

MAYOR MARIA THAMAGA ADDRESSES HER FIRST WARD COMMITTEES' CONFERENCE

The Mayor of Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga last night officially opened the municipality's annual Ward Committees Conference.

For many years, Mayor Thamaga was responsible for ward committees as the Speaker of Council.

Under her guidance as the Speaker, the municipality was hailed champions of public participation throughout the country because of, amongst other things; the effectiveness of the ward committees system.

This is the first conference she addressed as the Mayor after taking the office in November 2021.

The conference is held under the theme: "BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA: WARD COMMITTEES RENEWING THE MANDATE WITH COMMUNITIES"

This year marks the 19th installment of the conferences and the first one to be held under the new(2021-26) Council.

Blouberg Local Municipality has always regarded its ward committees as the important mobilizing agent in ensuring that communities take part in municipal programmes.

This critical municipal stakeholder was established in terms of the Local Government Municipal Structure's Act. It all started in 2003 with 16 wards and to date the municipality boast 22 wards. Each ward is manned by 10 committee members and are allocated various services delivery portfolios. For the previous 18 years, the municipality successfully convened the conference affording them the opportunity to share their day-to-day challenges and success stories they come across as foot soldiers and a liaison between the Council and the community.

