IDP, in the main, seeks to and provide solutions to pressing issues such as the road construction programme;

- the road maintenance programme,
- the expansion of licensing services in Sedibeng
- the Multi-Purpose Vehicle Hub,

In developing skills and rehabilitating the ex-combatants the Sedibeng District Municipality have involved them in the conducting the Current Public Transport Record. The need to develop an ICT connectivity master plan is long overdue, as is the centralized call centre service, all of these to be concluded with the intensive and deliberate bias towards the inclusion of designated groups. All of the above will count for nothing, unless we have a capacitated and motivated staff complement, whose potential can only be released through a quality workplace skills plan. This plan needs to be informed by the need to address the shortage of critical skills in the Sedibeng District as opposed to the upward mobility of a personal nature without the attendant skill retention strategy.

It is with the above in mind, coupled with the overarching needs of our communities, that will see an IDP and its application that will ensure a content and proud citizenry of Sedibeng that will be proud to call this our beautiful region, their home.

We can no longer withhold what needs to be delivered under the pretext that there is still another year to go. Our communities demand action and the President has committed us to action. This IDP signals our Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) milestones and takes us to the next Local Government elections in 2011.

With the above assertion, this IDP comes at the time when municipalities throughout the country in

general and the Province in particular are faced with protest marches, with the Sedibeng District Municipality being no exception. Under the guise of service delivery dissatisfaction, communities have gone on rampage, destroying both public and private properties, led by a blazon criminal element. To that end, the need for this final IDP in the series of five years, must surely seek to address some, if not most of the perceived shortcomings, flowing from genuine community concerns. However, the Municipality must not be sidetracked by spurious demands paraded as genuine community concerns.

Our IDP therefore, must first and foremost reflect our commitment to goals in our quest to meet the 2006 Local Government Elections Manifesto of the ruling party, which was subsequently adopted as our guiding light for the Municipality for the five years including the period under review in this IDP, where we have committed ourselves to the following key deliverables:

- Local government offices have to become more effective in meeting the needs of the citizens,
- Sporting and recreational facilities must be built.
- Local services like waste removal must be improved.
- Free basic services must be provided to communities and;
- Water and electricity must be accessible.

Our IDP, in its strategic thrust, gives expression to our first generation Growth and Development Strategy, which is for the holistic development of the Region. Alignment of the two with the 2006 Election Manifesto, which is the guiding light of the Municipality, finds expression in the projects entailed in this document. In this final thrust, in the year before the next elections, we are committed to deliver without fail on these programmes.

It is through the projects as in the reflected in the IDP, that we seek to leave a lasting legacy to the communities of Sedibeng, which will set the tone for a caring, people-centred, people-driven and developmental local government for generations to come.

As we continue on our march to deliver on our Manifesto commitments, we pledge ourselves to continue to work with our people to leave no stone unturned in fulfilling our objectives by accelerating and doubling our efforts to bring about a better life to all our people. We will do so in an accountable and ethical manner, as we have been proven to do over the years.

The Award to our Municipality as the Ambassador of Clean Audits, having received clean audits for the last four consecutive years, is indicative of such commitment. This award signals that despite serious misperceptions of maladministration and gross financial mismanagement, we have accounted for every penny of public funding entrusted to us. We will continue in that vein and manner again this year.

We look back with pride as we approach the final phase of the current term of our political office. It is this achievement, coupled with our confidence, commitment and loyalty which will see us standing proud at the end of our political term.

Best Wishes,

Councillor, Mahole Mofokeng

EXECUTIVE MAYOR

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IDP (2010/11)

The Sedibeng District Municipality's five year IDP, which is in line with the 5 year Local Government Strategic Agenda, was delivered in 2007 and was reviewed in 2008/9. This is the fourth review of the five year IDP.

This IDP review updates information of the previous IDP where new information has been sourced and where performance parameters have changed taking into account the following aspects;

- Incorporating and adjusting to the new or amended priorities from National and Provincial government guided by the context that this year is the end of term for other spheres of government;
- Identifies changed and new circumstances and resulting gaps and looking at the required changes to planning deliverables(there is an updated budget for the 2009/10 financial year based on the amended deliverables)

The review thus addresses the following:

- Comments of the MEC for Local Government on 2009/10 Sedibeng District Municipality IDP.
- Commitments by Provincial and National sectors to Sedibeng during IDP analysis and
- Progress with regard to a new initiative, namely the Vaal 21 initiative which seeks to bring together all the municipalities adjoining the Vaal River to collectively leverage on the potential of the River for development.

Annually, as per the legislature requirement, municipalities must submit their IDPs to the MEC for Local Government for comments. The SDM 2009/10 IDP was submitted and comments, in terms of Section 32 (2) of the Local Government Municipal Systems (Act no: 32 of 200) were made

by the MEC. These comments are clustered according to the five National Key Performance Areas (NKPAs) against which the municipal IDP was analyzed. These include the following:

- Local Economic Development and Growth;
- Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development;
- Financial Management and Viability;
- Institutional Development and Transformation; and
- Democracy and Good Governance.

During the year under review, the SDM made various interventions to specifically address the comments made by the MEC.

This IDP is the final set of deliverables the Sedibeng District Municipality has set for itself as it closes the 5 year term and prepares for the new term.