

BLOUBERG LEADERSHIP MEETS MINING HOUSES

The leadership of Blouberg Local Municipality led by the Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga on Wednesday, January 19 had fruitful deliberations with mining houses operating within the municipality during meet-and-greet session held at the Council Chamber in Senwabarwana.

Following the inauguration of new Council late last year, the new leadership had engagements with various municipal stakeholders to build relations and has deemed it necessary to meet the mining companies as another important stakeholder for the municipality.

The mining companies in attendance included; Nakedi Mining Solutions, De Beers Venetia Mine and Sylvania Mine. During the meeting, discussion on the mining companies social labour plans(SLP) and the implementation system took a centre stage.

Mining houses briefed municipal leadership about their current SLP programmes, progress and challenges they encounter along the way during implementation process.

Chairing today' session, the chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Economic Development and Planning, Cllr Dan Moseni, indicated that, the mining companies SLPs must be aligned to the municipality's Intergrated Development Plan(IDP) and that, projects implemented should enhance the municipality's job creation strategy and respond to challenges faced by communities.

Presenting Mayor Maria Thamaga's message, whom left the meeting early to attend to other important business of Council, Acting Municipal Manager , Mr Refilwe Ramothwala indicated that it is engagements like these, that the municipality and mining houses should find each other and work towards a common goal of development for the benefit of Blouberg community.

The Mayor indicated that as the mining houses make profit through their mining activities in the area and sustain their businesses, it is equally important for them to develop the communities which they operate in. She further indicated that mining companies need to partner with the municipality to eradicate poverty by creating employment, skilling the youth and implementing long lasting infrastructure development projects.

In conclusion, the Mayor called on mining houses to be environmental acts compliant by not poluting rivers, streams and other sources of water.

The municipality is planning to host a mining seminar for further engagements with the mining houses. The Mining Forum will be held on quarterly basis to reflect on plans and projects.



