

Blouberg Municipality



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOUBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY HOLDS COUNCIL MEETING AND IMBIZO

The Council of Blouberg Local Municipality today, 28, March 2022, adopted the 2022/23 - 2026/27 draft Intergrated Development Plan IDP/Budget and related policies and Executive Committee among other reports during its ordinary meeting held at Raweshi Village in Ward 01.

The Mayor is, in terms of the Municipal Systems Act of 2000 and Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) Section 22 required to table the draft IDP/Budget at least 90 days before the start of the new financial years. Guided by the local government legislation the municipality will soon consult with various stakeholders namely; traditional authorities, mining houses, farming communities and the general communities to solicit their inputs and comments on the draft planning and budget before final approval as required.

The draft 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.

After formal meeting of Council, community members were afforded the opportunity to raise their service concerns with the Mayor and her team.

Most of the issues raised by residents under Ward 01 made up of Kgatlu, Raweshi, Cracouw, Norma, Lewaneng, Vienna, Sadu, Uitkyk No3, Aurora, Earlydawn and Oldlongsigne villages included bad roads conditions, water shortages in some areas, poor/no network coverage in most of the areas om the ward and the need for government houses.

However some residents applauded the municipality for electrifying extensions and the district for uninterrupted water supply in some areas.

Community members also requested the municipality to engage other government institutions to extend their services to Raweshi Multi-Purpose Community Centre(MPCC) as the central point for the benefit of communities of the ward surrounding areas.

Responding to the concerns raised, Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga extended her gratitude to the community of Ward 1 for setting aside their activities for the day in favor of the Council Community Outreach Programme. The Mayor indicated that, it is the responsibility of the municipality to ensure that the basic needs of its communities are met.

" I have heard all your service delivery concerns and noted them down. I will meet with the Acting Municipal and his team together with responsible chairpersons regarding all these concerns. We will visit the affected communities and see how we can resolve. We engaged role players; the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure on issues of roads and the Capricorn District Municipality to assist in resolving water challenges in some of our communities. As the municipality we are happy as that Premier Mathabatha in his State of the Province Address(SOPA) earlier this month indicated that road D Blouberg Hospital to Buffelshoek will be upgraded from gravel to tar between 2022/23 - 2023 financial years." Said Mayor Thamaga.

Mayor Thamaga said that the municipality is unable to implement projects in every community in one financial year due to budgetary constraints, however it is committed to resolve challenges raised by communities.

Mayor further indicated that, the municipal leadership is currently in communication with private sector - the mining companies operating within the municipality focus their Social Labour Plan mainly on funding infrastructure projects and further call on community members to play their part in delivery of services by paying for municipal services for the municipality fund more community projects.

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