

BLM FINAL DRAFT 2022/23 IDP/BUDGET STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Her Worship the Mayor of Blouberg Local Municipality, Cllr Maria Thamaga has called on leadership collective and management to continue to put the needs of Blouberg communities first as the municipality is the sphere of government closest to the people and have entrusted them as their leaders with power to change their lives for better.

Mayor Thamaga was delivering the opening remarks during the municipality's final 2022/23 Intergrated Development Plan IDP/Budget strategic planning session held earlier today.

The session attended by municipal leadership and management was for management to consult with the political leadership on the final draft IDP/Budget 2022/23 - 2026/27, to demonstrate the municipal state of readiness to table the draft document to council, to give summary of the capital projects and budgets for the outer years, to report on issues raised in IDP/Budget public participation meetings and to enable leadership and council to make sound and informed decisions among other things.

The IDP is developed in terms of the Municipal Systems Act of 2000 and all municipalities are mandated to produce one. This is a super plan for the municipality that gives an overall framework for development. It aims to co-ordinate the work of the municipality and other spheres of government in a coherent plan to improve the quality of life for all the people living in the area.

The municipality has throughout the months of April and May, consulted with various stakeholders; traditional authorities, mining houses, farming communities and the general public to solicit their inputs on the draft planning and budget as required.

Community members under Cluster A- Wards; 01,02,21,22, Cluster B - Wards; 03,08,09,10,11,12,14, Cluster C - Wards - 04,05,06,07, 20 and Ward 19 residents came out in their numbers during public participation programme and have had the opportunity to have their say on the planning processes of the municipality. Cluster D residents under Wards; 13,15,16,17 are yet to be consulted.

Issues repeatedly raised during public consultation sessions were;

- The poor condition of road infrastructure -Upgrading of road network from gravel to tar.
- Water challenges (RETICULATION AND SOURCE) and maintenance of water infrastructure.
- Shortage of RDP/low cost houses
- High unemployment levem
- EPWP and CWP opportunities

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. The IDP also set a framework for how land should be used and what infrastructure and services are needed among other things.

The strategic planning session was followed by the Executive Committee (EXCO) monthly meeting.

Mayor Thamaga will on Friday, May 27, present the final IDP together with the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) and budget related policies for implementation from July 1.



