

**BUDGET SPEECH BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF  
WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY – CLLR LEP  
GWANGWA MAY 2009**

- **Honourable Speaker**
- **Chief Whip**
- **Traditional Leaders**
- **Councillors**
- **Municipal Manager**
- **Staff of Waterberg District Municipality**
- **Members of the media**
- **Distinguished guests**
- **Ladies and gentlemen**

It is proper to remind this Council that just a month ago, the people of this country have placed their confidence in the ANC by giving it a resounding victory in the 2009 general elections. The ANC fully understands the implications thereof. It was clear that the majority of people trust that the ANC is the only organization that can better their lives. They must have been informed by their own experiences and inspired by what they know.

Honourable Speaker, as we gather here, we must be reminded that the State President will deliver his State of the Nation Address on 3 June 2009. The municipalities must read, understand and interpret the election manifesto of the ANC correctly. It will guide all the spheres of government for the next five years. Even in the face of the new administration, most of the policies of the ANC remain in tact. The creation of a developmental state is still the commitment of the ANC of which I am its chief servant. As it was mentioned by former Executive Mayor in her budget speech in 2008, the developmental state is the only sustainable way towards the realization of the ideals of the people as enshrined in the Freedom Charter. The Constitutional underpinnings

are important in the execution of the service delivery mandate. Therefore, municipalities must also remember that provision of basic services is a serious obligation and should not be taken lightly.

Some few days ago, we have joined the other Countries of the Continent and celebrated Africa Day on 25 May 2009. The theme of Africa Day this year revolves around education and culture. It can be translated to mean that in general the ANC must continue to better the lives of the people of this country, irrespective of race or religion. We have a responsibility to teach one another about being a real African. At all costs, we must never embrace xenophobia in all its forms.

Honourable Speaker, it must be remembered that in all IDP Reviews that 2006 IDP is the main reference document. The vision and aspirations of the current Council were captured in this document. The IDP, which will be presented today like the others, is meant to give expression to the same aspirations which were captured then. The councilors, the officials and the community have worked together to produce this soon- to -be approved document. They are therefore the owners and the implementers of it. The same spirit and commitment which prevailed in drafting the current IDP must show up when it is implemented. These issues are very important to take note in the forthcoming financial year:

- Poor Performance cannot be tolerated any longer.
- The days of roll-over projects are over
- The days of monitoring and evaluation are here to stay

The Waterberg District Municipality has complied with the Municipal System Act. The processes for the development and adoption of an IDP are prescribed in this Act. In a true public participation spirit, the IDP roadshows and Representative Forums have influenced the shape of the final IDP. The long journey of ten months will and must end up in the form of a Council approval.

As the Waterberg District Municipality we are not directly involved in the coalface of basic service delivery. We should continue to develop better mechanisms to give support to all our locals to enable them to deliver services efficiently and effectively. We are acutely aware of the slow implementation of the IDP which is characterized by high levels of roll-over projects. We must admit that a rollover is a sin of non-performance and must be corrected.

We can only hope that our Portfolio Committees and Management will roll up their sleeves and do business unusual with the aim of improving services delivery to the majority of our people. The implementation of capital projects in 2007/2008 was 45%. I am told it is currently at 53% and it can slightly improve before the financial year ends.

In the past local government elections we have said to the citizens of South Africa that as the ANC we have a plan to make local Government work better. We are calling on our management and staff to assist us to implement the plan. Our people have hope and confidence in our government. We dare not fail them.

Waterberg District unlike the other district is not water and electrical services authority. As a result of this, WDM is totally grant dependent. For two running years, its IDP was rated credible. The slogan should be:

**From credibility to implementation. We are on the right track, we must be on the fast track.** We have always admitted that we have budgetary constraints. The budget/IDP tool is a powerful tool of development.

**Hon Speaker,**

In the review of this document, we have learnt a lot of lessons. We have taken note of mistakes and weaknesses in executing the IDP process. On that journey of a thousand miles we slipped in the first steps and we know why we slipped.

**Hon Speaker,**

**No matter what we feel, or know. No matter what the potential gifts or talents we have, only action brings them to life. Those of us who only think we understand concepts such as service delivery, public participation and develop, will realize one day when implement the IDP effectively and efficiently. Our doing becomes our understanding.**

Special thanks to **Political Management Cimmittee:** Speaker, Chief Whip, Mayco, Cllrs including Members of the Opposition.

**Acting Municipal Manager** (AS Naidoo), **CFO** (Nadine Laubscher), Senior Management and the entire staff.

Many thanks to the community members of Waterberg who continue to give us unwavering support.

Despite the global economic crisis and other challenges that we face as a country, there are developments such as the Medupe Power Station and elsewhere that give us hope.

**Thank you**