

STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS PRESENTED BY EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF
LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, CLLR NKOSINJANI SPEELMAN AT
COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THE 30 MARCH 2015

Honorable Madam Speaker,
Chief Whip of the ruling party,
Chairperson of the MPAC,
Members of the Mayoral Committee,
Members of the opposition parties,
Honorable Councilors,
Municipal Manager,
Senior Managers and officials present,
Members of the media
Our distinguished Guest,
Ladies and gentlemen.

We assemble here today to define in succinct terms how we will continue to tackle the triple challenges of **poverty, unemployment and inequality**. However, we are saddened by the barbaric killings and rape of innocent people in Bultfontein. Whoever who is behind the rampant gangsterism in our communities will be dealt with severely by the organs of the law. Honourable Butana Komphela will be visiting that area in the next week or so.

Madam Speaker as from the April 7- 12 it's a National Imbizo week where we are expected to meet with the communities. The week of 12 -20 April is a China week where a delegation from China would also visit our district exploring investment possibilities.

Madam Speaker, It is important for all of us to take queue from what the State of President National address and the Premier State of the Province address. Doing that shows coherence and unity that SA is one and therefore we should work together to enhance service delivery. The ANC remains committed to ensuring that we achieve the following objectives in local government

- Implementing free basic services for indigent households and to support municipalities where they lack capacity
- Guide municipalities to ensure compliance with legislative requirements in respect of municipal revenue, financial management and sustainability
- Ensure infrastructure grants are utilized optimally and used for their intended purpose
- Implement the Back to Basics strategy
- Connect and interact with communities, reporting back regularly and ensuring public participation
- Ensure that local government is responsive, accountable, effective and efficient
- Provide support and coordination to poor municipalities so they are able to implement infrastructure capital and maintenance plans

The Back to Basics Strategy in the Free State was launched in October 2014. The implementation of this strategy will ensure that we get the basics right, breathe new life into our municipalities and improve service delivery. Ensure speedy implementation of the Back to Basics strategy five pillars, namely:

- Putting people and their concerns first;
- Creating conditions for decent living;
- Demonstrating good governance;
- Ensuring sound financial management and
- Building and maintaining sound institutional and administrative capabilities

Allow me, hon. Speaker, to congratulate Tokologo & Masilonyana Local Municipality for an improved audit outcomes in the past municipal financial year. The ruling Party has pronounced on the elimination of consultants, this municipality will no longer be doing business with consultants. Our CFO has promised that we have competent and capable staff to deal with financial statements from now on including the organizing and hosting of the Tikwe Jazz Festival

The National Development Plan by nature is ambitious, and the role of local government cannot be overlooked because it is at this level that an enabling environment is created. A conducive environment is essential to the attainment of the overarching goals of the plan. In order to deliver on these, we must provide the necessary amenities and services as local government.”

For me **Madam Speaker**, freedom should mean emancipation from poverty, unemployment, racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination, but it is unfortunate that poverty and discrimination continues to exist within women and children, elderly and people with disabilities within our society.

Our beloved District is predominantly a rural district municipality yet one of the centers that hold the economy of our country “South Africa” due to its mineral resources, a vast tourism attraction and agricultural activities.

On the 26-27 February, we had a successful LED Summit which seeks to resuscitate the economy of the region. The Municipality will explore avenues of having agro-processing, poultry hub in our district

2015/ 2016 BUDGET

In terms of Chapter 57 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, Act no 56 of 2003, I wish to table before this house, our 2015/2016 budget for consideration and public participation.

Madam Speaker, we see the budget as an instrument through which we manage public funds in a way that ensures that we improve the quality of life of our people. We see the budget as an instrument of development. We do this through planning, budget allocation, control and proper accounting for every cent entrusted to this municipality.

OVERVIEW OF 2015/2016 MTREF BUDGET

- Total Operating Income R117,760,000
- Total Operating Expenditure 115,926,303
- Total Capital Expenditure 1,165,000
- Loan Redemption 2,145,864

OPERATING EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| • Employee Remuneration | R61,455,303 | |
| • Councillor Remuneration | | 9,410,323 |
| • Working Capital Reserve | | 485,590 |
| • Depreciation | | 7,611,223 |
| • Repairs & Maintenance | | 574,460 |
| • Interest Expense | | 2,022,079 |
| • Grants & Subsidies | | 5,450,000 |
| • General Expenditure | | 23,951,874 |
| • Contribution: Accrued Leave | 4,965,451 | |
| • TOTAL OPERATING EXPEND. | | R115,926,303 |

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| • Furniture & Equipment | R | 460,000 |
| • Replace Server | | 500,000 |
| • LED Paving & Parking | | 300,000 |
| • Anti Virus/Licence | | 250,000 |
| • Food Monitoring Equipment | | 80,000 |
| • Upgrading Security Equipment | | 60,000 |
| • Upgrading Clocking system | | 60,000 |
| • Upgrading Irrigation Scheme | | 30,000 |
| • TOTAL CAPITAL EXPEND. | | R1,740,000 |

KEY IDP PRIORITIES

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Bursaries | 2,000,000 |
| • Rural Roads & Asset Management Systems | 2,105,000 |
| • Budget & Other Reforms | 1,250,000 |

• Expanded Public Works Programme	1,000,000
• Capacity Development Program	930,000
• Campaigns	860,000
• Professional Fees	725,000
• Educational Project	500,000
• OR Tambo Games	500,000
• Easter Festival	500,000
• Year-End Festival	500,000
• Poverty Alleviation	350,000
• LED Development	350,000
• Youth Development	300,000
• Legal Services	250,920
• Study Assistance	220,000
• Moral Regeneration	200,000
• Arts & Culture	150,000
• Water Quality Programme	150,000
• Employee Wellness	140,000
• Experiential Training	100,000
• Performance Management	100,000
• Mandela Day	100,000
• Grant-In-Aid	100,000
• Food & Control Programme	100,000
• Air Quality Programme	100,000
• Branding	62,000
• Disaster Relief Fund	60,000
• Cooperative Development	50,000
• SMME	50,000
• Gender/Disability & Elderly	50,000
• GRANTS & SUBSIDIES	R 5,450,000
• Grant to LDA	2,500,000
• Matjhabeng Local Municipality:	
○ Interest & Redemption	1,900,000
• Tswelopele Local Municipality:	
○ Fencing	1,000,000
○ Interest & Redemption	50,000

In conclusion Madam Speaker, allow me to acknowledge and appreciate the role played by the following stakeholders in accelerating service delivery and putting our district amongst the best in the country. Members of the Mayoral Committee, Member of the MPAC & Audit Committee, Honorable Councilors (from both the opposition and ruling parties), Municipal Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Management and the

entire staff for having worked sleepless nights to ensure that the aspirations and wishes of our community do get the necessary attention.

As we move forward in reflecting and implementing our programmes we need to make sure that we have the same commitment, dedication, cooperation, collective leadership and excellent performance to continue to make the Lejweleputswa District Municipality a star of the Free State.

Honorable Madam Speaker,

It is therefore my pleasure to present to council the IDP and Budget for the Financial Year 2015/2016 for Consideration and public participation.

I thank you