



# Blouberg News

*"Fetiša Molaetša"*

Vol. 5 No. 2 April - June 2008



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KENO!!**

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# THE KEY NOTE ADDRESS



Mayor D.R Kubyana

**I love to see, when leaves depart,  
The clear anatomy arrive,  
Winter, the paragon of art,  
That kills all forms of life and feeling  
Save what is pure and will survive.**

Ignatius Royston Dunnachia Campbell (1901–1957) writes in his poem titled Autumn. In isolation this verse has a tendency of suggesting that winter is the harshest but the most revealing of seasons. Winter kills the leaves and leave the trunk and branches bare. The trunk and branches survive because they are not seasonal phenomena. They are the essence of a tree. Seasons must come and seasons must go, but no one season makes a tree while one season makes the leaves and the other season kills them. Winter is often depicted as a bad season, but it is not. If it is, it is a bad season that is necessary.

We have travelled rocky roads in recent times as a Municipality. So many legal demands were thrown at us at the same time as if they were orchestrated from the same centre and for the same outcome. We have had our winter time and have learnt lessons we would otherwise have not learnt in a life time. Most of the matters are still sub judice.

Another dark cloud has been the fatal accidents that involved our citizens. Six locals from Mongalo and Dithabaneng died in a horrific car accident over the December festive season.

May their souls rest in peace. Fatal accidents have become a common site on our roads in the country as a whole. It is important that all road users adopt extra cautious approach and vigilance when they drive or walk on or along the roads. We value every human life.

On the 13th December we visited and spent a day with patients at the Helene Franz Hospital, Senwabarwana. If what they said to us be believed, we may need to make these kind of visits one of our routines or at least have them as very important annual events. They said they felt better

and important thanks to the visit. These days a lot of people lose hope easily when a person is hospitalized. Their visits to their own patient are so infrequent they affect the patient. People who are ill and hospitalized are not dead, are not about to die, but are just going through a winter in their lives. Our visits are like rain, they nourish them and bring back all forms of life and feeling in them. I can imagine how it feels to be crowded during your time of need. I shudder to imagine how the opposite feels.

On a positive note, we are happy to report that we handed over five pre schools to the communities of Letswatla; Mongalo; Schoengezicht; Avon and Kgware. We have laid a solid foundation for the many future leaders who will eventually be produced through the educational institutions of these communities. We also took care of the educational roofing needs of Maletle Tumisho Praise and Rabumbulu Hermina. Through the Mayor's Bursary Fund these students will now realize their dreams of becoming civil engineers. The Mayor's Bursary Fund is still in its infancy, but has already produced a Manager Capital Projects; an IT Assistant; and an Electrical Technician. We remain concerned with the level of interest shown in this Bursary Fund. This year we received close on fourty applications, which is a small number unless all other maths and science matriculants from this area have had bursary offers from other sources. Application forms will be out again in the second semester of 2008 for the 2009 academic year. Council will soon decide on priority study fields for 2009. Please keep in touch with your Ward Councilor; Ward Committee; Community Development Worker and the Blouberg News for the latest information on this crucial matter.

It is important that we continue to commend members of our communities who believe in our public participation structures and processes and use them effectively. We have never failed to come to communities to solicit their inputs on the annual plans and reports; to explain why there is lack of progress on certain programmes and projects; and to take their regular mandates and give regular feedback. Issues are best resolved in formal and constructive engagements.



These engagements are very important



# ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW



**Mr N.I Makhura - Municipal Manager**

**M**ost probably every citizen of this country is aware or has heard of the electricity shortage that we are faced with. The problem can escalate into a crisis unless we all join hands and participate in all efforts meant to save electricity. Elsewhere in this edition there are basic tips that every patriot should practice to save electricity.

Already the Department of Minerals and Energy has developed draft regulations to prohibit certain practices in the electricity supply and provide for compulsory norms and standards for electricity reticulation services. Closing date for comments on the draft regulations was 25 February 2008. In addition, the Limpopo Provincial Government has developed the draft Provincial Energy Efficiency Plan.

Municipalities are expected to come to the party by developing their own plans. It should be mentioned that the draft regulations referred to above seek to enable municipalities to pass by laws prohibiting any activity in the interest of energy efficiency or enforcing the regulations. We therefore invite all our customers and stakeholders to support the campaigns for electricity saving.

Good news is that we are on track regarding governance programmes and processes. We have gone full throttle in policy development and establishment of structures to anchor our good governance initiatives. The following policies were adopted by the Council during the period in issue : Fraud and Corruption Policy; Records Management Policy; Promotion of Access to Information Policy; Publicity Policy; Sexual Harassment Policy; Mayoral Discretionary Fund Policy; and Public Participation Policy.

Further policies would be tabled and probably approved by the Council of 28 March 2008. These include : Employment Equity Plan for 2008 – 2012; Overtime Policy; Telephone Usage Policy and E Mail Records Policy. These policies should do good our accountability; transparency; and internal control values and practices.

We drafted and tabled the IDP/Budget 2008/09 and the Annual Report 2006/07 as required by legislation. We did ward based public participation on the draft IDP/Budget from the 5th to the 23rd February 2008. Public hearings on the annual report were scheduled for the 31st March and 1st April 2008. It should be noted that the annual report had to be dealt with without the financial statements.

We had our auditors withdrawn by the Office of the Auditor General for reasons beyond us and, at the time of going to press, a new audit firm had just commenced with the audit. The Audit Committee which the municipality established in 2007 is working round the clock in collaboration with the Internal Audit unit to assist the Municipality to improve on its accounting practices and to ensure that previously identified queries get the necessary attention.

For the first time in the history of the Municipality we will have an opinion of the Audit Committee on the annual report. This shows that the institution is going somewhere on issues of accounting and accurate handling of public finances.

It is important that we mention our disappointment with customers who fail to pay for the services they enjoy from us. We had no option but to adjust our budget negatively because of this turn of events. This resulted in some of the programmes being jettisoned. For example our annual congratulatory function where the floating trophy could have for the third time been given to Marumofase secondary school which has consistently produced the best results.

The municipality will however ensure the official handing over of the trophy is done to the deserving institution. Bravo to all the Educators, learners and Parents who positively ensure that the flag of the Municipality is raised and held high when it comes to the best practices in schools.

In an attempt to boost schools that performed poorly a resolution has been taken that our Executive Committee members, Speaker and Chief whip should adopt some such schools to give them support through any means possible be it morally and or materially. The District Executive Mayor, Clr. Motalane Monakedi has already adopted Nakedi Secondary School in Devrede.

The 2006/7 electrification projects could not be implemented on time. We are looking at implementing them during the last quarter of the year. Beneficiaries have already been made aware of the difficulties we experienced in the first quarter of the year. Kodumela.



**Our IDP public participation Sessions were, as usual, real**



# NYAKELANG KENO!!



Gare ga mešomo e megolo ya masepala ke go bona gore tikologo yeo setšhaba se phelago go yona e bolokegile. Masepala wa Blouberg ke masepala wa dinagamagae moo hlobaboroko e kgolo e le go dikotsi tšeo di hlokwago ke diphoofolo go basepela ka difatanaga. Maitekelong a go fokotša dikotsi Masepala o ile wa aga sekete (pound) gore diphoofolo, kudu diruiwa, tšeo di hwetšwago mebileng le ditseleng di sa hlokomelwa di tlošwe fao ka mokgwa wo o bolokegilego. Go agwa ga sekete go latetšwe ka ngwaga wa 2006 ke go hlolwa ga melawana ya go laola go swarwa ga diruiwa, go di iša sekete; go di hlokomela ge di le fao le tshepedišo ya go di lokolla. Melawana ye e bitšwa Impoundment of Animals By laws, mme e ka hwetšwa dikantorong ka moka tša Masepala wa Blouberg ka theko yeo e sa llišego.

Roaming animals cause accidents like this one

Morago ga go kwešwa bohloko ke go tsentšhwa tirišong ga melawana ya sekete, barui ba Masepala wa Blouberg gammogo le ba mebasemala ya kgauswi (Molemole le Aganang) ba ile ba ikopantšha le bahlankedi ba Masepala go laetša dilo tša bona. Ke fao ba hweditšego hlahlo le hlalošo tše di tseneletšego ka ga bohlokwa bja sekete le go swarwa ga diruiwa. Morago ga go lemoga gore go hola bona gore diruiwa tša bona di išwe sekete go e na le go tšewa ke mahodu tseleng le gore segolothata ga se go tsenyetša Masepala letseno eupša go efoga dikotsi, barui ba ile ba dumellana gore go hlongwe Livestock Owners Forum kgahlegelong ya dikgahlego tša barui le Masepala ge go etla ditabeng tša hlokomelo ya diruiwa. Go kwanwe gore Livestock Owners Forum e tla swara dikopano le Masepala ga tee kgwedding tše dingwe le tše dingwe tše pedi go ahlahlala merero mabapi le diruiwa. Go hwetša tshedimošo ka botlalo mabapi le ditaba tša sekete le go swarwa ga diruiwa mang le mang a na go le kgahlego a ka lletša Mna S.P.P Tshidi mo go 015 5057 100 go ba a etela dikantoro tša Masepala mo Senwabarwana dinakong tša mošomo (07H45 - 16H30) ka Mošupologo go fihla Labohlano.



Some of the animals removed from roads



# The Speaker Speaks

*"The entirety of our system of governance is therefore making the commitment that in the period ahead of us, it will do its best to live up to the imperative Business Unusual ! We speak of Business Unusual not referring to any changes in our established policies but with regard to the speedy, efficient and effective implementation of these policies and programmes, so that the lives of our people should change for the better, sooner rather than later ... More than at any other time, the situation that confronts our nation and country, and the tasks we have set ourselves, demand that we inspire and organise all our people to act together as one, to do all the things that have to be done, understanding that in a very real sense, all of us, together, hold our own future in our hands."*

We quote from the 2008 State of the Nation Address by President Thabo Mbeki. In simple terms the President says we need each other and a new attitude if we are to achieve our national goal - a better life for all earlier than we would ordinarily get there.

The annual programmes that were adopted by our Ward Committees Conference on the 19th August 2007 are meant to bring a better life for all. So are the reasons for the establishment of our Mayor/Magoshi Forum and the plethora of forums herein mentioned. It is only in a democratic society, that these structures and programmes are aimed at achieving, that there is a possibility of a better life for all. Therefore, we expect the Ward Committees and other forums whose purpose is to enhance participatory democracy to review their strategies and tactics in line with our new approach Business Unusual. As we will be returning to our Ward Committees Forum in August 2008 we hope all ward committees would have a good story to tell.

In November 2007 the Council of Blouberg Municipality approved the Public Participation Policy. On the 28th of May 2008 the same Council will approve Ward Committees Support Policy together with a budget to realise the objects of the two complementary and progressive policies. It cannot be less than what we are currently operating on, R500,000 Ward Committees Support and R70,000 Public Participation budgets. We have noted the ward committees' submission for the review of the current uniform out of pocket expense of R50 per sitting. This and other matters related to ward committees support should be factored into the Ward Committees Support Policy that will be introduced to the ward committees meetings of 02 - 08 May 2008.

We are happy to announce that we are continuing to chalk up one achievement after the other in matters of good governance and public participation. One of the principles of good governance is engaging stakeholders and making accountability real. Real accountability is concerned not only with reporting on or discussing actions already taken, but also with engaging with stakeholders to understand and respond to their views as the organisation plans and carries out its activities. Our forums on water; energy; housing; disaster management; transport; waste management; local economic development, etc, have continued to meet and execute their tasks as planned. Not only were these structures established for accountability purposes, but to harmonise our working relationships to achieve better outcomes. We continued to hold our Council and Executive Committee meetings in public for purposes of transparency



**Clr M.S. Selamolela - The Speaker**

and accountability as these meetings were accompanied by the imbizo sessions where members of the public were able to raise issues with a full complement of their councillors.

Though some of our departments did not provide comprehensive responses to all the issues raised at the January 2008 ward committees sittings we are heartened by the fact that our Management has begun to seriously prioritise responding to ward committees submissions. We are assured that the responses to the March 2008 sittings would be even better in terms of substance and completeness.

To crown it all the Department of Provincial and Local Government (dplg) has produced a DVD on the Blouberg public participation model. Let it be told that we are not about to rest on our laurels. We said in the last edition "We at Blouberg are addicted to setting trends and perfecting our ways of doing things." Accordingly we are in the process of revising our Communications Strategy for 2008/2009 so that we continue to perfect our ways of doing things.



1. Recent Council meeting at Montz - One of the best attended
2. The next Conference should be more interactive thanks to new policies



# SAVE ELECTRICITY

South Africa has a power shortage the demand for electricity exceeds supply. There is a need, therefore, for all of us to help save electricity lest the whole power supply system crumbles. Should this happen we will all experience untold economic crisis, job losses, health hazards; and many other socio economic difficulties.

Unless we all contribute to power saving by doing all or most of the suggestions herein below, ESKOM may have to return to and turn on the heat on load shedding as miserably experienced during January 2008. it is expected that this power shortage will be with us for the next 5-10 years.

## 1. TURN OFF YOUR GEYSERS FROM 6AM TO 9PM

Your geyser uses up to 50% of the electricity in your home. Switch it off during these high demand times and you'll hardly notice the difference in water temperature. You could also set your pool pump to only work at night and you would reduce your demand even more.

## 2. INSTALL A GEYSER BLANKET OR SOLAR WATER HEATING

ESKOM is currently finalising plans to subsidise the installation of water heating panels.

## 3. SWITCH OFF UNNECESSARY LIGHTS

We hardly need lights all lights on during the day and at night. Also use Compact Flourescent Lamps (CFL's).

## 4. TURN UP YOUR AIR CONDITIONER BY 2% AND WEAR LIGHT CLOTHING AT WORK

This was a hugely successful initiative in Japan and they managed to drop their power demand by a massive 10%. If you do the opposite in winter with heating, the same savings apply.

## 5. SWITCH OFF ALL APPLIANCES AT THE PLUG

An appliance on stand-by is actually still drawing power and is similar to a 'dripping tap'. This includes your TV, VCR's and personal computer.

## 6. KEEP THE FRIDGE DOOR CLOSED

Every second you have the fridge door open the fridge loses temperature and power is used to get it back.

## 7. USE THE STOVE SPARINGLY

Rather use the microwave as the stove and oven consume huge amounts of electricity.

## 8. DO NOT TUMBLE DRY

Tumble dryers use massive amounts of electricity. Try hanging up your washing on the line instead.

## 9. HAVE YOUR SAY

Should you have other suggestions on how we can save electricity share them with the rest of us. For more information visit [www.poweringsouthafrica.co.za](http://www.poweringsouthafrica.co.za)



# IDP PROCESS PLAN



Mr M.J. Masama - IDP Manager

The law says to the mayors of the municipalities in section 21 of the Local Government : Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003, thou shall :

- At least 10 months before the start of the budget year, table in the municipal council a time schedule outlining key deadlines for
  - o The preparation, tabling and approval of the annual budget;
  - o The annual review of
    - The integrated development plan in terms of section 34 of the Municipal Systems Act

Thus our IDP Process Plan was tabled and approved by the Council of 31 August 2007, exactly 10 months before the start of our next financial year, 01 July 2008.

The Plan and Progress are as follows :

Program	Activity	Date	Progress/Comments
Adoption of Process Plan	Adoption of Process Plan	31/08/2007	Done as planned
Process Assessment and Improvement	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarterly performance assessment session	12 – 14 October 2007	The IDP Steering Committee met on 05/10/2007 at Helen Franz Special School. The Review Session was postponed and eventually took place on the 21 <sup>st</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2007
	Development of baseline planning information	August – November 2007	The Stats SA and CDM have programme that would yield the intended results. This has since been suspended
	Ward Based public consultation	October – December 2007	All wards were visited and participated from 05 to 23 February 2008
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarterly performance assessment session	11 – 13 January 2008	The assessment session took place at Makkopas Nest Lodge on 12 – 13 January 2008
	1 <sup>st</sup> draft revised IDP/Budget and Draft Annual Report	25/01/ 2008	Drafts were tabled at the Council meeting of 31/01/2008
	Tabling and submission of a three year CAPEX and OPEX projections; 1 <sup>st</sup> draft revised IDP/Budget and Draft Annual Report	31/01/ 2008	First draft operating and capital annual report was tabled at the 31 January 2008 Council for Public Consultation
	Cluster meetings for annual report inputs	26 & 28 February 2008	The meetings were held on 17 & 18 March 2008 at Kromhoek Community Hall and Senwabarwana FET College
	Adoption of Annual Report	28 /03/ 2008	Will be adopted on Council of 28 March 2008 as scheduled
	Submission of annual report to the MEC	09 April 2008	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarterly performance assessment session	04 – 06 April 2008	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft revised IDP/Budget	April 2008	
	Steering Committee Meetings	July 2007 – June 2008 (Quarterly)	Three meetings were already conducted
	Ward based public consultation Cluster Meetings	February – March 2008	Public meeting were held from 5 to 23 February 2008 as scheduled
	Cluster Meetings	15 – 17 April 2008	
	REP Forum	15/05/2008	
	Approval of IDP/Budget	30/05/2008	
	Submission to the MEC for Local Govt and Housing	10/06/2008	
	Notice of adopted IDP/Budget	13/06/2008	
	Approval of SDBIPs	20/06/2008	
	4 <sup>th</sup> quarterly performance assessment	11 – 13 July 2008	
	Approval of performance agreements with senior managers	31/07/ 2008	



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## DI-WARD COMMITTEE BA HWETŠA HLAHLO

Maloko a di Ward Committee ke karolo e kgolo kudu ya pušo ya selegae le pušo ka bophara. Ke bona ditsebe le mahlo a mmušo setšhabeng le mahlo a setšhaba mmušong. Baikgafitše go šomela setšhaba ntle le tefo.

Bjalo ka bommaditsela magareng ga mahlakore a a mabedi go bohlokwa kudu gore nako le nako ba dule ba fiwa hlahlo gore badule ba dira mošomo wa bona ka bothakga le potego.

Maloko a be a tsenetše hlahlo (workshop) yeo e beakantšwego ke Department of Local Government and Housing le South African Local Government Association. Hlahlo e be e swerwe Helena Franz ka 11 March 2008.

Bona babe ba rutwa ka melao yeo ba šomago ka fase ga yona le gore ke dilo dife tšeo bjalo ka maloko a di- Ward ba swanetšego go di tseba le tšeo ba swanetšego go di dira gore setšhaba se bone bohlokwa bja mošomo wo ba o dirago.

Maloko a be a hlahlwa ke mohumagadi Makoma Rasekgala. Rasekgala o ile a laetša ka fao ba kgotsofaditšwego ke ka moo maloko a bego a tšea karolo ka gona. "Go bontši bja mafelo ao rea sepetšego re le mogile gore maloko a mo Blouberg a na le tsebo yeo e tseneletšego mabapi le mošomo wa bona le gore ba be ba bontšha ba thabetše sebaka seo ba se filwego mo hlahlong ye." A realo Rasekgala a laetša lethabo.

Ge ele maloko ona a tloga a laeditše gore ba ithutile tše dintši mo hlahlong le gore Rasekgala o tloga a tseba mošomo wa go hlahlwa ele ruri.



Mme Rasekgala o fana ka hlahlo go di Ward Committee



Ward Committee members in a recent training session





Ge go be go bulwa Mongalo Pre School



Meyara Kubyana o bula ye nngwe ya Di Preschool



Beneficiaries of the new Marobyane Pre School

# MEYARA O BULA DIKOLO TŠA DIGOTLANA

Thuto ke senotlelo seo se tlogo go bula bokamoso bja bana gomme go bohlokwa go aga dikolo tša digotlane setšhabeng. Ao ke mantšu ao a boletšego ke Meyara wa Blouberg Refiloe Kubyana ge a be a thankgolla lenaleo la go bula dikolo tša digotlana (Pre- Schools) tšeo di agilwego ke Masepala.

'Re ya e amogela!', gwa realo lešaba leo le bego le bothane ka lethabo ge Meyara a bula Pre- School ya mathomo motseng wa Letswatla ka labohlano la di 18 Janaware (Pherekong) 2008.

"Lehono re bula Pre-school ye ya Letswatla semmušo gomme re tshepha gore dintwa tšeo re dibonago di tšwelapele go bakiwa tšona di pre-school metseng e mengwe di ka se be gona mo Letswatla, bana ka moka ba mo Letswatla ba amogelele go tla go tsena gona mo pre-school ye kudu ka ge sekolo se e le sa setšhaba ka moka", a realo Meyara ge a efa polelo.

Meyara Kubyana o laeditše gore pre-school yeo ya Letswatla ke ye nngwe ya tše hlano tšeo di agilwego go ditekatekanyetšo tša mašheleng a ngwaga wa ketepedi hlano le tshela ( 2005/06 financial year). "Go ya le ka dinyakišišo tšeo re di dirilego bjale ka Masepala godimo ga metse ye lekgolo lesome tee (118) ya Blouberg, palo ya di Pre-school tšeo di kgotsofatšago ga e fete lesome-nne", a realo Meyara a bontšha go tshwenyega.

Di Pre- School tša go latela e bile ya motseng wa Mongalo, Schoongezecht, Marobyane le Kgware. Masepala o abetše di Pre-School ka moka ditafola tše hlano, ditulo tše lesome, mebele le dibapadišane (toys). Elisabeth Sathekge le Fredah Dutša bao ba bego ba le lethabong le legolo ba hlalošitše gore ba thabetše le go leboga Masepala ka mošomo o mobotse wo o direlago setšhaba, "ye ke hlabologo ye kgolo, re kgopela gore masepala ga o tšwelepele go thuša lego hlabolla dinaga magae le bana ba rena batla hlalefa".

Mekgolokwane le meragelo di ile tša bontšha gabotse gore bana ba tletše ka talente seo se bego gona ke gore babagolo ba ba thuše go e tagafatša. E bile meketeko ya lethabo e le ruri go badudi ba Blouberg.



# BLOUBERG PROMOTES THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION



**Mr N.I. Makhura - The Information Officer**

The Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2 of 2000, is aimed at fostering a culture of transparency and accountability in the public and private bodies to actively promote a society in which people of South Africa have effective access to information to enable them to fully exercise and protect all of their rights.

## What is Section 14 Manual?

A Section 14 Manual is an official document which would assist a person to obtain real access to information held by the Municipality and stipulates minimum requirements that one has to comply with. The Manual also indicates the type of record the Municipality has in its possession.

## What information does the Municipality possess?

The Municipality is in possession of two categories of information :

- The category of records automatically available without the a person having to request access in terms of the Act;
- The category of records available to a person having to request access in terms of the Act

## Which information is automatically available?

The information automatically available without a person having to apply for access include :

- IDPs and Budgets;
- By laws;
- Financial Statements;
- Annual reports;
- Tenders;
- Speeches; etc

This is information you ordinarily find on the Municipality's website.

## Which information is not automatically available to a person

This is information/records that may not necessary be refused but may only be made available upon request and include :

- Salaries and remuneration packages;
- Medical records of employees
- Bank statements and records of investments;
- Customers' application, registration and consumption details;
- Copies of tenders advertised and awarded
- Database of suppliers registration for tendering purposes; etc

## How should a person make a request?

- For information that is automatically available, copies of the requested documents are available pending payment for reproduction of the document, and
- For information that is not automatically available, a request form/application has to be completed by the requester. The request form should be accompanied by R35 request fee. The request should be forwarded to the Information Officer at:

**P.O. Box 1593, Senwabarwana, 0790;**

**Fax 015 5057 100 or e-mail :**

**makhuraike@blouberg.gov.za.**

# BLOUBERG FIGHTS FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

Blouberg Municipality now has a policy on fraud and corruption. The policy was passed by the Council meeting of 30 November 2007 and seeks to facilitate the development of controls which will assist in the prevention and detection of fraud and corruption, as well as provide guidelines as to how to respond should instances of fraud and corruption be identified. The policy applies to all employees, stakeholder, contractors, vendors, suppliers and any other party doing business with the Municipality.

The following are some of the actions identified in the policy as manifestations or examples of corruption and fraud :

- Unauthorised private use of municipal assets, including vehicles;
- Falsifying travel and subsistence claims;
- Conspiring unfairly with others to obtain a tender;
- Disclosing proprietary information relating to a tender to outside parties;
- Accepting inappropriate gifts from suppliers;
- Employing family members or close friends;
- Operating a private business in working hours;

- Stealing equipment or supplies from work;
- Accepting bribes or favour to process requests;
- Accepting bribes or favours for turning a blind eye to a service provider who does not provide an appropriate services;
- Submitting or processing false invoices from contractors or other service providers;
- Misappropriating fees received from customers, and avoiding detection by not issuing receipts to those customers.

The policy makes it the responsibility of all the employees of the Municipality to report all incidents of fraud and corruption, or any other dishonest activities of a similar nature to their managers. Therefore he who does not report a known corrupt or fraudulent activity is equally guilty of the crime. If every employee of the Municipality were to be adequately vigilant and determined to detect and report corruption and fraud we would all have our work of fighting this crime cut short.

## BLOUBERG STRENGTHENS WARD COMMITTEES



Public participation becomes better every day thanks to continuous revision of policies

Blouberg Municipality is renowned for walking the talk when it comes to the promotion of participatory governance. Section (16) of the Local Government : Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, requires of a municipality to encourage and create conditions for the local community to participate in the affairs of the municipality. For this purpose a municipality may use its resources and annually allocate funds in its budget for the purpose of encouraging and enabling participatory governance.

Accordingly Blouberg Municipality is in the process of developing a policy to support and encourage members of the community to participate actively in the ward committees. The policy, called the Ward Committees Support Policy, is likely to be approved by the Council sitting of 30 May 2008 in time for it to become operational in the new financial year (2008/2009). Comments and inputs of all stakeholders are invited.

Among the criteria that will be used to determine the excellence or otherwise of the ward committees are the following

1. Implementation of Ward Plans
  - The efforts and extent to which the ward committees implement their own annual plans
2. Relationship with Key stakeholders
  - How ward committees relate with the key stakeholders such as traditional authorities and community development workers
  - Initiatives undertaken to harmonise stakeholder relations in the ward
3. Communication
  - Being able to meet as a ward committee; being able to successfully mobilize members of the community to public meetings;
  - Communication of issues raised at ward meetings to

- Council or Administration and feedback thereof
  - The extent to which members of the community receive services that are available and that they are entitled to
4. Compliance with Constitution
    - The extent to which the Ward Committee and individual members comply with the Ward Committees Constitution
  5. Innovation
    - Innovations the Ward Committee has introduced to improve service delivery and participatory governance.

This is just a synopsis of the draft policy. Full text can be obtained from the municipal offices during working hours. The final drafts will serve at the ward committee meetings of 02 - 08 May 2008 and the Mayor/Magoshi Forum meeting of 12 May 2008.



Ward Committees will now be better off



## STATUS QUO OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

Project Name	Status
<b>ELECTRICITY PROJECTS</b>	
Mosehleng, Normandy, Sweethome, The Grange, Eussoringa, Loisenenthal, Montz, Swartz, Non-Parella, Innes	100% completed and to be switched on as soon as commissioning by ESKOM is completed
Earlydawn, Kgokonyane,	The projects are complete, awaiting construction of feeder lines
Mongalo	The initial scope of work of 210 connections is complete. 51 extra connections are still outstanding.
Milbank, Diepsloot, Ga-Hlako	Construction Stage
Ga-Kgatla	Completed but awaiting installation of bulk meter
Dithabaneng, Aurora, Silvermyn, New Jerusalem, Norma A & B, Ga-Raweshi, Sadu	Adjudication Stage
Thabananthlana	Contractor to be appointed
Oldlongsigne	Tender Stage
Electrification of Schools : Mophamamona; Mafifing; Kgokonyane; Diniko; Seiphi; and Letshekga Malokane at the combined cost of R1, 120, 755.88	Contactors are appointed for all the schools; Pegging is 100%; Digging of holes is 100% except for Kgokonyane; and pole planting is next. Expenditure to budget is still R0

<b>ROADS AND STORMWATER SERVICES</b>	
Surfacing(tarring) of Senwabarwana Internal Streets/Storm water Phase 2 (2km)	The project is at construction stage. 99% complete.
The surfacing (tarring) of Internal streets at Taaibosch (3,1km) Phase 1	Contractor is busy addressing the snag list/finishing.
Alldays Internal Streets/Storm water (2,3 Km)	The construction of drifts and v-drains is on progress. There is a delay caused by the procurement of cements
Indermark Internal Streets /Storm water(4km)	The project is at construction stage. 55 % complete.
Taaibosch (2km) Internal Street/Storm water Phase 2	The project is at construction stage. 60 % complete.

<b>WATER SERVICES</b>	
Indermark Water Reticulation Phase 2	The project is 98% complete.
Taaiboschgroet NN 17: (Taaibosch, Kromhoek, Devrede, Loisenenthal, The Glen, Burgerreght)	Construction on progress
Glen Alpine 12/36A: Ga Kobe Group	Defects Liability Period
Glen Alpine 12/22: Garaweshi group	Tender stage
Alldays Water Supply Phase 2(2007/2008)	Design and Implementation Stage
Taaiboschgroet NN 17(2007/2008)	Design and Implementation Stage
Senwabarwana & Desmondpark Sewer(2007/2008)	Design and Implementation Stage

<b>SANITATION SERVICES</b>	
Blouberg Household Sanitation: Eussorinca, Slaaphoek, Devrede, Springfield, Buffelshoek, Mampote, Broadhill, Lethaleng, Grootpan	Construction on progress
<b>BUILDING SERVICES</b>	
Letswatla Preschool, Mongalo Preschool, Marobyane Preschool, Schhongezicht B Preschool, Kgwale Preschool	100% completed and handed over
My – Darling Preschool	99% completed. The contractor has to attend the snag list



# Hello and Good-bye

This time we did not have a lot of staff turnover. Remember the long lists of our new staff members that appeared in the last two editions. We have sadly parted ways with Mr Hennie Naude (Transport Officer) and Mr Sekgala H.F (General Worker). The two old men left at the end of February, because they had reached their pensionable age. Their contribution shall forever be appreciated. We wish them happier times.

We started 2008 with an appointment of our new Director Technical Services, Mr Nakampe Malatjie. We thought we should give our readers a brief profile of this new find. We have withheld information that we thought could attract the attention of those who are looking for the best in the labour market, especially scarce skills that Technical Services is about. In the last four years this Municipality has lost two Technical Services Director : Mr Masenya M.E and Mr Maake M.J who both terminated their contracts for greener pastures elsewhere. We therefore know better to tell it all why Mr Malatji landed the post.

It suffices to report that Mr Malatji matriculated at Modipe High School in 1995. The following year, 1996, he enrolled for a National Diploma in Building Science at the former Technikon Pretoria now Tshwane University of Technology. He completed his diploma in 1999.

In 2000 he started working as a Quantity Surveyor/Project Manager at Phahlana Hunadi Quantity Surveyors. In an interest to upgrade his studies he further enrolled for a Bachelor of Technology in Quantity Surveying degree at the same institution a year after joining the employed (June 2001). He then completed the degree in June 2002.

His core functions at the company included general Quantity Surveying services as well overseeing implementation of infrastructure projects on behalf of various clients. He stayed with the company until August 2005.

In search for adventure he joined Polokwane Municipality as

the Assistant Manager Facilities.

His responsibilities included facility management, project management, staff management as well some quantity surveying functions. His capabilities landed him an opportunity to be part of the planning team for two of the province 's flagship projects viz. Peter Mokaba Sports Complex and the Polokwane International Convention Centre. The projects had a financial value of more than 1.5 billion rand. He was part of the delegation that successfully negotiated the reduction of the bid amount for Peter Mokaba Sports Complex. As a key member of the technical steering committee for the Polokwane International Convention Centre project, he was responsible for progress reports, checking and approving consultants claims, input into technical designs etc.

All this was when he was still attached to Polokwane Municipality before joining the vibrant team of Blouberg in January 2008.

Malatji is a proud husband and father of three, two daughters and a son.



Mr N.I. Malatjie - Director Technical Services



**Our Technical Services can only improve, thanks to the new broom!**



# DISASTER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



Ms Winnie Thaba at one of the disaster awareness campaigns

Floods, fire and Storm are natural disasters that can strike at anytime more so that it is beyond human control. In instances of disaster it is important for people to know help is at hand. This has prompted the Blouberg Municipality in conjunction with Capricorn District Municipality to organize a disaster awareness campaign.

The campaign was held at Grootpan and Ramaswikana on 27 February 2008. The campaign was an eye-opener to the villagers to become alert of the danger of fire, belhazior and floods. The campaign targeted people in deep rural areas staying far from disaster management service. It was important also for the people to know that help is always available. To teach more on disaster was Mr. Solly Molele from the department of Environment Health at Helen Franz hospital and Mr. Serope from Capricorn District Municipality under the Fire and Rescue unit stationed at Blouberg.

Ms Winnie Thaba of CDM Disaster Management said people will be given first aid training to help and rescue community in the event of fire and floods.

She further indicated that the proposals are underway to have call points installed for the headmen and plans to upgrade network around Blouberg area were still in the pipeline. Currently victims of disaster are assisted with tents, clothes and food.

Since the campaign started last year areas visited include Byswater, Earlydawn and Mankodi. Other villages remaining on the list are Maleboho, Avon, Sias, Moismame, Taaibosch and Towerfontein.

In cases of disaster communities are required to report to their Ward Councillor, Ward Committees and CDW or call



CDM fire and rescue services on 0861 666 777 or 112 on cell phones.

## What to do in a Fire!!

1. **Stay Calm**, Panic will only make it worse.
2. **Call the Fire Brigade.**
3. **If there is smoke**, crawl on your hands and knees.
4. **If you are on fire**, Stop, Drop and Roll. Stop do not run, Drop to the ground, Roll over and over till the fire is out
5. **If you are burnt**, cool the burn quickly, use only cool water, No creams or oils.

## RECENT COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Date	In respect of	Council Resolved That	Progress/Comments
30/11/2007	Policy Development	Policies on Publicity; Mayoral Discretionary Fund; Promotion of Access to Information; Public Participation; Records Management; and Sexual Harassment be approved	Policies are being implemented. Because most of these policies address issues dictated on us by legislation, their approval and implementation define our commitment to compliance priorities. It remains to be seen how many people take advantage of these policies to put us to test on our accessibility; transparency and accountability, which are the values underlying most of these policies. We are designing flyers; leaflets; booklets, etc to simplify and promote these and other policies of public interest
31/01/2008	New By - laws	The following draft by – laws be approved in principle for public participation process : Civic Symbols, Honours and Related Matters; Animals Control; Sand Harvesting and Street Trading	Public meetings were convened in all the 18 wards from 05 – 23 February 2008; the purposes and gist of the by – laws were summarised and published in the Blouberg News edition of December 2007 – March 2008; The drafts were introduced to all the ward committees meetings of 03 – 07 March 2008; and the Mayor/Magoshi Forum meeting of 25/03/2008; The drafts lied open for inspection from 25 February – 14 March 2008 at all the municipal offices in terms of a notice that appeared in the Speaker newspaper of 21 February – 01 March 2008 The Council meeting of 28 March 2008 will now consider passing the drafts into by – laws. Should this happen the by – laws will become effective from the date published in the Provincial Gazette or on a date determined in or in terms of these by – laws as per section 13 of the Local Government : Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000.
31/01/2008	Revision of local empowerment strategy	The proposed amendments to the current local empowerment strategies be approved. The proposed amendments followed Council realisation that to date little had been achieved to realise Council's earlier decision that at least 50% of the 2007/2008 be spent on local service providers and suppliers	It is too early to establish progress, more so because there have not been big projects advertised to put to test the newly adopted strategies. The next edition will be ideal to analyse and report progress in respect of this resolution. Local people will soon be invited to register on our exclusive data bases. Please heed the call.
31/01/2008	Draft IDP and Annual Report	The draft IDP for 2008/09 and annual report for 2006/07 be approved for public consultations	All the 18 wards were visited and allowed to make submissions in respect of the IDP from 05 – 23 February 2008. The Oversight Committee and sub committees were established and met regularly to scrutinise the draft reports culminating in the public hearings of 17 and 18 March 2008 at Kromhoek Community Hall and the Capricorn FET College Senwabarwana Campus respectively.



## MUNICIPAL PROPERTY RATES ACT SIMPLIFIED

### 1. What is municipal property rate?

Municipal property rates are a cent amount in a rand levied on the market value of immovable property.

### 2. Who is liable for the payment of municipal property rates?

All immovable property owners are liable for the payment of rates. Therefore, all property owners, including commercial, residential, agriculture, government, etc, are included in the definition of property.

### 3. How are municipal property rates determined?

The financial liabilities for municipal property rates are calculated by multiplying the market value of immovable property by a cent amount in the rand that a municipal council has determined.

### 4. How is the market value of the property determined?

The market value of the property is the amount the property would have realised if sold on the date of valuation in the open market by a willing seller to a willing buyer. Professional, independent valuers, who in terms of section 39 of the Municipal Property Rates Act, must be persons registered as "a professional valuer or professional associated valuer in terms of the Property Valuers Profession Act, 47 of 2000" know how to value properties which have not yet been sold in terms of the principle of "willing seller to a willing buyer."

### 5. Does the Municipal Property Rates Act contain checks and balances to protect property owners?

Yes. The Minister for the Provincial and Local Government, with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, can limit the cent amount in the rand that municipalities impose, if such proof can be provided that such a cent amount in the rand on specific category of properties is materially and unreasonably prejudicing national economic policies, economic activities across municipal boundaries or the national mobility of goods, services, capital or labour. Any sector of the economy, after consulting the relevant municipality or municipalities and organised local government, may, through its organised structures, request the Minister for Provincial and Local Government to evaluate evidence to the effect that a particular cent amount in the rand on any specific category of properties, or a rate on any specific category of properties above a specific cent amount in the rand, is materially and unreasonably prejudicing any of the matters mentioned above.

### 6. What is property rates revenue used for?

Municipalities need a reliable source of revenue to provide basic services and perform their functions. Property rates are the most important source of general revenue for municipalities. Revenue from property rates is used to fund services that benefit the community as a whole as opposed to individual households. Property rates revenue is also used to fund municipal administration and costs of governance. Municipal property rates are set, collected and used locally.

### 7. Where can one get more information on the Municipal Property Rates Act?

The Act is available on [www.dplg.gov.za](http://www.dplg.gov.za). Hard copies are available at the Blouberg Municipality offices at reasonable duplication charges.

## Marobyane - Kimberly Go Ya England



Mr Ledwaba (Blouberg Municipality); Mr Mpho ya Thobela (Venetia Mine) and Mr Sekuru (Blouberg Football Association)

"Bjale ke nako ya gore masogana a metse-magaeng a bontšhe botswerere bja bona dipapading", mantšu ao a ilego a bolelela ke Modulasetulo wa lekgotla la kgwele ya maoto (SAFA Blouberg) Morena Frans Sekuru, a phethagetše.

Blouberg le yona e tla tsebega lefaseng ka bophara gore e na le dikgalala tša kgwele ya maoto. Leeto la go utulla dikgalala tša kgwele ya maoto le thomile ngwageng wa go feta (2007) bjalo ka karolo ya segwera magareng ga Masepala wa Blouberg le De Beers Venetia Mine.

Go ile gwa kgoboketšwa dibapadi go tšwa diwateng tše lesomeseswai tša Blouberg motseng wa Marobyane. Gona moo, go ilwe gwa kgwethwa dibapadi tše masome-nne tšeo go tšona mafelelong go be go go swanetšwe go kgethwa dibapadi tšeo di ka emelago Masepala go sehlopha sa De Beers Diamond Soccer Challenge Under 19. Tšona e be ele dibapadi tšeo di bego di bontšha bokgoni ge Blouberg e be e phadišana le dibapadi go tšwa Mafelong a mangwe ao De Beers e šomelago gona.

Go tloga Marobyane go ile gwa lebya Musina. Masogana a ile a hlotlwa moo le go phadišana le ba Masepala wa Musina pele ba ka phenkgišana le dibapadi go tšwa mafelong a mangwe. Mafelo ao a akaretša Kimberly, Johannesburg le a mangwe.

Taba tše dibotse ke gore leeto le la go thoma Marobyane le feletše Kimberly le kgalala ya kgwele ya maoto gotšwa Blouberg e kgethilwe go ba karolo ya sehlopha sa bafenyi e lego De Beers Squad motseng wa Kimberly. Mpho Sebola go tšwa Mokoena, ke karolo ya masogana a masome-pedi a o a ya go England nakong ya go se fediše pelo.

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## KGATELOPELE DIPAPADING

Ngwaga wa ketepedi seswai (2008) ke ngwaga wa mahlatse le katlego go dibapadi tša kgwele ya maoto masepaleng wa Blouberg. Bahlali ba Mokopane Sport Academy ba ile ba etela Masepala wa Blouberg mathomong a ngwaga kgwekgwe ya taba e le go kgetha dibapadi tšeo di tla bapalelago Mokopane Sports Academy.

Dihlopha ka moka tša ka fase ga Blouberg Local Football Association (BLFA) di be di kopane ka di 06 Janaware 2008 mo e lego gore baraloki ba bane ba ile ba hlaolwa go yo ralokela le go tsena sekolo Mokopane Sports Academy.

Dibapadi tšeo di kgethilwego e bile go legoro la makgarebe ka fase ga mengwaga ye lesome hlano (15) e lego Molokomme Mahlodi le Madioppe Moloko Adelaide bao ba ralokelago sehlopha sa Dipitsi go tšwa motseng wa Sekhung. Raselae Collen o kgethilwe go tšwa legorong la masogana a ka fase ga mengwaga ye lesome tharo (13) e bile a bapalela sehlopha sa Avon Real Birds. Ge e le Raletjana Khomotjo Leonard go tšwa Lethaleng o kgethilwe ka legorong la dibapadi tša ka fase ga mengwaga ye lesome senyane (under 19). Ga bjale dibapadi tše ka moka ga tšona di Mokopane Sport Academy mo ba tsenago sekolo e bile ba raloka kgwele ya maoto gona.

Go kgethwa ga baraloki ga gwa felela mo ka ge go bile le go kgethwa ga dibapadi tša ka fase ga mengwaga ye lesome senyane (under 19) tša Metropolitan ka Polokwane Cricket Club ka di 9 March 2008 mo baraloki ba go lekana ba masomepedi tshela ba ilego ba iponagatša gomme le



A ke mathomomayo a dinaletsana tsa kgwele ya maoto

baraloki ka moka ba ka fase ga Blouberg Local Football Association ba ilego ba ba gona e fela le ge go le bjalo go ile gwa kgwethwa fela ba tshela bao batla emelago sehlopha sa selete sa Metropolitan. Baraloki bao ba kgethilwego e bile Matsapola Matome, Rammutla Albert le Mahlako Ngwako go tswa Avon Real Birds motseng wa Marobjane, Masethe Molatelo go tšwa Lethaleng yo a bapalelago Happy Tigers, Motopa France le Moremi Matome go tšwa Sekhung bao ba bapalelago sehlopha sa Dipitsi.



# A RE YENG DIKOPANONG

Ka ntle le dikopano tša Council le Executive Committee dikopano tša makgotla ka moka di tla swarelwa dikantorong tša Masepala Senwabarwana ka mkgwa wo o latelago. Dikopano tša Council le Executive Committee di buletšwe maloko a setšhaba. Le mengwa go ba gona.

	April	May	June
<b>Council</b>		28	
<b>Executive Committee</b>	30	22	30
<b>Portfolio Committees</b>	23	16	26
<b>Ward Committees</b>		2 – 8	
<b>Mayor - Magoshi</b>		12	
<b>Performance Review Forum</b>	4 – 6		
<b>Land Use Management Forum</b>	10	14	13
<b>Energy Forum</b>		9	
<b>Water Forum</b>		9	
<b>Housing Forum</b>		13	
<b>Transport Forum</b>		13	
<b>Disaster Management Forum</b>		14	
<b>Waste Management Forum</b>		14	
<b>LED Forum</b>		15	
<b>Local Communicators Forum</b>		15	

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