

**IDP REPRESENTATIVE FORUM**

**17 AUGUST 2022**

**THABAZIMBI**

**11H00**

***Programme Director and Speaker of the District Cde.  
Molokomme,***

***The Mayor of Thabazimbi Local Municipality Cllr. Swanepoel,  
Mayors present,***

***The Chairperson of the Local House of Traditional Leaders,  
Inkosi MAhlangu,***

***The Chief Whip of the District Cde. Monare,***

***Speakers present***

***MMC`s***

***All Councillors,***

***Representatives of the Sector Departments***

***The District Municipal Manager, Mr. Preciousstone Raputsoa,***

***Senior Managers***

***IDP Coordinators,***

***CBO`s***

***NGO`s***

***Ladies and gentlemen.***

It is a great honour and privilege for me to be given an opportunity to deliver some few remarks during this first IDP Representative Forum.

I'm not going to bore our beloved stakeholders with political sentiments rather to allude to the provisions of legislation governing planning cycle within the local government sector.

Programme Director, the relationship between government and citizens is very important.

Ultimately government is accountable to citizens for decisions taken at a macro, community and individual levels.

At community level, government should consult and involve communities in discussions about projects and programmes that directly affect them. This ranges from consultation around informal settlements, infrastructure upgrades, economic development and community safety issues.

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights guarantee all citizens the rights to decent, fair and equitable services.

The Promotion of Access to Information Act (2000) further gives people the right to get access to all kinds of government information that were previously hidden from the public.

Chapter 4, Section 16 of the Municipal Systems Act, provides for municipalities to develop a culture of municipal governance that compliments formal representative government with a system of participatory governance and must for this purpose encourage the local communities to participate in the affairs of the municipality.

Programme Director, community participation is a principle that is accepted by all spheres of government in South Africa.

Community participation is one of the cornerstone of our democracy and has equal benefits for politicians, Public Servants and Civil Society.

Consultations help municipalities make more appropriate decisions based on the real needs of the people.

The more informed people are, the better they will understand what we are trying to do and what the budget and resource limitations are.

Public representatives can only purport to be accountable if they have regular interactions with the people they represent and if they consult and report back on key government decisions.

As municipalities, we cannot address all the developmental needs on our own and therefore, partnerships are needed with other spheres of government, communities, civil society and business to improve service delivery and development all in the name of the District Development Model.

Every Municipality has to draw up an Integrated Development Plan (IDP), which is a super plan that gives a framework for development.

The IDP must address the needs of the people in the area, draws in stakeholders and other spheres of government and plans for infrastructure and Local Economic Development, and further,

- Coordinates the work of local and other spheres of government in a coherent plan to improve the quality of life for all our people as per the manifesto of the ruling party (ANC).

Our IDP should take into account the existing conditions, problems and resources available for development.

It must set out a framework of how land must be used, what infrastructure and services are needed and how the environment should be protected.

According to Section 27 of the Municipal Systems Act of 2000, all municipalities are compelled to undertake an integrated planning process, which is to be reviewed annually.

As municipalities we are required to prepare strategic development plans for a 5 year period with all IDP Phases being conducted.

Once the IDP is drawn up, all municipal planning and projects must happen in terms of its provisions. It should also guide the planning of National and Provincial governments working within the jurisdiction of our municipal area.

The process plan that we are currently engaged in today ensures the planning process of the IDP linked to the deadlines as per legislation. This will further be elaborated more during the presentations still to be shared.

Of most important, Programme Director, is to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of what we will be planning. Our stakeholders as well, has an obligation to monitor progress of whatever projects we will be implementing as municipalities.

Finally, Programme Director, we want to encourage the district, its local municipalities and all sector departments to work together in undertaking the legislative requirements on service delivery and hence the need for integrated planning of all spheres of government.

**THANK YOU !!!**