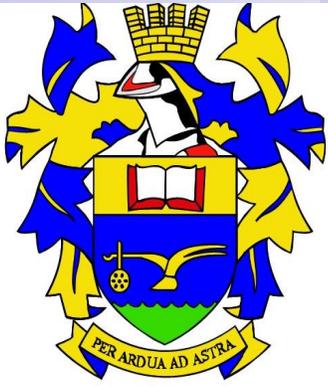


September 2018



# Dipaleseng News



***“Centre of quality, affordable service, good governance a  
and  
sustainable economic opportunities”***



Acting Municipal Manager  
TC Mametja

*From the Editor.....*

as well as at.

It is critically important that we maintain a solid stable administration that is fully compliant to regulatory legislation.

At the beginning of the new Financial Year, plans are already in place to bring the municipality into stability, particularly in terms of Municipal Financial Viability and Manage-

ment as well as Good Governance and Public Participation as per the key priority areas for Local Government.

Our aims efforts in improving the lives of our community remains unquestionable even amongst the rising

The Annual Financial Statements, Performance reports



Gert Sibande District municipality hosted honoured and celebrated Women of Dipaleseng



## Executive Mayor's Foreword

This financial year will be the year that when the next national government elections will be held, which inherently bring about tremendous pressure on leaders as when as government institutions to raise the service delivery bar.

We remain committed in fighting the battle against poverty, unemployment and inequality which continue to stifle our country, even Dipaleseng.

Happy women's Day to all the women in Dipaleseng, and I urge all the men to honour and look after them.



Executive Mayor  
Clr. Mafunda Makhubu

On the 27th September 2018, Ward Councilors in partnership with the Department of Social Development donated equipment to small local businesses within Dipaleseng.

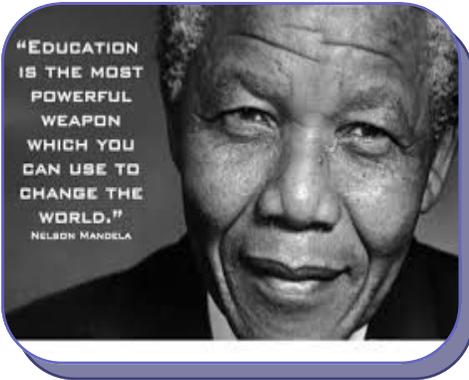
This is the kind of continued support rendered by the department to the sustainability of these small businesses.



## SCHOOL SHOES DONATED IN HONOUR OF MANDELA



True to Nelson Mandela's quote that "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world", Dipaleseng Local Municipality in partnership with MaxProf donated a total of two hundred school shoes to needy children in Siyathemba in honour of Nelson Mandela on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018.



Even though, government has clear and concise policy imperatives on basic education, sadly, social dynamics such as unemployment and poverty remain factors of significance that continue to negatively affect education in our country. Though it might seem

as a temporary relief in the holistic scope of things, it is against this background that the municipality decided to implement a program of this nature.

In line with the 'Thuma Mina' narrative, the day started off with a symbolic walk from Siyathemba



Community Hall whereby the Executive Mayor, Clr. Mafunda Makhubu, Member of Parliament deployed in Dipaleseng, Mrs Nokhaya Mnisi, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Clr Molato Khanye and Clr Zanele Ngwenya, Acting Municipal Manager, Conny Mametja and other dignitaries carried the school shoes to Qalabocha Primary School and from there to Vusumuzi Primary School.



The principals of both schools, who also joined the walk, took pride in the fact that their schools as well as the wellbeing of their learners are getting recognition from the local leadership.



Out of jubilation, the learners sang at the top of their voices in response to the kind gesture bestowed upon them. Some even took to putting pen on paper to express their gratitude at how the lack of school uniform affects their peers in



the school. They explained how not having proper school attire could make other learners fall victims to teasing and bullying, lack of self-esteem and confidence which collectively could lead to diminished concentration levels in class, thus hindering the learning process .

## LEDF IS LAUNCHED

As a result of disruptions of development and economic activities within Dipaleseng Local Municipality, the municipality convened a meeting to re-launch the Local Economic Development Forum (LEDF) structure on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Siyathemba Community Hall.

This came as a result of distressing challenges that the institution faced when a certain group of community members started disrupting municipal, sector departments, state owned enterprises as well as privately owned business activities; programs and projects. This situation had been on-going for well over a month and had reached uncomfortable levels even after the municipality attempted to engage the disgruntled group on numerous occasions.

Drastic measures such as the disbandment of the Local Economic Development Forum (LEDF) structure that was in place which was accused of

demonstrating monopolistic attributes and not being pro-Dipaleseng by the disgruntled group were taken. An interim committee was then elected to oversee LEDF objectives until the structure is re-launched. However, these efforts did not seem to have been adequate in yielding any positive outcome as these unfavourable acts perpetuated.

The municipality, through intergovernmental processes requested the presence of the Mpumalanga Provincial Department of Economic Development & Tourism to assist in clarifying the purpose, role and responsibilities of this structure to avert any future misconceptions about the intention behind having such a structure in place.

To demonstrate transparency and impartiality, the said department, represented by Mr. Mohlala, Director of Economic Development was also tasked with facilitating the process of electing the new executive membership of the forum.



Local Business chambers, government sector, Parastatals, organized labour, Non-government sector, and community based organizations are some of the structures that need to be represented in the forum.

The forum is chaired by the Executive Mayor and has working groups according to the local economic demands and opportunities. Each working group then has its own chairperson whom collectively with the Executive Mayor forms the executive committee of the structure.

The executive now has Mr. Mpho Mphuthi leading the Agriculture sub-committee while Mr. Zakhele Maya is responsible for the SMME. Transversal sub-committee is headed by Mrs. Nomsa Sibiya and Mr. Andile Mkhumbeni and Mr. Sibusiso Motaung lead the Manufacturing and Mining sub-committees respectively.

Dipaleseng is relatively small with a population of 45 232 as per the 2016 statistics and only contributed 0.7% to the provincial economy in 2015, depicting a projected decrease in annual economic growth from 1.9% for the 1995 to 2015 period to 0.4% between 2015 and 2020.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mafunda Makhubu congratulated the newly elected executive and pleaded for cooperation and unity in efforts in order to build and grow the local economy. It is anticipated that the executive will work tirelessly to ensure this, with their first main goal is the facilitation of the review

of the Local Economic Development Strategy which will serve as the blue print for local economic development in its entirety.



*The newly elected LEDF members pictured with the Executive Mayor, Cllr Mafunda Makhubu together with Acting Municipal Manager, Ms TC Mamefja and Director Corporate Services Mr. TP Mokoena.*

## DIPALESENG GREENS THE ENVIRONMENT

In South Africa, Arbor Day is celebrated for an entire week – which usually takes place during the first week of September, but on Tuesday, 25 September 2018 the Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Cllr. Mafunda Makhubu commemorated Arbor month by planting a total of five trees and donating food garden seeds to the local community.

The aim of this exercise is to preserve and maintain our natural vegetation as well as to encourage healthy and economic lifestyle through sustain food gardens.

The Executive Mayor, accompanied by his Mayoral Committee members, Cllrs Z Ngwenya and M Khanye and other councillors planted tree at the Balfour Police Station and handed it over to





the Station Commander, Lieutenant Colonel LA Khoabane after naming it 'Mpumelelo' which means success.

The tree planted at Tiny Teddy Day Care in Balfour town was named 'Mfundo' in line with education that is taking place at the school. The principal and kids, adorned in cultural/ traditional wear warmly welcomed the plant along with the seeds for their food garden.



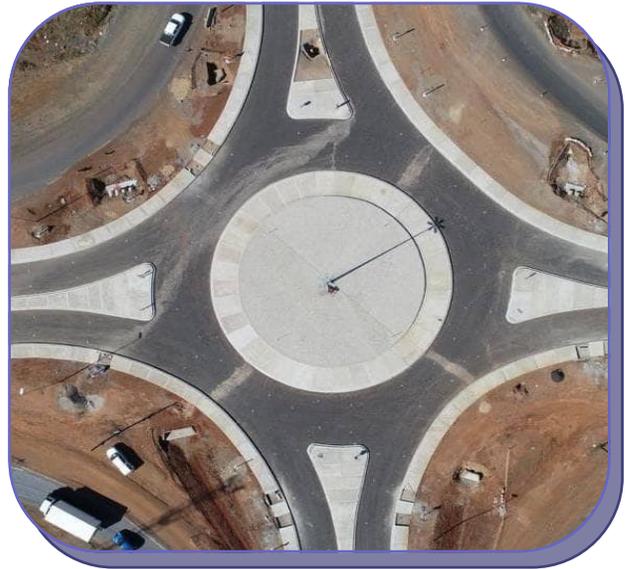
National Arbor Week in South Africa is a time when South Africans of all ages are encouraged to celebrate the beauty and importance of trees. People from all aspects of the community are urged to get involved and thousands are educated and made aware of the benefits of the many different aspects of forestry.

The Old age home in Balfour also got a special visit from the delegation. Apart from tree planting and seed donation, engagements with the residents about their concerns and challenges were undertaken. The rest of the trees were planted at the library and the municipal premises in Balfour.

## INTERSECTION CONSTRUCTION WORK COMPLETED

In an effort to curb the high levels of accidents, the municipality together with SANRAL undertook the construction of a traffic circle/roundabout at the R23/R51 intersection in Balfour.

Throughout its implementation., the project contributed to local economy by creating about 15 local job opportunities.



The municipality is pleased to announce the completion of this project that commenced back in May 2017.

The intersection is now open for usage by commuters and the municipality encourages road users to obey the rules of the road at all times.

This comes at a time when the country is bat-



tling with escalating road accident death tolls. the RTMC's figures for January to December 2016 show that 14071 people died on South African roads, a nine percent increase on the 2015 figure of 12944.

Dive safely and Arrive Alive!



## LEADERSHIP VISIT ROAD PROJECT

The Executive Mayor, Clr Mafunda Makhubu together with Members of Mayoral Committee, Clr Molato Khanye and Clr. Zanele Ngwenya, Member of Parliament Ms Nokhanya Mnisi, Acting Municipal Manager, Conny Mametja conducted oversight visit to the Nkonkoni Road project in Siyathemba on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

The upgrading and rehabilitation of Nkonkoni Street, costing R 5 634 865.50, implemented by the municipality through Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) is a seven hundred and fifty two (752) meters size project which commenced in April 2018 and is anticipated to be completed by the end of August 2018.



The Acting Municipal Manager emphasised the importance of Eco-living and fostering healthy lifestyle for our communities. Coincidentally, this was one of the topics of discussion at the recent ICLE World Conference that she attended in Montreal in Canada. She made strong comments for the move towards construction of roads projects implemented to include the provision of walkways to cater for safe walking and cycling of pedestrians and cyclists.

The contractor was instructed to attend to identified snags with urgency in order to speed up the completion of the project and the leadership also vowed to continue to conduct unannounced site visits to this and other projects currently being implemented.



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