

**2016 BUDGET VOTE SPEECH BY HER WORSHIP
CLLR N.R. MOGOTLANE THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR
OF WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY.**

31 MAY 2016

Madam Speaker,

Chief Whip of the ruling party, Cllr. Morumudi,

Members of the Mayoral Committee,

Chairperson of MPAC Cllr. Kganyago,

Chairperson of the Audit Committee Mr. Ngobeni,

**Chairperson of the Local House of Traditional Leaders
Kgoshigadi Taueatsoala,**

All Councillors present,

Municipal Manager Mr. Mabotja,

Senior Management Team,

**Representatives from SALGA, COGHSTA and Provincial
Treasury,**

Representatives of Organised Labour,

Media Houses present,

Members from the Gallery,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

A very Good Afternoon to you all!

Honourable members, I am distinctly privileged and extremely honoured to address you during this last ordinary Council meeting as we have come to the end of our term of office.

We gathered here today to present to you Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework on the heels of our local government elections, an event that will with no doubt, go down as the most exciting, intense, competitive, aggressive and yet smooth and peaceful electoral cycle in the annals of the short political history of our democracy.

Our gathering here today takes place exactly five days after the celebration of Africa Day by the entire Africans on the 25th May which also marked 53rd Anniversary of the African Union (AU). The theme for celebrating Africa is:”**Build a Better Africa and a Better World**”.

Africa Day celebrates the day when the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the precursor to the African Union (AU), was formed in 1963. It acknowledges the progress that we, as Africans, have made, while reflecting upon the common challenges we face in a global environment.

The African Union, comprised of 53 member states, has brought together the continent of Africa to collectively address the challenges it has faced, such as armed conflict, climate change, and poverty.

Madam Speaker, Africa Day was preceded by the Freedom Month which according to our national Calendar is the April Month.

This year`s freedom month marked exactly 22 years since fellow South Africans became part of the history by participating in the first democratic elections which born the current dispensation of the democratically elected state.

As a young democracy we need to therefore position the sphere of local government in the fore front of bettering the lives of the people and pushing back the frontiers of poverty.

It is the period that calls on us to reflect and ponder how far we have gone in pushing back the frontiers of poverty and deliver on our mandate bestowed on us by the ruling party which is the African national Congress.

We want to thank and honour all those in the African National Congress and its alliance for working so hard for the past two decades in restoring the dignity of the people of South Africa.

In 2011, during the commencement of the current term of office, and during the Joint Inauguration of Mayors in the District, I said in my speech that: ***“Our willingness to work together with all political parties and stakeholders will enable us to find workable solutions for the diverse range of developmental challenges facing Waterberg as we move towards our vision of creating a better life for our communities”***.

Madam Speaker, as we present the 2016/2017 budget and the service delivery report since 2011, we have an opportunity to decisively respond to questions and perceptions by members of the public on the role of municipality in providing quality services to communities.

A question that we remain asking ourselves is ***“Are we sure we are delivering when our people remain poor, when there is still mass unemployment, unwarranted protests and crime?”*** Real service delivery should mean emancipation from poverty and unemployment.

This exactly explains why our mandate was extended to be entrusted with the responsibility to continue the transformation and development of our society because they best understand the challenges ahead.

As we enjoy the third decade of our democracy in the Republic of South Africa, we must do so with more courage to ensure that the buzzword of ***“A Good Story to tell”*** sounds louder than in the last two decades.

We must continue to pledge to honour the wishes and desires of our people. We need to continue solidifying a democratic culture that is accountable and responsive in its outlook. Effective in the delivery of social services, effective in driving the economic development, and adamant regarding the promotion of the self-expression and self-activity of the masses of our people.

It is against this context that we stand here today to spell out measures to consolidate the gains made in the past five years and open up new frontiers to advance the course and plight of our people.

Madam Speaker, as the outgoing leadership of the Waterberg District Municipality we are presenting today the highlights of the institution. We will also cover service delivery issues as related to the powers and functions of the District and support to all local municipalities for the past five years.

Financial Matters

Waterberg District Municipality has been doing fairly well on financial matters. Since 2011 to date the district performed as follows in terms of audit opinions from the Office of the Auditor-General:

- 2010/2011 - Clean audit
- 2011/2012 - Clean audit
- 2012/2013 - Qualified audit opinion
- 2013/2014 - Unqualified audit opinion and
- 2014/2015 - Unqualified audit opinion.

Madam Speaker, as the Ambassadors of Clean Audit, we should up our game so that we go back where we belong.

Our local municipalities have also improved due to the assistance we are providing. Presently, our Audit Committee is shared with Modimolle, BelaBela and Mogalakwena local municipalities respectively.

The Municipality also established the Municipal Public Account Committee in line with the COGHSTA Guidelines with the sole mandate of providing oversight over the executive authority.

Municipal Health:

Municipal Health is one of our core functions in terms of the National Health Act No. 61 of 2003. The Unit is entrusted with the following functions:

- ✚ Water quality monitoring
- ✚ Food control
- ✚ Waste management
- ✚ Health surveillance of premises
- ✚ Surveillance and prevention of communicable diseases, excluding immunization
- ✚ Vector control and
- ✚ Environmental pollution control and disposal of the dead.

Sampling and testing of drinking water is a continuous process. Water samples are taken from all drinking water sampling points covering the whole district.

Rivers and dams where communities get their drinking water, are being identified so as to monitor the quality of water and minimise the chances of outbreak of waterborne diseases.

It is however, worth mentioning that Waterberg District Municipality is not a Water Service Authority. Provision of water is undertaken at local municipal level.

Madam Speaker, the projects completed during our term of office under this Municipal Environment Health include the following:

- Development of Landfill sites district wide these include, Mabatlane, Bela Bela, Thabazimbi and Mookgophong,
- Maintenance of Landfill sites district wide
- Sewerage connection in Mookgophong Township and;
- Procurement of Air Quality Monitoring Equipment district wide

Plans are at an advance stage for the establishment and development of the Regional Landfill site in Modimolle that will also include recycling of the waste material.

Honourable Speaker, with regard to food and food handling control, regular inspections of food handling is constantly conducted by our capable Environmental Health Practitioners in all corners of the district.

Training sessions for food caterers at various municipalities have been held to promote safe food handling and good hygiene practices. These initiatives are also aimed at minimising the chances of food borne disease outbreaks and to support the informal economy.

In terms of the surveillance and prevention of communicable diseases, health and hygiene awareness programmes have been conducted targeting various stakeholders and covering various themes to prevent communicable diseases and promote good sanitation practices.

Ladies and gentlemen, one of the tasks under Municipal Health is the monitoring of Initiation schools in the District. We do this in partnership with the Department of Health, the District Traditional Health Practitioners and the House of Traditional Leaders. We are happy to announce that our schools have never experienced any fatalities. We shall be involved in this process as from next month and we are confident that the status quo will remain.

The infection rate for HIV and AIDS in the district continues to be a nightmare which is aggravated by the threat of TB epidemic that has surfaced, especially Multi Drug Resistant (MDR).

The Waterberg District tops the list when compared to other districts in the province with regard to HIV/AIDS infections.

It is perceived that the cause of this epidemic is mainly attributed to high level of unemployment, increased mining industries and drug abuse.

The Waterberg District has successfully established and launched the District AIDS Council which will deal specifically with AIDS and TB issues.

All local municipalities were also assisted in establishing and launching their AIDS Councils.

Regular awareness campaigns are being conducted in hotspot areas such as Lephalale and Thabazimbi.

Disaster Management

The Waterberg District Municipality has also prioritised **Disaster Management** as one of its core functions.

Disaster Management arrangements are designed to deal with all hazards, however, most attention is given to obvious emergencies like fire and transport accidents, a wide range of hazards could be dealt with using disaster management arrangements and resources. Projects completed under this function include amongst others purchasing of:

- Thabazimbi Fire Engine
- Belabela Skid units and equipment
- Early Warning System for Floods line district wide
- Lephalale Disaster Centre Environmental Impact Assessment
- 4X4 Major Urban Rescue Pumper and equipment for the Lephalale Local Municipality
- 4X2 Double Cab fully equipped for Beal-Bela Local Municipality
- Heavy Duty Foam Canon Trailer for Modimolle Local Municipality fire station generator refurbishment in Mogalakwena
- Bela-Bela Medium Pumper Vehicle and equipment
- MDC-4X2 Mobile Command unit

- LDC-1X10000KPA/100 BAR Skid units for Lephale
- Equip 24 hours operating room, mobile house, radio room and control room in Lephale
- Refurbishment of Iveco Fire Truck in Lephale
- 1x communication and alarm system in Mogalakwena

Madam Speaker,

Let me hasten to say that a large junk of our budget has been used to buy this equipment over the years in question.

We still have to do more to make sure that the fire-fighting and disaster unit in general is fully staffed, equipped and financed to deal with disasters in the district.

Madam Speaker coming to,

Infrastructure Development, the following projects were implemented and completed to better the lives of our people in the district:

- Mahwelereng street paving in Mogalakwena local municipality
- Modimolle ring road
- Procurement of diesel generators for all municipal service points,
- BelaBela street paving
- Upgrading and refurbishment of the District Abattoir
- Upgrading of electricity sub-station in Modimolle

- Upgrading of streets in Marapong township in Lephalale
- Installation and upgrading of 3 phase electrification at Ga-Seleka Drop-in-centre in Lephalale
- Electricity upgrade co-funding in Bela-Bela
- Electricity upgrade co-funding in Lephalale
- Thabazimbi water tanker
- Construction of fencing at the District disaster Management centre on the remainder of 1.2 hectares of land donated by Modimolle local municipality
- Upgrading of streets in Regorogile township in Thabazimbi Local municipality.
- Installation of a new Lift in the Waterberg District Municipal Office

Madam Speaker,

Last year during the State of the District Address we reported that National Treasury and the Department of Water Affairs approached and appointed the Waterberg District Municipality to assist three local municipalities with water related infrastructure projects through Municipal Water Infrastructure Grant (MWIG) starting in the 2015/2016 financial year.

An amount of R 30 million was committed for this initiative. The municipalities are Modimolle, Mookgophong and Thabazimbi. The following projects in the three municipalities are at a completion phase:

- Mabatlane Drill, Test and Equipment
- Installation of skeleton network for 1300 erven at Phagameng Extension 13 in Modimolle

- Mabatlane Storage pressure Tower
- Replacement of asbestos pipes in Modimolle Town
- Installation of valves and chambers in Mookgophong
- Drill and equipping of additional boreholes and upgrade network at Roedtan in Mookgophong
- Replacement and refurbishment of 827 water meters in Mookgophong
- Replacement, drill and equip 10 boreholes in Mookgophong
- Development of groundwater for Thabazimbi Town and Regorogile township
- Water supply at Smasher Block and Raphuti/ Leeupoort in Thabazimbi Local Municipality.

Madam Speaker,

The district was also mandated to assist Modimolle Local Municipality with implementation of Municipal Infrastructure Grants (MIG) projects worth R13 million. These projects are currently at completion phase and include:

- Development of a park in Ward 7,
- Phagameng street paving and storm water,
- Street paving at Leseding and the
- Appointment of Project Management Unit PMU to assist with monitoring and provision of technical expertise.

Ladies and gentlemen,

You will recall that during the 2014/2015 financial year, Council took a decision to resuscitate the Waterberg Economic Development Agency (WEDA) which will serve as an advisor, stimulator and partner in the regional economic environment.

To date there has been tremendous progress in trying to make sure that the agency is up and running.

The Board of Directors and the Acting Chief Executive Officers have been appointed and the following activities concerning WEDA are completed:

- Establishment of WEDA`s governance and management structure
- Company registration
- Engagement with Chamber of Mines, Road Agency Limpopo, Department of Mineral Resources, Transnet, SEDA and Leda is ongoing
- Compilation of the operational policies.
- 2016-2021 Strategic Document finalised
- Engagement with private sector on SMME Development and manufacturing is ongoing.

We are confident that WEDA will play a major role in driving economic growth and development and job creation in the district. The official launch of the Agency is planned for the 15th July 2016.

Local Economic Development is one of the priorities of the municipality.

- 9500 temporary and permanent jobs have been created through LED initiatives. These initiatives include the abattoir, beautification project, Community Works Programme, Youth Environmental Services, Tourism Safety Monitoring and Tourism Buddies.
- To create employment at the abattoir, 7 permanent jobs were created in 2013 and one in 2015.
- 196 SMMEs and Cooperatives in agriculture and tourism were supported financially and by buying of feedstock during the past five years.

Good Governance and Public Participation

The municipality has been doing fairly well in terms of engaging and interacting with its communities for the past five years. The following programmes were undertaken since 2011 to date:

- 17 Public Participation Programmes rotating in all local municipalities within the district`s jurisdiction,
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- ❖ Four (4) Nelson Mandela Day celebrations since 2012.
 - 2012 – The Office of the Executive Mayor adopted the Children`s Ward in Mokopane, refurbished two wards and donated toys to the value of ten thousand rand.
 - 2013 - The Office of the Executive Mayor took advantage of this prestigious initiative and donated 15 computers and three printers to F.H. Odendaal Hospital in Modimolle.

- 2014 – The municipality supported the Dira O Direle Drop In Centre in Phagameng Township, Modimolle and donate cooking equipment, 32 pairs of school shoes and groceries for needy children attending at the Centre.
- 2015 -The highlight was when we built a beautiful house for Malema`s family at Ga- Mathapo village in Mogalakwena local Municipality. The house was handed over to the family in October 2015.
- ❖ 5 Batho Pele Programmes were also hosted annually to sensitise public servants on work ethics and etiquette.
- ❖ 5 Women`s Day events were held each year during the month of August to commemorate the role played by women in the struggle for liberation
- ❖ 4 Farm Workers programmes (making strides to take services to farm workers and dwellers),
- ❖ 8 HIV and AIDS programmes – (Launching of the District Aids Council, awareness Campaigns, Voluntary Testing and Counselling and TB awareness campaigns)
- ❖ Launch the District International Health Organisation for Migration – (focusing on the protection, health and plight of foreign internationals within the district)
- ❖ Three 16 Days of No Violence Against Women and Children

Honourable members,

These were coupled with a number of sporting activities embarked upon to unearth talent and promoting the healthy life style. Some of the projects and programmes successfully implemented since 2011 include:

- ❖ Annual Mayoral Road Race (Marathon) which started in 2012 and has been promoting social cohesion between all categories of people in the district.
- ❖ Mayoral Golf Day held from 2011 to date in trying to reinforce the relationship and partnership with the business sector.

- ❖ Mobilised a donation in the form of Gym equipment to the amount of R1.2 million donated by the Limpopo Sports Academy in conjunction with the Lottery.
 - The equipment has been housed at Settlers High School and used by our sport federations during their camping sessions.
- ❖ **On education matters**, we have hosted the District Matric Awards since 2012 in partnership with the Department of Education. This initiative has improved the quality of results in the district and we are hopeful that this trend will continue.
- ❖ The Executive Mayor`s bursary fund has assisted 24 learners from disadvantaged families with registration at institutions of higher learning.

- ❖ In partnership with UNISA, we distributed 15 000 books to Seoketseng High School library in Lephhalale Local Municipality. We do this in the belief and conviction that education is a societal issue.

Arts and Culture

The district has been able to host its cultural days celebrated at Makapans Valley World Heritage Site in Mokopane from 2011 to 2013. The celebrations were aimed at preserving the culture of various tribes of people found within the Waterberg District Municipality especially the Mandelebe tribe who preserves a rich history of the site.

The municipality also took some strides to engage about 3 000 offenders in Modimolle prison celebrating the 2014 Heritage Day with an endeavour to remind them of the cultures and re-uniting them with communities.

Implementation of the Spatial Planning and land use Management Act (SPLUMA)

Madam Speaker,

The pre-1994 settlement patterns, which resulted in uneven land allocation and service levels, segregation, extreme poverty and dependence, found accommodation in many planning laws at all levels of government.

While the Development Facilitation Act (DFA) represents a significant attempt at addressing these unacceptable settlement patterns, this piece of legislation did not repeal the pre-1994 pieces of legislation on planning. The net effect is that many pre-1994 planning laws remain in operation.

This regulatory framework has a direct impact on the country in the following ways:

- ❖ Economically: it impedes investment in land development and fails to establish sufficient certainty in the land market;
- ❖ Spatially: it fails to address the segregated and unequal spatial patterns inherited from apartheid; and
- ❖ Environmentally: it does not balance the country's socio-economic needs with those of environmental conservation.

The continued operation of these multiple pieces of planning laws renders the entire planning system inefficient, costly and confusing, and therefore does not support a number of objectives of the government.

South Africa's cities, towns and settlements need to be restructured to reflect the priorities and principles of the democratic government. The restructuring of the settlement structure and patterns is crucial for sustainable, efficient, equitable and effective service delivery. It is a precondition for maximising the use of scarce resources.

SPLUMA seeks to bridge the racial divide in spatial terms and to transform the settlement patterns of this country in a manner that gives effect to the key constitutional provisions.

SPLUMA provides for municipalities to play their developmental role effectively through the application of directive principles, land use schemes in decision-making with regard to land use and land development, and stipulates that municipalities be the primary land use regulators.

The provisions of SPLUMA support the environmental legislation and other laws applicable to the municipal sphere. 6 local municipalities' (Bela-Bela, Lephalale, Mogalakwena, Lephalale, Modimolle and Thabazimbi) supports district municipal planning tribunal and will participate in the tribunal.

The District Municipal Planning Tribunal has been appointed in line with Section 36 of the SPLUMA.

Members of the Tribunal have been gazetted on the government gazette No 2689 dated 18 March 2016 and the commencement of the tribunal was on the date of publication of the gazette.

All members attended an elementary training on the 16th May 2016. Cosmetic logistical arrangements regarding the functionality of the Tribunal are in the process of being finalised.

Madam Speaker,

Let me also indicate that the stability and functionality of Council since 2011 to date was splendid. The relationship between councillors both from the ruling party and opposition parties was superb and harmonious.

The Traditional Leadership institution also played a critical role in terms of assisting the district to achieve its developmental objectives.

Credit goes to the Chairperson of the Local House Kgoshigadi Taueatsoalo who don't miss even a single activity of the district. She is always at reach and available through thick and thin.

We however, also take this opportunity to pay tribute to Kgoshigadi Shongoane who was part of this council and past on last year (May her soul rest in perfect peace).

Our programmes on support to Traditional leadership displayed positives. We can proudly confirm that our relationship with Traditional Leaders in this district is amongst the most appreciated and supportive in the province.

We successfully hosted two events on the opening of the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders at Bakone Traditional Council and Lephalale Municipality in 2013 and 2016 respectively.

The district hosted capacity building workshops in an endeavour to empower traditional leaders in as far as operations of local government is concerned.

The Office of the Executive Mayor allocated tools of trade in the form of laptops to all traditional leaders within the district to enable them ease communication with their stakeholders, municipalities being primary institutions.

The leadership core represented in this chamber, both elected and appointed, take responsibility in making sure that we maintain the respect and sound interaction with our traditional leaders.

As part of providing support to institutions of traditional leaders, the Office of the Executive Mayor contributed 50 chairs, a Computer, printer and refurbished Offices of the Traditional Council of Batlokwa in Mattenau – Ga Kgoshi Machaka.

Chairperson of the Local House – we want to eexpress our heartfelt gratitude for your endless and tireless efforts in making local government work for our people. ***“Mpsa pedi ga di shitwe ke sebata”*** le gona bagologolo ba re ***“Mphiri o tee ga o lle”***

2016/2017 Budget

Madam Speaker,

In terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003, ***‘The Municipal council must at least 30-days before the start of the budget year consider approval of the Annual Budget’***

It is from this legislated mandate that we are converged here today, exactly 31 days before the end of the financial year, to present to council and the community of Waterberg our 2016/2017 Integrated Development Plan and Budget.

This budget was prepared in terms of National Treasury, MFMA, Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations. The growth parameters were calculated based on the average CPIX and guidance of Circular 79 as 6,6% in 2016/2017, 6.2% in 2017/2018 and 5.9% in 2018/2019 financial years.

Madam Speaker,

Your goodselves will agree with me that Waterberg District Municipality does not provide bulk services and therefore only dependent on grants in terms of the Division of Revenue Act (DORA). The 2016/2017 IDP Budget Process Plan was adopted by Council on the 31st August 2015.

The Process plan was followed to the latter and consultation with stakeholders and communities were conducted. It is worth mentioning that our IDP document was rated credible by the MEC for COGHSTA from 2011 to date.

Madam Speaker,

The total budgeted revenue for the financial year 2016/2017 amounts to **R 130 320 900**. This is a decrease of 15% as compared to the 2015/2016 Original Budget, primarily due to not receiving Municipal Water Infrastructure Grant (MWIG) and Municipal Health allocations for the 2016/2017 financial period.

The 2015/2016 mid-year performance assessment was conducted in February 2016 which determined the 2015/2016 Adjustment Budget and formed the baseline of drafting the 2016/2017 Operating Expenditure Budget (both zero-based and incremental budgeting were used). Income amount was based on the 2016/2017 DORA issued in March 2016.

Council operates an Abattoir, which is a trading service. The trading service is supposed to break even, but is currently running at a loss. The Abattoir has a budgeted operating loss of **R 6.353 300** for 2016/2017 financial year as compared to (**R 5. 636 400** for 2015/2016).

In order to keep the current customer base and also to attract new customers, no tariff increase is proposed at the abattoir. An amount of **R1.847 900** is provided for income from the abattoir and disclosed as service charges.

Disaster Management and Fire Fighting still tops the priority list with an overall budget of **R 33 931 140.00** allocated to this function which is year-on-year increase of 3.4%. The total fire-fighting and disaster management function thus constitute 25% of the total operating budget excluding the IDP capital expenditure portion.

The fire fighting service is rendered by local municipalities on behalf of the WDM and claims are submitted on a regular basis. Provision of **R 15 961 200** is allocated to all local municipalities and this represent 11.2% of the operating budget.

The reason for lower year-on-year increase is due to a detailed inspection of local municipal payslips resulting in a more accurate projection of salaries per local municipality

The provision of fighting per municipality is allocated as follows:

Bela Bela Municipality	-	R 1 285 400
Lephalale Municipality	-	R 2 894 100
Mogalakwena Municipality	-	R 6 463 500
Modimolle Municipality	-	R 2 473 300
Mookgophong Municipality	-	R 1 399 000
Thabazimbi Municipality	-	R 1 445 900

Ladies and gentlemen,

Municipal Health is one of our core services as the district municipality. We allocated **R 20 267 200** which is a year-on-year increase of 8%. This includes personnel costs for 30 officials.

National government has stopped funding for 2016/2017 financial period as the subsidy was only for the first three years of providing this service to the district municipality.

Municipal Health and Firefighting services are costing the municipality a total amount of **R 55 849 840** for both functions, thus wholly unfunded mandate expenditure.

The total operating expenditure budget including the IDP portion amounts to **R 153 800 900**. excluding the IDP project expenditure, this is a decrease of 7.8% as compared to the previous year`s budget.

The MFMA Circular 79 only allows for a maximum of 6% year-on-year increase and the municipality is thus within the prescribed parameters.

Council`s personnel expenditure was based on the Government Gazette Determination of Earnings Threshold of January 2014 plus an annual increase of 7.6% in 2016/2017. The budget is now compiled on a Grade 4.

For personnel expenditure, provision is made for general increase of 7.6% for all employees. The SALGA Wage Curve Agreement has lapsed, however National Treasury recommends a budget increase on personnel expenditure of CPIX of 6.6% plus 1%.

Performance bonuses for Section 57 Managers were budgeted for all managers who were anticipated to be employed by council for at least one year as at 30th June 2017, thus now including all 7 Managers, which has resulted in the 92.4% year-on year increase in performance bonus budget.

Expenditure per Vote

A department constitute a vote as per the MFMA definition.
The following provisions were made per department:

Budget & Treasury	R 18 816 700
Office of Municipal Manager	R 9 583 830
Corporate Services	R 19 740 900
Planning & Economic Development	R 8 731 250
Infrastructure Development	R 8 346 400
Executive Support Office	R 22 323 432
Social Development & Community Services	R 3 428 875
Disaster Management& Fire Fighting	R 34 466 140
Municipal Environmental Health	R 20 267 200
Abattoir	R 8 201 200
TOTAL	R153 800 927

Madam Speaker,

We strongly believe that this is a fair distribution of limited resources of the municipality and aligned to the key thrusts of local government.

In terms of Section 539 (c) of the Municipal Finance Management Act, “*the Mayor of the municipality must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the municipality’s Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) is approved 28 days after the approval of the budget*”

Our Management Team will ensure that same has been developed and will be presented to Executive Mayor for sign off to ensure effective implementation of the budget and projects that we are approving today.

We once again believe that our ability to strengthen the cohesion and partnerships that we have already built is fundamental to the sustainability of the achievements made thus far in our district.

Ladies and gentlemen, we owe maximum words of thanks to the following stakeholders who are tirelessly contributing to the success of the Waterberg District Municipality:

- ✓ Local municipalities who are always very frank and cooperative during the joint community consultation sessions and integration of plans.
- ✓ The Waterberg Community who responded positively to our public participation processes and contributed towards the drafting of these budget and IDP.

- ✓ Mayoral Committee Members and councillors from both the ruling and opposition parties who were always there to respond to the questions raised by our electorates.
- ✓ Management and Staff under the leadership of our Municipal Manager Mr. Sam Mabotja, for having worked hard to ensure that the aspirations and wishes of our community get the necessary attention.
- ✓ The support and role played by our Limpopo Provincial Government, National Government, SALGA, Business partners, Mining Houses, Media Houses, Traditional leaders, Traditional Healers, Youth and all stakeholders in local government is also acknowledged and appreciated.

One of our late political icon, *Tata Nelson Mandela once said “We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in your hands to make a difference”*

Madam Speaker,

It is with great pleasure for me to present to you the Waterberg District Municipality `s 2016/2017 Integrated Development Plan and Budget for consideration and approval by council.

**I THANK YOU, BAIE DANKIE,
KE A LEBOGA!!!!**

