

Blouberg Municipality



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINING HOUSES JOIN HANDS WITH MUNICIPALITY TO ERADICATE POVERTY

The leadership of Blouberg Local Municipality led by the Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga had fruitful deliberations regarding community development with mining houses operating within the municipality during Mayor's stakeholder engagement session held on January 2022 in Senwabarwana.

Following the inauguration of new Council last year, the new leadership had engagements with various 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 mine's social and labour plans(SLP) and the implementation system took a centre stage.

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

Facilitating the session, chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Economic Development and Planning, Cllr Daniel Mosena, indicated that, the mining companies SLPs must be aligned with the municipality's Integrated 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, who left the meeting early to attend other important business of Council, Acting Municipal Manager , Mr Refilwe Ramothwala indicated that it is engagements like these that 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 implement long lasting infrastructure

development projects.

In conclusion, the Mayor called on mining houses to be compliant of environmental management legislations and refrain from polluting rivers, streams and other sources of water.

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

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