

## BLM SUCCESSFULLY HOLDS STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga indicated that her responsibility as the Mayor is to ensure that residents get services and that their lives are improved for the better.

Mayor Thamaga was delivering opening remarks during the municipality's 1st Quarter 2022/23 Performance and Strategic Planning session earlier today. The session facilitated by the South Africa's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was attended by councillors and the management. This is the first strategic planning meeting held following a newly established partnership between the municipality and platinum giant, Anglo-American.

The municipality and the mine have entered into a 3-year partnership which will see the two institutions work together in critical areas of planning and development.

The CSIR oversees the project on behalf of Anglo-American.

The session was centred around Intergrated Development Plan- IDP status quo analysis.

The IDP take into account the existing conditions and problems and resources available for development. The plan look at economic and social development for the Blouberg area as a whole. It also set a framework for how land should be used and what infrastructure and services are needed among other things.

Mayor Thamaga further made a call to the municipality's administration and political component to own up to the municipality's vision:

"A participatory municipality that turns prevailing

challenges into opportunities for growth and

development through optimal utilization of available resources" by working hard to ensure that the municipality economic status improve and for the citizens to experience development.

"As Blouberg Local Municipality we are happy for Anglo-American and CSIR to have entered into partnership with the municipality to empower us.

We are without doubt that this partnership will assist us to improve service delivery and bring development to our communities. President Cyril Ramaphosa encourages public-private-partnership, and as a municipality we need private sectors to create more jobs and other opportunities to benefit our people. All I want to see is the lives of Blouberg residents being changed for the better"

The Municipal Wide IDP Analysis, District Wide IDP Analysis by Capricorn District Municipality and Blouberg Statistical Information by StatsSA were some of the presentation made during the session.

The session also made provision for commissions affording council and management to thoroughly deal with the local government strategic agenda namely;

Financial Viability and Management - zooming into revenue - discussing all sources of revenue, billing and looking at Supply Chain Management processes.

With regards to Basic Service Delivery - this commission looked into road maintenance, water and sanitation.

Local Economic Development and Spatial Framework.

Here, the

discussions centred around Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises - SMME support, investment opportunities emanating from tourism and mining, agriculture and retail development, townships establishment, land acquisition

and the Environment.

On Environment, the focusing was on

Waste management

land fill sites, Recycling and

Disaster.

Good Governance and Public Participation and Municipal Transformation and Organizational Development. This commission looked into matters of Audit - internal and external,

Risk Management- identification and mitigation of risks

Human

resource, employees wellness, policies, public participation

and Information Communication Technology among other issues.



