



*“Centre of quality, affordable service,
good governance and*

March 2024



Dipaleseng News



MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S FOREWORD.....

As the Accounting Officer of Dipaleseng Local Municipality, I thank the Council for entrusting me with a great opportunity to prove myself to serve in this promising and developmental institution. I thank especially the community for this opportunity and also give assurance that we will serve with commitment and integrity.

I am optimistic that the Final IDP will reflect what we need to do as the Administration directed by the Executive Mayor on behalf of the Dipaleseng Council to improve effective and efficient service delivery within the confines of prudent financial management. The aforementioned prevailing challenges shall be packaged into easily identifiable and distinct Key Performance Areas assigned within the constitutional mandate of this municipality namely in the following headings:

- ♦ Basic Infrastructure and Service Delivery;
- ♦ Good Governance and Public Participation;
- ♦ Municipal Transformation and Organizational Development;
- ♦ Local Economic Development; Spatial Rational and
- ♦ Municipal Financial Viability and Management.

Furthermore, we also assure that those challenges assigned to other spheres of government do find a solid expression in the District Development Model which is spearheaded by our district municipality. It is therefore comforting to acknowledge that all service delivery concerns shall receive deserved attention and nothing shall fall beyond our radar.



**MR. LWAZI CINDI
MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

I further commit that through **SMART** objectives as shall be determined in the 2024/25 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan we will ensure that we change things for the better in this municipality, thus ensuring real service delivery improvements.

Once again, we urge the valued community of Dipaleseng and all stakeholders to engage with this second review process of the 6th Generation IDP and provide us with your valuable comments so that we can realise our shared vision of turning this municipality into a place of choice for all its citizens.

Lastly, the celebration of thirty years of freedom is an iconic moment which should be accompanied by the active citizenry modelling, thus Dipaleseng community members that are eligible to vote are encouraged to exercise their democratic right and vote at the upcoming national and provincial elections on the 29th May 2024.



EXECUTIVE MAYOR'S FOREWORD

We are committed to running a clean and transparent government where we ensure that every cent of public funds is spent on improving services, maintenance, upgrades, and development is also non-negotiable. The burning issue of housing for our residents in all categories remains of utmost importance. Although housing is not a municipal competency and we rely on the budget provided to us by the national and provincial governments, we will continue to provide as many housing opportunities as possible with limited resources. We remain committed to doing everything we can to create opportunities for all our residents, and this document is a meaningful symbol of that.

It is understood that sustainable economic development, job creation and an enabling environment for businesses to flourish remains a mandate for local government. This is a means to dignity and self-improvement in a way that can never be achieved by a social grant. Small businesses create jobs and they have an abundance of potential waiting to be unlocked as well as the ability to expand into employers of our people, therefore, small businesses development remains a focus of my term in office.

The municipality opens its doors to businesses whose wish is to invest in the municipality and must demonstrate an appetite and take practical steps to own means of production.

The challenges posed by load-shedding and the need for well-managed and modernized infrastructure to support economic growth are also important issues that need to be addressed. Additionally, the focus on local law enforcement and partnerships to make communities safer, as well as the increased supply of affordable, well-located homes, are significant steps towards addressing the issue of poverty.

Our success is delivering quality services to our people dependent on the capacity of our internal human and financial resources. We have committed ourselves to choosing the best people to run our municipality, through;

- Ensuring that the municipality staff that are appointed have the necessary competence, experience, and support.

- Subjecting mayors and senior managers to lifestyle audits to limit the scope for corruption.

- Requiring mayors and councilors to sign perfor-



CLLR. KHETHIWE MOEKETSI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR

mance agreements with agreed targets against which they will be measured.

Changing the composition and mandates of ward committees to overcome the problems they have experienced and enable residents to play their part as active citizens to build communities and hold councilors and staff accountable.

Local government remains the closest government body to our residents and communities, and as councillors, we were elected to serve the needs of our community.

The importance of public participation in the IDP and Budget processes cannot be overstated where residents are afforded an opportunity to engage the municipality on their relevant needs and priorities. This greatly assists the municipality in planning accordingly and ensuring sustainable growth throughout the municipal area. It further allows us, as a municipality, to continuously plan ahead, work diligently, and deliver the services we are responsible for. The IDP creates the framework for the municipality to fulfil its mandate and apply its budget.

The success of this IDP will require everyone's commitment and hard work, but I am confident that together we can achieve our goals and make Dipaleseng an even better place to live, work and play.

Let us continue to build on the progress we have made and strive for a better, brighter future for all.

ITS TIME TO STRATEGIZE

Dipaleseng Local Municipality's Strategic Planning Session commenced with the Municipal Manager, Mr. Lwazi Cindi presenting the municipality's status quo overview for 2023/2425 financial years after Cllr. Mojalefa Miya's opening and welcoming address behalf of the Executive Mayor.

Dipaleseng's political leadership, senior management, organized labour and valued stakeholders in the form of the district municipality,



sector departments and other government institutions gathered to plan together for the holistic realization of the institution's strategic objectives in the new future.

Invited stakeholders such as Gert Sibande District Municipality, Department of Water & Sanitation, STATS SA, Mpumalanga Department of Cooperative Governance



& Traditional Affairs made presentations on the Integrated Development Plan, the District Development Model and the ever important alignment of the two, Blue and Green Drop reports as well as data collection and Census reports to name a few.

The first of the three day session, from Monday, 15th -17th January 2024, facilitated by the Mpumalanga Office of the Premier also involved the provision for an interactive session on the presented information from all the stakeholders which is to be utilized in making informed decisions for planning purposes moving onto the next two days.

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and
sustainable economic
opportunities”***







BALFOUR REGISTERING AUTHORITY, CENTRE RECEIVES FAVOURABLE AUDIT OUTCOME

The Mpumalanga Provincial Department of Community Safety, Security & Liaison conducted an audit on the 10th January 2024 at the Balfour Registering Authority and found that files that were audited has not discrepancies.

The scope of the audit covered; Reconciliation of Face Value Control Sheets RE41, Cash Up for the month of May 2023, Application

and Issue of Professional Driving Permits for the month of May 2023, Application and Issue of Learners License for October 2023, Certification of Roadworthiness for May and October 2023, Authorization of Duplicate De/Registration of motor vehicles and Deregistration of motor vehicles for the month of May and October 2023.



The department regularly conducts these audit to verify required compliance to prescripts and set out regulations in terms of National Traffic Act of 1993/96.

The institution expresses profound gratitude to the Traffic

and Licensing Unit for their exceptional work and dedication which headed this successful audit outcome which is an accurate testament to their individual efforts and collective professionalism.

The department further urged the institution to continue with strict adherence to applicable prescripts and regulations governing the sector.



JOYOUS DAY FOR RIDGEVIEW RESIDENTS

On Monday, 18th March 2024, the Member of Executive Committee] of Human Settlements in Mpumalanga, Mr. SK Mashilo (MPL) descended to Ridgeview in Siyathemba in Dipaleseng Local Municipality to hand-over over a hundred title deeds to local home owners.

Child headed families, the elderly and people with disabilities will continue to be prioritized in the 720 left over sites in the area, wherein the Provincial Department will construct houses for them.

The rest of the available sites in the area will be allocated for private sale



and development in line with the mixed and integrated development plans for the area through the municipality.

The MEC committed to construct a community hall for the utilization of the com-





munity of Ridgeview in the coming future.

Though the event was not a community consultation, the Honourable MEC then allowed for engagements with the gathered community giving them an opportunity to voice concerns.



Accompanied by the Executive Mayors from Gert Sibande District Municipality and Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Cllr. Walter Mngomezulu and Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi respectively, the MEC officially opened a state of the art Early Childhood Development Centre also within the vicinity of Ridgeview.

A 70 year old Sarah Ndlovu who previously resided in Zone 2 in Siyathemba is one of three elderlies that were visited in their homes and



hand delivered these significant documents.

She was so delighted and couldn't contain her happiness as she explained how she even struggles to even walk.





1st Council Meeting for 2024

As legally required, Dipaleseng Local Municipality held its Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday, 31st January 2024 which was accordingly open for community members to attend and observe proceedings from the gallery.

Mr. Vusi Gcaba presented the 2022/23 Auditor General's Management Report for



Dipaleseng Local Municipality which revealed that the institution received a Qualified audit opinion, indicating that the institution did not regress but maintained its status. A

strong emphasis was placed on the entire culture and ecosystem of accountability to all stakeholders ranging from the Administration, Executive Authority, Council and its Oversight Committee all the way to Provincial Leadership and Parliament.



The Audit & Performance Committee report for the second quarter of the current financial year was presented to

Council by Mr. S Mofokeng who is the Chairperson of the Risk Management Committee on behalf of Chairperson, Mrs. Jane Masite who was not in attendance.

The Audit & Performance Committee concurred with the Auditor General on the Qualification outcome and all recommendations as presented. The report also came with key commitments from the Audit and Performance Committee and the Auditor General.

The second quarter performance for the institution indicated overall or average performance of 50% with regards to set targets in terms of the service delivery budget and implementation plan for the quarter which regrettably is a measurable decline compared with the same quarter year on year. Attributing factors to this declines have their genesis to the high vacancy levels at both senior managerial position and other key elementary positions within the organizational structure including the fiscal health of the municipality.



Opportunely, some reports which were tabled, such as the Integrated Waste Management Plan and Audit Action Plan reports, directly speak to remedial action/s in re-

sponse to Auditor General Report and concerns, importing the institution's trajectory towards a more positive outcome in the future.

Of particular worth to note were the revised 2023/24 MIG and new 2024/25 MIG



funded capital projects. This is necessitated by the fact that as at the end of December 2023, the municipality had received R7 13 570 000 and only managed to spend R 5 974 581, 00 which translated to a 29% expenditure on the overall allocation of R20 253 000, 00 which was below the targeted 40% and further should have reached 50% and above by the end of December

2023, which requires immediate intervention in order to avert funds from being forfeited due to poor expenditure.

In order to avert the above undesirable situation of continuous underperformance on the MIG funding, the resolutions at the Strategic Planning Session which was held from 15th to 17th January 2024 advised to revise its projects with a focus on those projects that are much more ready for implementation and are considered to be “low hanging fruits” and easily achievable and these include the acquisition of two new solid waste trucks and the designing of Charles Street.

Council members spent a relative amount of time and focus conferring on service delivery reports and matters as the institution undergoes slight pressures on certain service delivery areas within the jurisdiction.

After much consideration of the Mid-Term Budget and Performance Assessment, the municipality's Mid-year Budget Adjustment will be tabled before the end of February



2024, wherein all necessary budgetary adjustments will be duly reformed and approved as required by law. This will also allow the institution cause adjustments to its service delivery targets in accordance with the service delivery and budget implementation plans that are directly interlinked to individual performance of each senior manager.

Dipaleseng Council deliberated on all these matters as well as standing reports that ordinary council normally considers on a quarterly basis which also invited constructive debates amongst councilors. The current service delivery challenges especially in the delivery of reliable and potable water supply to all customers, call centre complaints, erratic electricity supply in some areas of the municipality and the state of municipal vehicles and fleet were also deliberated. The

need to encourage member of the public to enroll on the indigent register of the municipality was once again brought to attention and further encouragement to all consumers to pay for municipal services to sustain a fiscally viable institution that is able to render sustainable services. Lastly, the need to review Council Rules and Standing Orders was also proposed under the Speaker's reports.

Active participation of council members, management as well as other stakeholders continues to be appreciated as all the collective efforts assists in rowing this boat forward.



DRAFT BUDGET & IDP ADOPTED

The Council of Dipaleseng Local Municipality approved and adopted the 2023/24 IDP / Budget / Risk and PMS Process Plan on 25th July 2023, as per Council resolution C209 /07/23 as demanded by Section 29 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act of 2000 (No. 32 of 2000).

In terms of Section 29 of the MSA, the aforementioned process plan must inter alia indicate various planned activities and strategies which the municipality will embark on in the compilation and review of its IDP with an intention to enhance integration and alignment be-

tween the IDP, Budget, Risk and Performance Management System.



In implementing the process plan, there are five distinct phases which are systematically followed and guide the annual review and the important activities, deliverables to be considered during the different phases.

In the implementation of the approved and adopted process plan as mentioned above, phase 1, phase 2, phase 3, phase 4 has been successfully concluded, we are currently on Phase 5 which is in two folds the approval of the draft IDP in March 2024 and subsequently the approval of final IDP in May 2024.

Extracting from this, at a Special Council Meetings held on Thursday, 28th March 2024 at the local Council Chambers, the administration under the leadership of Municipal Manager, Mr. Lwazi Cindi tabled before Council a 3-year Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (Draft Budget) in terms of section 16 (2) of the Municipal Finance Management Act no.56 of 2003 as well as the draft Integrated Development Plan for 2024-2025 financial year.

Council thus approved the revenue budget of R 348.5 million for the 2024/2025 financial year, an operating expenditure budget of R 344.9 million with a operat-

ing budget surplus of R 3.5 million .

Similarly, Council approved the following revenue increases for the main five revenue sources with effect from 1 July 2024 as follows;

- ☐ increase in property rates by 4.9%,
- ☐ increase in the sewerage tariffs of 4.9%,
- ☐ increase in the refuse tariffs of 4.9%,
- ☐ increase in the water tariffs of 4.9%, and
- ☐ increase in the electricity tariffs of 12.7% pending NERSA approval.

Budget related policies such as the Cash collection and banking, Borrowing Policy, Cash collection and banking, Credit control & debt collection policy, Credit Control Policy, Asset Management Policy, Budget Policy, Provision for bad debts along with others were

According to this draft budget, all Registered Indigents will be provided a subsidy of R220.00 per month on their accounts.

The Draft integrated development plan for 2024-2025 financial year as approved by Council will be made public to allow for comments, inputs and submissions, moreover a defined schedule has been developed for utilization for consulting with communities and stakeholders for inputs before final approval



DIPALESONG LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY

HAPPY HUMAN RIGHTS DAY!



Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi
Executive Mayor

The history of Human Rights Day is grounded in the Sharpeville Massacre that took place on the 21st of March 1960, where the apartheid police shot and killed sixty nine people during a peaceful protest march.

The month is also used to honour those who fought for our liberation and to celebrate the many rights guaranteed under our Constitution that we continue to enjoy today.

Even though the main event will be held on the 21st March, government uses the month of March to promote respect for basic human rights and restoring human dignity in line with the Bill of Rights.

Behind this backdrop, the MEC for Human Settlements in Mpumalanga, Mr. SK Mashilo recently led a delegation that handed over more than one hundred title deeds to the community of Ridgeview in Siyathemba.

This comes after more than one thousand five hundred subsidized housing units were built and handed over to beneficiaries in the same area,

all in line with the restoration of human dignity for our people.

Supporting human rights is a noble endeavor that everyone is encouraged to actively partake in and has various contributory means to this ever important cause.

Practicing empathy and compassion by treating others with kindness and respect while understanding that everyone deserves dignity and equal rights is an exemplary means of supporting human right.

Similarly, embracing human rights is also depicted by exercising the right to vote in every election process. Participate in government elections, school governing body elections, and more. Pay attention to candidates' platforms and most importantly support those who prioritize human rights.

Together we must build a South Africa that is tolerant and we all have a responsibility to fight racism whenever it rears its ugly head. Racism is not only a threat to our democracy but it is a barrier towards transforming our country as envisaged in our Constitution. It weakens the very fibre and fabric of our society while eroding the trust and optimism on which economic growth depends.

Remember, even small actions collectively contribute to a more just and equitable world. Let us continue breaking down barriers which divide us.

***South Africa remains committed to
the fight for human rights for all!!!***



HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH 2024

Three Decades of Respect for and
Promotion of Human Rights

#HumanRightsMonth2024

#HumanRightsDay2024

#30yrsFreedom

@GovernmentZA

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A WORD FROM THE TOP



**CLLR. KB MOEKETSI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

It is that time of the year where thousands of Christians around the world gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is viewed as the ultimate triumph of good over evil, revealing God's ability to overcome sin and provide redemption for humanity.

In this democratic dispensation, our constant consciousness could lead to an improved understanding of the meaning of religion in the lives of individuals; the ways in which religion interacts with social and political processes; and the nature,

aims, and activities of policies and their implementation for the greater good of all. It is against this background that I want to take this opportunity to wish our community a happy Easter Season!

To those who will be travelling for these holidays, remember that as much as every journey matters, so does every life.

Let us pledge to: Always buckle up, stay alert, adhere to speed limits, respect other road users and most importantly, never drink and drive.

Fika-usaphila



Happy Easter Holidays

CAPITAL PROJECT LIST 2022/23

#	Project name	Project Budget Amount	Expenditure to date	Project Status	Challenges	Implementing Agent	
1	Construction of 10MVA Balfour Sub-station – Phase 3	R 0 m	R 0 m	Construction stage: (Physical progress 99%)	Awaiting Eskom to connect Electricity	DLM	
2	Electrification of 1 200 Households (HH) in Ridgeview – Phase 2	R 5 m	R 2.2 m	Construction stage: (Physical progress 95%)	None	DLM	
3	Upgrading of Fortuna Water Treatment Works (From a 6.5 Ml/day to 19.5 Ml/day)	R122,6m	TBA	Construction stage: (Physical progress 96%)	None	GSDM	
4	Upgrading of TVET College	R 142m	TBA	Construction stage: (Physical progress 97%)	Unreleased retentions of other sub-contractors	DHET	
5	Balfour Community Health Centre	R299m	TBA	Construction stage: Complete	Availability of water for testing the equipment's in the facility.	DoH	
6	Construction of Multi-purpose hall and childcare Centre in Dipaleseng L.M.	R 20.6m	TBA	Construction stage: (Physical progress 35%)	Very slow progress	DHS	
7	Balfour/ Siyathemba/ Grelingstad/ Nthorwane Regional Bulk Water Supply – Phase	TBA	TBA	Construction stage: Completed	Some Works cannot be implemented due to Sizanani Land agreement.	GSDM	
8	Construction of 802 m long Dluldu Street in Siyathemba Ward 1	R 14m	R 14m	Construction stage: Completed	None	DLM	
9	Upgrading of Siyathemba Sewer Pump Station	R 12,9m	R 11 661 926 ,15	Construction stage: (Physical progress 90%)	None	DLM	
10	Siyathemba/ Grelingstad/ Nthorwane Regional Bulk Water Supply – Phase 4	R166m	R111m	Construction stage: (Physical progress 88%)	Land issues	GSDM	
11	Appointment of a Contractor for the Construction of 2 X 4km Feeder Lines to Ridgeview.	R40m	R8.4m	Construction stage: (Physical progress 85%)	N/A	DLM	
12	Appointment of Professional Service Providers to restore the damaged Roads through Floods in Dipaleseng LM	R5.75m	R	New Project	N/A	DLM	

	Condi- tional Grant	Job op- portuniti es creat- ed	Consultant	Date Ap- pointed	Contractor	Date Ap- pointed	Appoint- ment amount	Target Dates
	INEP	19	F&A Consult- ing	16-Oct-2015	Kgoshi Elec- trical	10 April 2019	R34m	Start Date: 10/04/2019 Completion: 30/11/2022
	INEP	10	Melokuhle Management	12-Nov-2019	Kgoshi Elec- trical	03 Feb 2021	R27.98	Start Date: 03/05/2021 Completion: 03/05/2022
	DWS	36	Vumesa	18-June- 2018	Avax SA	20/03/20 19	R 102.8 m	Start Date: 20/03/2019 Completion: 16/10/2023
	DHET	186	MSW and Consulting Engineers	N/A	Shomang Construction	N/A	R142m	Start Date: 01/08/2019 Completion: TBA
	DoH	205	TBA	TBA	ENZA Con- struction	TBA	TBA	Start Date: 07/11/2019 Completion: 30/09/2023
	DHS	25	NATHOO MBENYANE ENGINEERS	TBA	TSSN	07 May 2019	R20.6m	Start Date: 24/06/2019 Completion: 31/01/2020
	RBIG	20	Vumesa	TBA	MPFUME- LELO Busi- ness Enter- prise	17 Dec 2019	R 199m	Start Date: 13 Jan 2020 Completion: 31/10/2022
	MIG	20	Zenkcon En- gineers	15-Jan-2022	Mpophoma Construction	21 Octo- ber 2022	R 9.5 m	Start Date: 21/10/2022 Completion: 15/08/2023
	MIG	17	Atiso Con- sulting	15-Jan-2022	VMT Civils	08-Nov- 2022	R 9.9m	Start Date: 08/11/2022 Completion: 28/08/2023
	RBIG	20	Vumesa Con- sulting	18-June- 2018	GPTN Trad- ing	15-Mar- 2022	R166m	Start Date: 15/03/2022 Completion: 30 September 2023
	INEP	20	Melokuhle Management	15-Jan-2022	Euremaro Investment	27-Oct- 2022	R27m	Start Date: 15/11/2022 Completion: 15 November 2023
	MDRG	new	N/A	N/A	N/A	08 Sept.202 3	R	Start Date: 13/10/2023 Completion: 15 December 2023

SERVICE

DELIVERY







Find us on the web at
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