

EMLMnews

SPECIAL EDITION September 2022 "WE MUST **FOREVER REALISE THAT** THE TIME IS **ALWAYS RIPE** TO DO RIGHT" Nelson Mandela

The mayor opened his address by reminding attendees of the importance of serving the communities of Elias Motsoaledi and their mandate as the local government, which is informed by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa under Section 152. CLLR David Tladi reiterated the importance of the municipality's role in making life better for residents, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.



OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

During the IDP and Budget consultations, poor households were identified. These communities need:

- Roads infrastructure
- Water and sanitation
- Electricity
- · Health services
- Support for Small, Medium and Macro Enterprises (SMMEs) and
- Eradication of a higher rate of unemployment, which contributes to high levels of poverty.

OUR FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The financial position of the municipal was relatively stable and, as per the National Treasury Analysis, caution should be paid to the spending pattern, as revenue generation streams still need to be strengthened. The major sent an appeal to residents about the importance of residents paying for rates and services rendered; as the funds received are critical in making sure that the municipality continues delivering the best services.



ON ELECTRICITY

Our municipality is faced with challenges of electricity infrastructure theft, vandalism of substations, dilapidation of infrastructure and illegal connections, which are costing the municipality millions of rands in losses yearly.

- 6934 households were registered on the free basic electricity register.
- Only 1579 were configured by Eskom to receive free basic electricity.
- Over 1778 households benefited from free electricity project 2020/2021 budget.



ROADS, BRIDGES AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE PROJECTS

The municipality embarked on various construction projects to provide reliable and efficient transport mobility infrastructure for communities.

PROJECTS COMPLETED:

- Tambo Road Construction (3.25Km)
- Laersdrift Bus Route Phase 1B (1.63km)
- Kgoshi Rammupudu Construction of Access Road Phase 2 (2.2km)
- Mogaung Construction Access Road Phase 2 (2.1 km)
- Motetema Internal Streets (1.3Km)
- · Construction of Fleet Centre

CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS:

- Upgrading of Dipakapakeng Access Road, Bridge and Stormwater control.
- Kgaphamadi Construction of Bus Route, Bridge and Stormwater Control (5.5km).



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THE MUNICIPALITY'S PLANNED UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

These projects are planned to commence in the next financial year of 2022/2023.

- Upgrading of Tafelkop stadium access road (5.5km + bridge) is budgeted at R27 million
- Upgrading of Uitspanning A to Bloempoort access road (6km) is budgeted at R27 million
- upgrading of Nyakurane internal street, access road and stormwater control is budgeted at R4.6-million
- Groblersdal construction and refurbishment of the existing landfill site is budgeted for R4 million
- Electrification of Masakaneng (215 HH) is budgeted at R3.9-million
- Electrification of Makaepea (162 HH) is budgeted at R3.2-million
- Electrification of Nyakelang (190 HH) is budgeted at R3.8-million
- Electrification of Phomola (100 HH) is budgeted at R2 million
- Electrification of Phooko (200 HH) is budgeted at R4 million
- Electrification of Belfasts (70 HH) is budgeted at R1.6-million
- Electrification of Maphepha (75 HH) is budgeted at R1.7-million
- Electrification of Mmotewaneng (220) is budgeted at R4.4-million

We also have design only projects earmarked for 2022/23 financial year that amount to R5.7-million. The municipality is also working hard to continue offering state of the art solid waste management and disposal, library services and special programme unit.

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING & LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CLLR David Tladi also reminded the attendees of the municipality's role of being a catalyst to development, by creating conducive conditions for economic growth and development. Projects that were underway including:

- The LED division is currently implementing are Agri-Park Hub Development, co-operative and SMMEs support, Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), Community Works Programme (CWP) and Business Licensing.
- A collaborative effort between the Department of Public Works has managed to create 1191 work opportunities through the EPWP and CWP programmes.
- The construction of Sekhukhune Skills
 Development Centre has created 80 contract-based employment opportunities.
- And the relocation of 50 informal traders at Aquaville R25 road to the space in front of our landfill site.
- The construction of Tafelkop Mall in ward 25 and the construction of the Sehlakwane shopping complex in ward 16 by Sekhukhune.
- The council has also approved the sale of 1338 stands in portion 39 of farm Klipbank 26Js for the new financial year.



REVENUE GENERATION ASSUMPTIONS

The total grants allocated to the municipality, in terms of the 2023 Division of Revenue Bill, amounts to R418 million over the medium-term, reflecting an increase of R31 million (7.4%) over the 2022 DoRA allocation.

- The operating revenue budget for 2022/2023 amounts to R601 million, which reflects an increase of R55 million over the 2021/2022 operating revenue budget.
- This is tantamount to an increase of 9.1%.
- The audited operating revenue amounts to R517 million for 2020/21.
- The base assumption is that tariff and rate increases will increase at the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate over the long term.

The Mayor stated that to fund the budget the municipality will have to implement an inflationary increase in goods and services required, and we do need to adjust our tariffs reasonably.

THE TARIFF INCREASES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Energy regulator, NERSA, has approved a 9.6% tariff increase, starting April 2022. This figure accounts for a 3.49% increase in 2022/23.
- The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality tariff will increase by 4.8% and be implemented accordingly. The increase is calculated taking into account the affordability of the community that we serve.
- The Property Rates tariff will increase in 2022/2023 on average by 4.8%, which is in line with the CPI.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

The total operating expenditure budget for 2022/2023 amounts to R597 million, reflecting the increase of R71 million over the 2021/2022 budget year, which is equivalent to an increase of 13%. The increases on key expenditure cost drivers will be as follows in 2022/2023:

- The employees' remuneration cost; bulk purchases and contracted services amount to R185 million; R110 million and R63 million, respectively.
- These make up 60% of the total operating expenditure.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

- The total capital expenditure for 2022/2023 amounts to R98 million and reflects an increase of R4 million over 2021/2022 adjusted budget.
- The difference in the capital budget for the two financial years is due to an increase in internally funded projects and Municipal Infrastructure Grant as per DoRA.

2022/2023 Capital Expenditure will be funded mainly from capital conditional grants allocation and internally generated funds as follows:

- R62.6-million Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), specifically for roads projects;
- R17-million Integrated National Electrification Programme for electricity reticulation;
- R18-million internally generated funds.

The Mayor shared his hope that the budget will go a long way to create hope in these challenging times and contribute to making life "to be the best together".

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ELIAS MOTSOALEDI MUNICIPALITY MOVING SERVICE DELIVERY FORWARD.

The unveiling of the Elias Motsoaledi Municipal's new fleet of service delivery vehicles is the municipality's show of commitment to improving service delivery. The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, Cllr David Tladi, unveiled the new fleet of vehicles at Bakgaga-Bakopa Sports Ground during the State of the Municipal Address (SOMA) in ward 26 last month.

The new fleet consists of two refuse trucks, two tipper trucks, two TLB backhoe loaders, one excavator, one bell motor grader, one skip loader and one flat deck TLB trailer. According to the mayor, the new fleet will ensure that the municipality delivers consistent services to its constituency without fail, with the intent to improve the services offered to the villages in the municipal. The MMC responsible for infrastructure services, Cllr Msiza M.R, said the newly purchased assets were mainly for maintenance and construction work.





EMLM MAYOR COMMITS TO UPLIFTING YOUTH

The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), Cllr David Tladi, said the municipality is forever committed to the development of young people and recognises that they are not just the future of the community but leaders. Tladi said this during the EMLM State of the Municipal Address (SOMA). Mayor Tladi spoke about the municipality's various academic programmes offered to the youth of EMLM in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA). These programmes include the training and bursaries offered to uplift young people.

The Mayor added that the partnership is a remarkable success:

- It has enrolled 25 students in the field of electrical mechanics; these students have completed their training and are soon to be artisans.
- 30 Diesel Mechanical students have been placed in our various programmes.
- 25 students are doing carpentry and will complete their third year in November.

The Mayor indicated that the construction of the Sekhukhune Skills Development Centre in Elias Motsoaledi; contributes to the Department of Higher Education and Training's Decade of Artisan initiative while also developing critical artisanal skills. This centre is in line with the National Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan which aims to train about 30 000 artisans by the year 2030.

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Physical Address

2 Globler Avenue, Groblersdal, 0470

Postal Address

PO Box 48, Groblersdal, 0470

Telephone Number: 013 262 3056 Fax Number: 013 262 2547 www.eliasmotsoaledi.gov.za