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ALL MEDIA HOUSES

ATT: Editors/Journalists
For Immediate Release

MEDIA STATEMENT: DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY RESPONDS TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH SANCO AND STAKEHOLDERS

The Dipaleseng Local Municipality has reaffirmed its commitment to transparent and accountable governance through a constructive engagement session held on Monday, 12 May 2025, at the Municipal Council Chambers. This session was convened in response to a memorandum submitted by the South African National Civic Organisation (SANCO) on 27 March 2025, outlining a range of service delivery and governance concerns.

The memorandum raised critical issues including inadequate service delivery, the underperformance of the Local Economic Development (LED) Forum, irregularities in recruitment and selection processes, and delays in the completion of key infrastructure projects.

The engagement was led by the Executive Mayor, who served as the principal respondent to the memorandum. In her remarks, the Mayor acknowledged the concerns raised by SANCO as valid and constructive, and expressed appreciation for the respectful and solutions-focused tone of the community's engagement.

Municipal and political administrative leadership addressed each concern raised, acknowledging shortcomings where necessary and outlining immediate interventions and long-term corrective measures. These include accelerating service delivery improvements, reviewing governance and administrative systems, and prioritizing the completion of stalled infrastructure initiatives.

As part of the agreed action plan, the municipality will convene follow-up engagements, the first which is scheduled to take place before the end of June 2025. These sessions will involve a broader set of stakeholders, particularly sector departments and entities directly responsible for issues cited in the memorandum. Furthermore, the municipality will issue regular progress reports to keep the community informed of measurable developments under its direct jurisdiction.

In response to concerns regarding economic development, the municipality pledged to revitalize the functionality of the LED Forum.

SANCO representatives welcomed the municipality's openness, and the spirit of collaboration demonstrated during the engagement. They expressed hope that the commitments made will be translated into visible improvements in the daily lives of the community.

"This session marked a significant step in affirming the value of participatory democracy," said the Mayor. "I appreciate the active involvement of our communities, and the positive decorum maintained throughout the engagement. We remain committed to strengthening accountability, transparency, and responsiveness in our administration."

Dipaleseng Local Municipality reiterates its dedication to working collaboratively with all sectors of society to address the pressing developmental challenges facing the community, guided by the principles of good governance, inclusivity and sustainable development.

ENDS

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