

**MAYOR ADDRESS AT STAKEHOLDERS ROUND  
TABLE ENGAGEMENT MEETING WITH THE  
DEVELOPMENTAL PARTNERS**

**25 JULY 2014**

**Groblersdal Agricultural Hall**

**Programme Director,**

**MEC CoGHSTA ,and your entourage**

**Speaker, Clr Mahlangu**

**Whip of the Council, Clr Phahlamohlaka**

**My Fellow Executive Committee Members,**

**Magoshi a Rena,**

**Members of the Business Fraternity**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

I extend sincere warm greetings to you all and thank you  
for gracing this special occasion with your presence.

The day was long for the leadership of our municipality,

and we are humbled by the fact that you spared us a moment amidst your busy schedule to come and be part of this engagement session.

This evening, we deliberately made it available to you as partners in development for the purpose of sharing innovative ideas on how to make our municipality a better place to invest in.

During the day, Programme Director, we joined our communities with hands on the deck, “making it visible in **launching the 100 Days Programme Making Each Day as a Mandela Day**”, **cleaning our cemeteries**. It was a sense of fulfilment for us to see the determination and sense of worth from the team and community contributing their 67 minutes of service.

It is not my intention, Programme Director, to make a long speech, taking into account that it was indeed a long day for all of us.

Allow me to sum up, the vision of the Exco, and why this engagement session.

- 1) We will be going on the **Strategic Review Planning Session in the coming weeks**, and we

saw it necessary to listen informally and formally to all our development strategic partners- including you who are all converged here tonight.

2) Our priority is to **streamline and efficiently turn around the service delivery programmes for maximum results for the remainder of this council term.** We however, realised that, we cannot do this alone. I therefore, **extend a hand to you all, to walk hand in hand with us, to better the lives of our people.**

3) Programme Director, it is common knowledge that as the municipality we create a “conducive environment “for the business operations to thrive and attract investment. This we will do, as our **Local Economic Development Strategy** is in the process of being adopted. The LED strategy will be the basis for the economic development focus areas for our municipality.

4) Now, the collective here, is challenged to **come on board, with your expertise, to support** the municipality in its efforts to realise the economic development. Let us get our people back to work

**and create job opportunities to promote self-reliance.**

After the strategic review session, the various sectors will be informed on the short term, medium and long term strategic thrusts.

Programme Director, on behalf of the collective leadership of the municipality- We pledge to these development partners here tonight that our doors will be open and our ears listening to all of you for innovative service delivery proposals to fast track development. This municipality have a potential for economic growth, more so that it is identified as one of the economic nodal points in the province.

The bonus factor is we have abundant land, and we are inviting you the potential investors to think big, out of the box, robustly on how to unleash the economic development in our area which will create jobs, and sustainable jobs to get our people back at work,

The envisaged strategic development programmes and projects should contribute to local beneficiation and

investment attraction so that Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality can be the better place than it was before to 1994.

Programme Director, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is one thing to dream, and visualise the aspirations for improving the people's lives; it is the other to realistically commit to take each step at a time for visible results. Together, with the management team, we remain focus that within these 100 days, we will travel the lengths and breadths of our municipality to listen to all stakeholders forging for partnership – for the purpose of improving service delivery. We request for your patience, when we knock at your technical expertise and resource doors to make this happen.

We are well aware that, our revenue base is in the red- more so that we are grant dependent municipality. With a population of quarter of a million in all the 30 wards, to serve, it is a high toll on government alone, hence our call to you the business community to partner with us.

We, plan to finalise the **tenure upgrading of the areas where we will be re-launching the Masakhane**

**programme**, so that we can encourage our people to pay for the services gradually until the areas are fully proclaimed.

These are **our development precincts**:

- Tambo township
- Moteti
- Tafelkop Stadium View

We believe that the programme to phase-in services such as refuse removal in these areas will go a long way and sustain the culture of paying for the services by our people. The business fraternity is encouraged to think out of the box, and present to the municipality on new service delivery models which will make an impact.

Programme Director; allow me to extend the words of gratitude and thanks to the management team under the leadership of Mr Phala, for working tirelessly in making today's series of events a success. I have no doubt that our people have heard us, and ours is to hit the ground running and be servant leaders in executing the people's contract mandate.

A Good evening to you all!

Thank you.