



DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, CLLR. NB KHANYE AT THE GSDM IDP CONSULTATION MEETING HELD AT THE NTHOROANE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2025

**Programme Director,
Honourable District Executive Mayor, Bab' Dlakadla
District Speakers
Chief Whips, MPAC Chairs
Fellow Councillors,
Members of the District and Local Municipalities,
Representatives from various stakeholders and sectors,
Community members,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Sanibonani, Dumelang

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this important Integrated Development Plan (IDP) consultation session by the Gert Sibande District Municipality, hosted here within our local municipality.

Allow me to begin by acknowledging and appreciating the collective efforts of all seven local municipalities within our district, including our own, Dipaleseng Local Municipality, for having successfully submitted their Annual Financial Statements within the prescribed timelines, as outlined in the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA). Nawe Dipaleseng awumncinane! This is not just a compliance milestone but could essentially be the first and vital step towards improving audit outcomes and strengthening financial accountability within our municipalities. Let us continue on this path of good governance and financial discipline.

Today marks the beginning of a crucial phase in our development planning. As a local municipality, we are proud to have adopted our own IDP Process Plan, as required by the Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000). This legislative framework outlines the responsibility of municipalities to develop a culture of municipal governance that complements formal representative government with a system of participatory governance.

The phase we are currently embarking on is the first phase of the IDP process, being the analysis phase, which includes extensive municipal-wide consultations. These consultations are aimed at gathering the views, needs, and mandates of our communities, ensuring that the IDP reflects the true aspirations of our people. This engagement is not merely procedural; it is foundational to the credibility and legitimacy of the IDP.

Through this process, we reaffirm that our planning must be people-centered, inclusive, and informed by the lived experiences and voices of the communities we serve. Let us therefore participate meaningfully, listen attentively, and deliberate thoroughly during this session and all forthcoming engagements.

As we do so, let us also take a moment to appreciate the broader context in which this consultation is held. The month of September is celebrated as Heritage Month in South Africa. A time where we reflect on and celebrate the richness and diversity of our cultural heritage. This reminds us that our development as a people must embrace and be rooted in our shared histories, languages, traditions, and identities.

May our work today contribute not only to the drafting of a robust and responsive IDP but also to the broader goal of building cohesive, resilient, and forward-looking communities.

With these few words I welcome you all to the place of flowers, thank you Program Director.