



**BUDGET SPEECH: BY THE MAYOR OF ELIAS MOTSOALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,  
COUNCILOR WINDY MATLAKALANA MATEMANE AT COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
GROBLERSDAL.**

Acting Honorable Speaker

Members of the executive Committee

Leaders of all political parties

Traditional leaders

Acting Municipal manager and Officials

Members of the media

Distinguish guest

Good Afternoon!

Acting Honorable Speaker, thank you for the opportunity given to me to table the 2014/2015 budget speech. This speech is dedicated to the memory of the late President Nelson Mandela, the son of the soil and the greatest South African Icon that has ever lived. We believe that his spirit will guide us as we continue to build South Africa forward. May his undying spirit live amongst us. South Africa is a democratic country because of his immeasurable contributions.

Acting Honorable Speaker, this year South Africa is celebrating 20 years of freedom and democracy. It prides us as residents of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality to have contributed to the 20 years of service delivery.

Acting Honorable Speaker let me also take this opportunity to congratulate all political parties that participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> democratic election and Congratulate the ANC to remain the ruling party.

### **Service delivery is imperative**

Acting Honorable Speaker, this speech explains performance of the municipality on how IDP and budget for 2013/2014 were implemented, and it also describes the work done by the municipality in fulfilling constitutional mandate.

### **BILLING AND TARRIFS**

Cognizance should be taken that Elias Motsoaledi has been rendering water and sanitation services on behalf of Sekhukhune District municipality on a 70/30% agreement, however it has been resolved that from 2014/15 financial year those services will be handled by the District Municipality.

In this current financial year the overall income of the municipality increased by 7% compared to 2013/2014 financial year.

- The district increased water tariffs by 10% and sewerage by 13%
- Electricity tariffs increased by 7% in line with NERSA Tariff approval
- Refuse intariffscreased by 6%.

In October, November, December 2012 and January 2013 the municipality was experiencing challenges of sending customers account in time, but now as I speak there is an improvement.

### **REFUSE REMOVAL AND ILLEGAL DUMPING**

Acting Honourable Speaker, the municipality has achieved its objective of increasing number of households with access to waste removal by extended the service to Elandsdooring Township, Tambo Square Township and Walter Sisulu Township. The services increased the number of households with access waste removal from 9331 to 9584

Furthermore the municipality also provided ten (10) skips which were placed at strategic areas in rural villages to decrease the number of illegal dumping sites.



Our Municipality has licensed land fill sites in Groblersdal, Roosenekal and transfer station in Hlogotlou.

### **BURSARIES**

The Municipality assisted 37 students with bursaries to pay for their registration fees amounted to R121 590.00 in 2012/2013 Financial year. In this current financial year we are proud to announce that Seventy Seven (77) students benefitted from Mayor's Bursary fund, 49 of them have enrolled at Sekhukhune FET College CS Barlow Campus and 28 went to various national institutions at the cost of R 196 320 for 2014 academic year.

### **Capacitating Building**

The Municipality has developed capacity programme for both councilors and officials to meet the minimum requirement.

### **REPAIR AND MAINTANANCE**

Acting Honourable Speaker, at the beginning of the financial year the adopted IDP had nine (09) capital projects for roads, 04 of them were MIG funded and other 05 were municipal funded. Due to the financial constraints some roads projects were removed during budget Adjustment. We managed to complete all MIG roads consisting of 21,3km. We were able to regravell some of our municipal roads. Repairs, Maintenance and patching of potholes are also high in the list of priority. The municipality resolved to strive to come up with more revenue generating projects to sustain and maintain our existing road infrastructure.

### **PROVISION OF ELECTRICITY**

Acting Honorable Speaker, I am proud to announce that 47473 households in EliasMotsoaledi have access to basic electricity and 800 households receive free basic electricity which is approximately 96%.



## **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Section 152 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa states clearly that local government should support economic development initiatives.

In terms of SMME Development, the municipality hosted a successful Small Business Expo in partnership with MTN Foundation, LEDA and Sekhukhune District Municipality, wherein SMMEs and Cooperatives from all over the District got an opportunity to showcase their products. Not only did the Exhibitors benefited from this event but also the two black owned Guest Houses i.e. Ephephia and Sedupe Guest houses benefitted because they were fully booked for the two days of the event.

We must also share with stakeholders that we were identified by the Dti as one of the 12 pilot municipalities in the country to implement the Red Tape Reduction Program and as a result of that our Supply Chain policy was reviewed and we are now able to pay our service providers within 14 days.

Mapoch's Mine is also implementing its Social Labour Plan as expected by the Department of Minerals and 17 permanent jobs were created through Indigenous Nursery project. In terms of Tourism. We attended the Annual Tourism Indaba which was held in Durban and we benefited from the programme.

We are currently reviewing the LED Strategy and we hope that it will identify implementable LED programs which can be able to create real jobs also sustain our SMMEs.

We must also compliment the National Government for introducing the new Ministry of Small Business Development which will assist our SMMEs.



## ON BUDGET

Acting Honorable Speaker, the budget we are presenting seeks to address the service delivery Challenges that were raised by our communities during the IDP/Budget Consultation meetings.

This budget accords us an opportunity to assess our service delivery Performance and challenges and to check our planning patterns for efficiency and effectiveness.

Honorable Speaker, The core principle of this budget will amongst others include:

- Getting value for money - In short this speaks to procurement of goods.
- Ensure that there is financial accountability
- Ensure that over time we achieve financial sustainability and abolish our reliance on grants to operate.

Acting Honorable Speaker, it is important to note that the municipality is receiving financial assistance from other spheres of government in the form of grants as gazetted in the DoRA 2014/15. The following are grants allocated for Elias Motsoaledi local municipality for 2014/15 financial year:

- 166.920 million for Equitable share
- 1.6 million for Financial management grant
- 934 thousand for Municipal systems improvement grant
- 1.187 million for Extended public works programme
- 50.840 million for Municipal infrastructure grant

Cognizance should be taken that these grants are playing a very pivotal role in funding both the operating and capital budget.

### Operational Budget

Fellow councillors, our operating budget for the financial year 2014/15 is **R291.496m** which is a decrease of 0.38 percent totaling **R1.1m** as compared to 2013/14 adjustment budget. This decrease is attributed to National Treasury Instruction letter number 01 that encourages municipalities to keep items such as overtime, entertainment, etc at minimum level. The budget was also aligned to 2013/14 year to date actual and as a result, line items that are under spending were adjusted downwards when preparing this budget. It is our role to ensure that we get value for money when implementing this budget.



## Capital Budget

**R77.290m** is the amount appropriated for our capital budget for the financial year 2014/15 as compared to the **R71.842** million for 2013/14 financial year which indicates the growth of 10%. Below are salient projects that are included amongst others in the capital Budget:

- 14.550 million for electrical projects
- 700 thousand for Municipal equipments
- 2 million Highmast Lights
- 1.5 million for town planning's
- 500 thousand for development of Groblersdal park
- 60.040 million For infrastructure projects that are primarily comprised of construction and rehabilitation of roads.

Our total budget for the 2014/15 financial year is **R368.786m** that is made up of operating budget of R291. 496 m that includes non cash items and a capital budget of R77.290m. This reflects 10 percent increase as compared to 2013/14 total budget.



## **In conclusion**

Acting Honorable speaker, I want to thank the Community of Elias Motsoaledi for their active participation in our IDP program. We also want to thank everybody who took time to study the draft budget and sent in comments and suggestion.

Lets join hands together as we are moving SouthAfrica forward and speeding up service delivery,

Acting Honorable Speaker, I therefore table the 2014/2015 financial year budget to this August house to consider.

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves (Romans 13:1-2)

**I thank you!**

**Modimo a leboloke !!!!!**

