

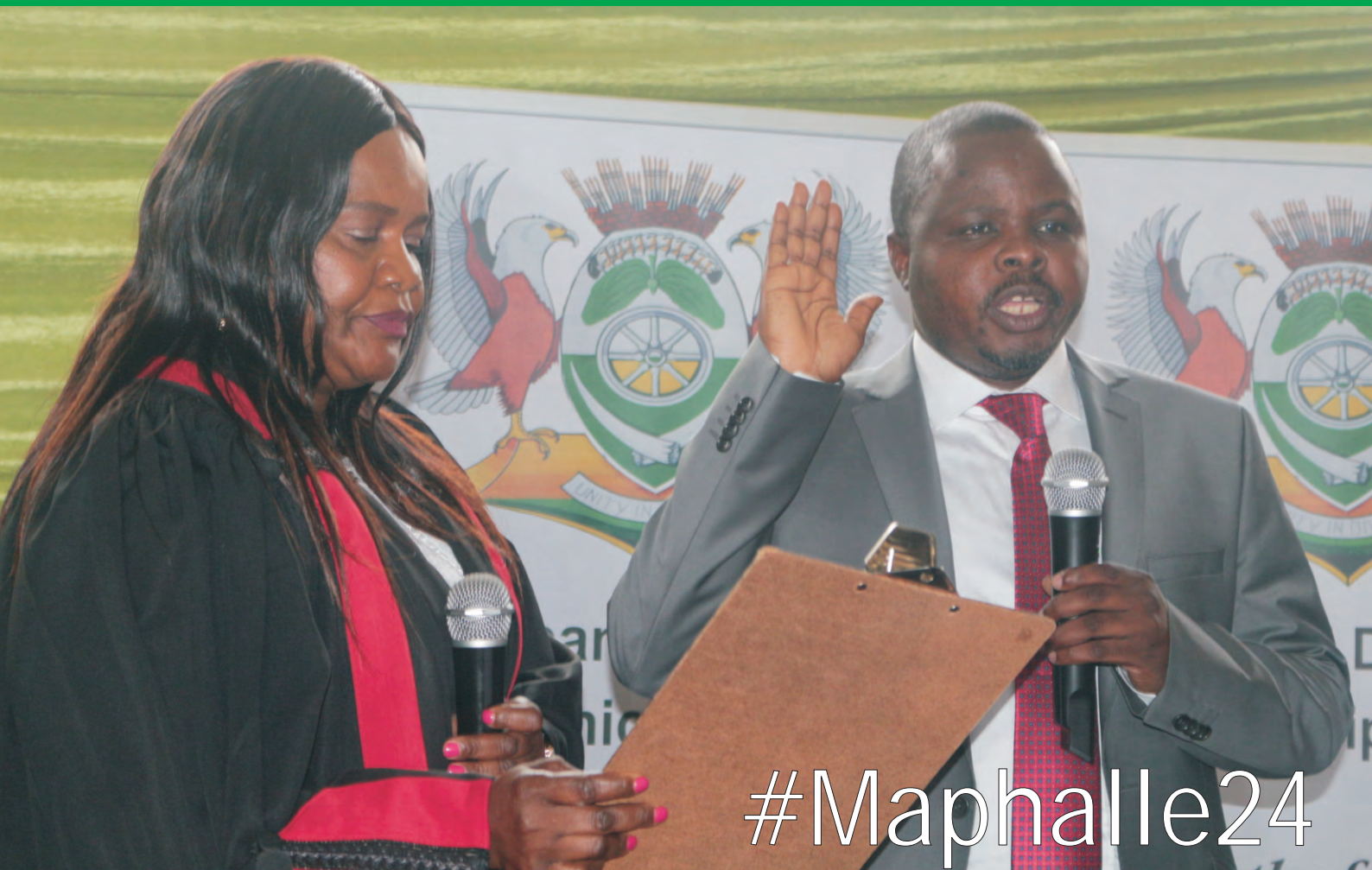


# **MOPANI** *Bulletin*

## **MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

Official Quarterly Newsletter (April - June 2019)

**Council adopts a R1,9 billion budget for 2019/20 Financial year**



**#Maphalle24**

**"To be the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice"**

## Editor's Note



Deputy Manager Communications  
Witness Tiva  
tivaaw@mopani.gov.za

This final edition of the 2018/2019 financial year is highlighting a number of developmental stories and the transition that happened when the new Executive Mayor Councillor Pule Shayi was sworn in as the head of the institution. The Mopani District Municipality is delighted to introduce the Executive Mayor in this edition. The MDM Bulletin continues to provide exciting events, news worthy stories and an overall update on the activities happening within the district municipal area. The Mopani District Communications Unit has also taken a decision to constantly upload its weekly and quarterly news letters on the municipality's website and also on the Facebook account. This is done all in a bid to cut costs by reducing a number of printed copies and also to release timely news. This publication is one of the platforms assisting the Mopani District Municipality to constantly update the public and also get feedback from communities who are being serviced by the district. The district municipality communications team has also been joined by a two interns. Hlologelo Lebea and Cindy Mahasha who are amongst the 50 interns who have just joined the district municipality. The interns have been attached to different directorates, with the majority having joined Water Services. Readers are once again urged to give us feedback on the contact details below.

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## COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



Graphic Designer  
Mapula Legodi  
Legodim@mopani.gov.za



Communications Researcher  
Odas Ngobenio  
Ngobenio@mopani.gov.za



Hlologelo Lebea  
Intern



Cindy Mahasha  
Intern



# EXECUTIVE MAYOR 'S FOREWORD



## Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi

I have accepted with great humility the responsibility to lead Mopani District Municipality at the level of Executive Mayor's position. The masses of our people mandated the African National Congress in 2016 to advance people's power in every community. Such a mandate was premised around the understanding that local government as a sphere closest to our people should attend to the problems of our people faster, in a differentiated and responsive manner, in order to mend centuries of scorn, depredation and exploitation.

The lives of our people have changed over the past 25 years. We do concede however, that in that journey of changing the lives of our people through determination and great sacrifices, mistakes were also made. We now know that we could have moved faster and quality of services delivered to our people could have been better.

Our people still have hope in us that indeed we can make the most of this journey of renewal. When taking an oath of office, we have committed ourselves to work together with our people to transform the district's economy to serve our people. We have also committed to step up a fight against corruption and safeguard the integrity of the municipality through provision of ethical leadership.

We have recently adopted a budget and IDP for the 2019/20, and our conviction is that the adopted is a reflection of the aspirations of the people of our district. Together with all councillors, we have committed to jointly work together to ensure that every cent is spent on the betterment of the lives of our people.

We are alive to the challenges ahead of us. We have said that infrastructure roll out in relation to water, sanitation and sewerage system should be fast-tracked to make necessary interventions in our communities. Through the inter-governmental relations forum, we shall be able to monitor implementation of issues raised during our public participation, but are outside our mandate as a district municipality. It is therefore business unusual. It is BACK TO BASICS.

We also have an obligation to build safer communities and embrace our diversity in our nation-building efforts. In saying so, let me also commend the efforts by young people of Dan village and surrounding areas who have taken it upon themselves to work with the police to rid their streets of crime.

Through my interaction with residents of that area, I have learned that our people now feel safe, thanks to the work of these brave young men who patrol the streets of Dan village even during these chilly winter nights. The most vulnerable people within our societies, the women and children find comfort in knowing that someone is out there looking out for them.

We salute these young men for having raised their hands in response to the Thuma mina call made President Ramaphosa. This is in line with our commitment in 2016 when we said communities can work together with the police in the fight against crime through the establishment of street committees.

Let us work together, to advance people's power in our district.



**Cllr Pule Shayi**  
Executive Mayor

# Members of the Mayoral Committee



**Cllr Mohale MC**  
MMC Economic Development,  
Housing and Spatial Planning



**Cllr Maake MD**  
MMC Governance and  
Shared Services



**Cllr Modjadji GH**  
MMC Finance



**Cllr Sefufi MH**  
MMC Water Services



**Cllr Malatji GM**  
MMC Infrastructure  
Development Services



**Cllr Mathonsi EJ**  
MMC Public Transport  
and Roads



**Cllr Shimange Fazi MI**  
MMC Community  
Services



**Cllr Mathaba MA**  
MMC for Agriculture and  
Environmental Management Services



**Cllr Baloyi NN**  
MMC Sport, Recreation,  
Arts and Culture



# Councillor Pule Shayi Sworn-in as the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality



## Councillor Pule Shayi takes an oath of office as the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality

**C**ouncillor Pule Shayi was sworn-in as the new Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality during a special Council sitting held at the Letaba Showground in Tzaneen on the 07<sup>th</sup> of June 2019.

Delivering his acceptance speech, Shayi said that he was honoured by the responsibility bestowed on him by the people of Mopani. "I do that with a deeper sense of humility and appreciation."

Shayi conceded that while a lot has been achieved by government over the past 25 years of freedom and democracy, mistakes were also made which need to be corrected. "Today, we stand at the doorsteps of renewal, which translates into an opportunity to restore confidence to our people."



"That becomes possible if we could transform the district economy to serve our people, advance social transformation and step up a fight against corruption and safeguard the integrity of the municipality through provision of ethical leadership," he said.

The Executive Mayor also said that the focus in the remaining years of the term of local government will be on fast-tracking service delivery and ensuring clean governance. "Infrastructure roll out in relation to water, sanitation and sewerage system should be fast-tracked to make necessary interventions in our communities."

"Tightening internal control would give effect to clean governance and usher a new dawn of fighting corruption wherever it rears its ugly head," said Shayi.

Shayi is not new to the local government and the public service environment. He served as the mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality until his swearing-in as a councillor in the Mopani District. He has also worked as an official in institutions that include the Department of Basic Education, Mopani District Municipality, Office of the Minister for Public Service and Administration, Municipal Infrastructure Support Agency, and in the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

He announced changes to the Mayoral Committee during his acceptance speech. Councillor Godfrey Modjadjji who previously chaired MPAC was appointed MMC for Finance. Councillor David Maake who was the chairperson of chairpersons of committees was appointed MMC for Governance and Shared Services. Councillor Japisa Mathonsi was moved to the Public Transport and Roads portfolio. Councillor Maditshego Sefufi was moved from Transport to Water Services portfolio. Councillor Given Malatji was appointed as the new MMC for Infrastructure Development Services. Councillor Nyiko Baloyi was moved from Governance to Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture. Councillor Annicky Mathaba was appointed the MMC for Agriculture and Environmental Management Services. Councillor Mikateko Shimange was appointed MMC for Community services, while MMC Christinah Mohale was retained as the MMC for Economic Development, Housing and Spatial Planning.



# The Mopani District Municipality's newly elected Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi introduced to staff members

The newly elected Executive Mayor Councillor Pule Shayi has been introduced to staff members during a meet and greet session at the district's headquarters in Giyani on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2019. The new political head was officially introduced to about two hundred staff members by the charismatic Council Speaker Wireless Sedibeng. The Executive Mayor Shayi then took to the podium and addressed the staff members who have been anxiously waiting to meet the new Executive Mayor. Some employees were meeting him for the first time, while others worked with him when he was employed in the same institution as a Community Liaison Officer ten years ago. Cllr Shayi urged all employees to work diligently all in a bit to ensure that there is improved service delivery.

"I know that sometimes change or transition can be frustrating, to some transition brings about panic and uncertainty. What I can say to you today is that don't be despondent, continue to serve our people like nothing has happened, always practice the Batho Pele principles."

"Always remember that you are the face of this institution, I have worked in this institution, I know some of you personally, some of you are my parents but protocol dictates that I lead you" said Shayi.

The staff members cheered in acknowledging and accepting the welcome address by the Executive Mayor Cllr Shayi. The Executive Mayor Shayi also urged all employees to go and extra mile in serving the people of Mopani District Municipality. The Municipal Manager, Directors and managers also attended the session. Municipal Manager Republic Monakedi says the employees are delighted to have someone of Shayi's calibre leading the institution.



• The new Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi addressing employees during a meet and greet session.



Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi flanked by Speaker Cllr Wireless Sedibeng and Chief Whip Cllr Martha Maswanganyi



Employees attentively listening to the Executive Mayor during the meet and greet session

# BUDGET

## 2019/2020

### Revenue:

Interest earned – external investment = R 9 000 000  
 Grants = R 1 522 020 000  
 Other = R13 940 000  
 Water and sewerage – locals = R226 429 876

### Tariff increases:

Water = 5,2 %  
 Sanitation = 5,2%  
 Sale of tenders = 5,2%

### Capital projects:

MIG = R431 580 250  
 WISG = R120 000 000  
 Own funding (Equitable share) = R 19 900 000  
 TOTAL: R569 480 250

### Free basic services:

Free 6kl of water to all indigent households

Free sanitation to registered indigents

**Operating budget:**  
**R 1 345 809 212**

**Maintenance:**  
**R107 705 366**

### Other Highlights

- ☒ Disaster relief support = R1 000 000
- ☒ Fire emergency equipment and upgrading = R11 400 000
- ☒ Gravelotte township establishment = R500 000
- ☒ Bursaries = R1000 000
- ☒ Executive Mayors Cup and Marathon = R1000 000
- ☒ IT related projects, including
- ☒ Economic growth and development plan = R650 000



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# Council adopts a R1,9 billion budget for 2019/20 Financial year



Executive Mayor Pule Shayi delivering the budget speech to a council sitting at the Disaster Management Centre.

Mopani District Municipality has adopted a R1,9 billion budget during a Special Council Sitting held at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen.

Delivering the budget speech to council, Executive Mayor Pule Shayi said that the budget is a reflection of the aspirations of the people of Mopani. "Throughout the public participation process, including during our targeted engagements with specific sectors, the message has been loud and clear – our people want water, not excuses."



The new chairperson of Municipal Public Account Committee (MPAC), Councillor Charlotte Nkhwashu with newly appointed chairperson of chairperson, Councillor Masilo Maloko.

Shayi presented a total budget of just over R1.9 billion, with an operating expenditure of R1,3 billion. The municipality will spend R569 million on capital projects, while R107 million will go to maintenance work.

With a budget of just over R101 million, the municipality will build 7 815 VIP toilets across the five local municipalities. "In building from the achievements made in the past, we have in this financial year built 1094 VIP toilets. We can also report to this august sitting that we have completed the upgrading of Lenyenye Sewage plant. We will also spend an amount of R24 588 804 on the Kampersrus Sewage Plant," said Shayi.

The Executive Mayor urged councillors to diligently work together in playing an oversight role on the implementation of the IDP and budget. "The budget we are presenting here today is for the people of Mopani. We have to jointly work together to ensure that every cent of this budget is accounted for, and spent for betterment of the lives of our people.

"Let us move forward, guided by our collective responsibility to change the lives of our people in this district by providing quality basic services. This is one task we have accepted with great humility, and it is one task we cannot afford to relegate to anyone else," said Shayi.

Council also adopted the reviewed IDP for the 2019 – 2021, and budget related reviewed policies including the tariff policy, expenditure policy, supply chain management policy, credit control and debt collection policy, indigent policy, investment policy, virement policy, asset management policy, inventory policy, financial delegations as well as the policy on the writing off of irrecoverable debt.

**"A budget that is a reflection of the aspirations of the people of Mopani"** - Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi during the budget adoption by council at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen on Friday, 21 June 2019

# The Mopani District Municipality hosts the Disability Forum and Disability Awareness Campaign in Tzaneen

The special programs desk in the Office of the Executive Mayor has organised a two-day event to zoom into issues that are affecting people who are living with disability. This has been planned to provide a platform for people who are living with disability across the district municipality. The participants were given an opportunity to raise their concerns and challenges that they are faced with on a daily basis. Some also commended local government for the continued support it is providing to people with special needs.

The stakeholders discussed grey areas on education, skills development, employment and assistive devices for people living with disabilities. The participants came from the five local municipalities and sector departments.

Mopani District Disability Coordinator Raymond Mabuza highlighted some of the strides that Mopani District Municipality has made in addressing some of the challenges faced by people living with disabilities.

"we are working very hard to improve the lives of people who are living with disabilities, we interact with them on weekly basis to identify their needs. We have sent some of them to special schools and also procured wheelchairs and other assistive devices for them" said Mabuza.

A Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Community Services, Councillor Minkateko Shimange-Fazi says government is determined to cater for people living with disability.

"As the political leadership in the institution we are happy that you are able to organize an event of this nature to raise your concerns and also commend municipalities on the support they are offering to you."

"We have noted all your concerns and we will be able to sit down and have a look on them. Areas that requires our attention will be responded to, while those that are outside our area of operation will be forwarded to the relevant sector departments." said Cllr Shimange-Fazi.



MMC for Community Services Minkateko Shimange-Fazi making closing remarks in one of the sessions.



Raymond Mabuza giving an update on the progress that has been made by his office in improving the lives of people with disability.



A member of Greater Giyani Municipality Disability Forum Noza Mathebula making inputs during one of the sessions and Attendees





# Mopani District Municipality assist in the burial of the Maphalle 24 victims.



**Executive Mayor Councillor Pule Shayi giving vote of thanks at Rapitsi's Sport Ground**



**Dignitaries at the Maphalle 24 funeral**

The Mopani District Municipality under the leadership of the Executive Mayor Councillor Pule Shayi has assisted in the burial of 24 young people who perished in a horrific accident that happened on the 81 Mooketsi-Giyani road. The victims died in a head-on collision between a bus and a mini bus on the 16 of June 2019. The Executive Mayor Pule Shayi immediately established a Preparatory Committee which was tasked with a responsibility to organise a memorial service and a mass funeral service. Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula, his provincial counterpart Dickson Masemola, Premier Stan Mathabatha, Deputy Minister Dikeledi Magadzi, Health MEC Phophi Ramathuba, her Social Development counterpart Nkakareng Rakgoale and the Greater Letaba Municipality Mayor Peter Matlou were among thousands of mourners who paid their last respects a mass funeral service held at Ga-Rapitsi near Kgapanne. Minister Mbalula urged road users to always obey traffic rules in order to clamp down on road carnage.

"We are here to mourn young people whose lives were cut short in their prime in the most tragic circumstances. Your loss is the loss of the nation. Your pain is our pain. No parent should go through the pain of burying their own children," said Mbalula.

"Our public transport system cannot be coffins on wheels where innocent people lose their lives because of the careless behaviour of others... Similarly, our roads cannot be gravesites, but pathways that connect our people to centres of economic activity and social amenities such as hospitals and institutions of learning. Each death on our roads is one death too many."

The Executive Mayor Pule Shayi thanked businesses such as ZZ2, Black Lawyers Association, local businesses, funeral parlours, traditional leaders, bereaved families and also the Road Accident Fund for coming on board to ensure that the 24 people get a befitting send off. Nineteen of the 24 deceased were learners at four local high schools, while the other five were community members. They come from 9 different villages in the Bolobedu cluster with the majority coming from Ga-Rapitsi village. The ages of the victims are between 13 and 27, of which 18 were males and 06 females.

The Mopani District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Pule Shayi has encouraged all the officials and community members involved to continue to work tirelessly all in a bit to ensure that the 24 people get a befitting send offs. "As government we want to appreciate the well-coordinated effort put in place by the traditional leaders, community structures and our officials in preparing for the memorial and funeral services respectively. We also thank the support coming from both the provincial and national government, as we have already seen Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula and the MECs coming down to also support the bereaved families. " said Shayi.

Spokesperson of the families Janquas Mafa thanked the government and businesses for all the support they received as a dark cloud befallen the 24 families.

# Mining companies urged to invest in communities they operate in

Mining companies operating in Mopani District Municipality should assist in building houses, schools, clinics and road infrastructure in areas where they operate - this according to speaker of council, Councillor Wireless Sedibeng.

Delivering a keynote address to the Mining Indaba held at Unigaz in the Greater Giyani Municipality on Thursday last week, Sedibeng said that "The industry can contribute a lot in changing the lives of our poor rural masses through investment in community development."

"Our interaction here should be able to paint a clear picture of where we are as a district in terms of own potential in mining, and further expose areas where can maximise our potential in order to build the economy of our district," said Sedibeng.

The Indaba held under the theme, "Hi vuyela mugodini – going back to mining" resolved to commission a study on mineral resource development in the district. This must happen in the first quarter of the 2019/20 financial year.

The chairperson of the Local House of Traditional Leaders, Chief Phyllia Nwamitwa has called on the municipality to engage mining companies operating in the district to reach out to all communities within the district. "We are urging the municipality to engage with the management of these mining companies around the issue of the radius. They must reach out to all communities in the district, not just the few villages from where they are operating," she said.

Chief Nwamitwa also said that mining companies must have skills transfer programmes that will benefit local communities. "People from our communities are only offered work opportunities that require manual labour, while technicians are brought from outside. These mines must transfer skills to the local people, so that we are able to fight unemployment in our district," she said.



**Speaker of council, Councillor Wireless Sedibeng delivering the keynote address at the mining indaba.**



**Chief Nwamitwa II addressed delegates to the mining indaba on behalf of traditional leaders.**



**Director for Planning and Economic Development, Faith Maboya with Municipal Manager Republic Monakedi at the Mining Indaba.**



# VILLAGERS REJOICE AS WATER IS RESTORED IN MOHLABA AREA



**Residents of Sasekani village fetching water from the communal taps**



**Patrick Khumalo, a ward 24 committee member responsible for water services with Amos Silinda, a safety officer for Diges Group at the Sasekani Plant.**

Villages that are currently benefiting include Mohlababa, Sasekani and Petanenge. Meanwhile, other technicians are working around the clock to ensure that water reaches the communities of Zanghoma and surrounding areas.

Elizabeth Mathebula from JB village says the community is overjoyed to finally have water. "We are happy that our prayers have been answered. We now have clean water nearer to where we stay. Even if we are not to get water every day, as long as we are told when to expect it – its fine."

**T**hirsty residents of Mohlababa area in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality say they are relieved that Mopani District Municipality has managed to restore water supply in their area after many years of living without potable water.

About 24 villages have been without water for years due to illegal connections on the main bulk pipeline. The Mopani District Municipality intervened to ensure that the newly built booster pump station is electrified. The booster pump station which has a capacity of pumping one million litres a day started pumping water on the 19th of April, much to the delight of residents of villages in the area. The booster pump station will assist in taking water to villages as far as Seedan in ward 25.

Mopani District Municipality's Director for Technical Services Paradise Shilowa says technicians will remain on the ground to ensure that all the stand pipes and pipelines that were vandalized are fixed to stop water leaks. "We have some stand pipes and pipelines that were vandalized by criminals over the past few years, but our technicians are currently fixing them to stop the leaks as we are losing a lot of water. Our dedicated team is working tirelessly to ensure that there is adequate supply of water within our district municipal areas," said Shilowa.



# International Firefighters' Day (IFFD) commemorated in Mopani District



Mopani District Municipality fire fighters celebrated International Firefighters' Day (IFFD) at the Tzaneen Fire Station along with other first responders, including the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Working on Fire (WoF), Traffic, South African Police Service (SAPS), ER24, TEMS and the Letaba Fire Protection Association. On arrival at the Tzaneen Fire Station, first responders and guests were welcomed by the Senior Manager of Community Services of the Mopani District Municipality, Mr David Shitlhangu. Following the reading of the Fire-fighter's prayer by Assistant Chief Fire Officer Vincent van der Westhuizen, Cllr A. Sono, provided the keynote address. She explained the origin of International Firefighters' Day to the audience, and provided words of encouragement for the emergency services. The keynote address was followed by squad drills by Working on Fire Teams, a fire awareness talk, a firehose drill, a rescue drill and the fire-fighters fitness competition.



Before the drills got underway Tzaneen Fire Station Divisional Officer, Beryl Monakisi, used the opportunity to raise awareness about fire with school children from a local school. Her ability to engage with this young audience saw a quick and enthusiastic response from the children as they learnt critical basic issues related to fire and relevant emergency numbers. Much to their delight, each child was presented with a certificate from Mopani Fire & Rescue Services at the end of the awareness session. Following this, the Modjadjiskloof Fire Station, supported by the Emergency Medical Services, ER24 and TEMS private ambulance service undertook a rescue simulation, while the Tzaneen Fire Station provided a firehose drill.



The fire-fighter fitness competition involved a gruelling series of exercises which tested participants to the full. Letaba Fire Protection Association Fire Manager, Rouan Snyman, facilitated the competition, assisting in getting each participant started and tracking their respective times. Trophies and medals were awarded to the winners by Cllr. Sono and Cllr. Mathedemusa.







## Get skills to drive our economy, Executive Mayor tells Youth Rally



**Executive Mayor Pule Shayi addressing hundreds of young people at then Youth Month Commemoration rally at Matswi village.**



**Young people attending the Youth Month rally**

The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has urged young people to get skilled in order for them to embrace the technological advances on the fourth industrial revolution. He was speaking during the district's youth Month Commemoration held at Matswi in the Greater Letaba Municipality on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June. When he took to the podium, the Executive Mayor Shayi led a song with the lyrics 'noba kubi siyaya' – which is loosely translated to say even if it's tough we move forward.

He then urged young people to take advantage of the free tertiary education afforded to the youth by the government. "We need young people who will acquire skills that respond to the needs of this technology-driven economy. The bantu education system that the 1976 generation fought against only prepared people to work for a white man, not for you to be your own employers."

"The ANC-led government is implementing free higher education as envisioned in the Freedom Charter, which says that 'The doors of learning and of culture shall be opened.' More and more of our young people from African households have access to higher education," said Shayi.

He said the Mopani District Municipality is also making a contribution in support of students from poor families. "As a district municipality, we have through the student assistance fund in the Office of the Executive Mayor awarded bursaries to 94 learners this year.

"We have again set aside a budget of R1 million from our budget to assist learners from the district. Young people may not have excuses for not attaining education, given the strides we have made as government to open the doors of learning for all," he said.

The Executive Mayor said that Mopani District Municipality will support SMME development. "Why must we have people from outside Mopani who come here to do work that our young contractors with level one to three certification can do. We need to empower young people from within our district."

"Youth activism is important to driving economic growth, and aligning to the efforts of government of advancing the youth agenda. Young people cannot afford to be on the side-lines of this onslaught on the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and equality. Inspired by the spirit of the 1976 generation, it must be young people in the forefront of the fight for economic freedom. We are saying we are unwavering in our support for young development. You can be assured that you will never walk alone," he said.

He also said that young people must assist government in the fight against crime, saying "We also wish to challenge you today to claim back our streets. We should all be inspired by the efforts by young people of Dan village and surrounding areas who have taken it upon themselves to work with the police to rid their streets of crime."



# Mopani District Municipality welcome 50 interns



**Senior Manager in the Office of the Executive Mayor Pat Twala and his Cooperate Shared Services counterpart Geoffrey Lebepe as they welcome the interns.**



**The interns being welcomed in the Mopani District Municipality.**



**One of the interns Cindy Mahasha saying that she is delighted for having joined the district municipality.**

The Mopani District Municipality has welcomed 50 interns who will be attached to different directorates for a period of twelve months. The Senior Manager in the Office of the Executive Mayor Pat Twala and his Cooperate Shared Services counterpart Geoffrey Lebepe addressed the interns on their first day at work. Both directors encouraged the interns to make use of the opportunity afforded to them by the district municipality. "We are here today to welcome all of you and also to encourage you to work very hard. As the institution we received over a thousand applications for this internship programme, but only 50 of you who made it at the end of the day. You must consider yourselves very lucky. I am urging all of you to work diligently so that we can be proud of you, as you are now part of a team which is determined to see to it that there is improved service delivery in our communities" said Twala. Lebepe told the interns that further human resource processes will follow in due course.

One of the interns Cindy Mahasha who has joined the Communications Unit says she is delighted for having been considered for the position. "I am lucky and very excited to be part of the internship

programme, it will assist me to gain more knowledge, experience and further unlock opportunities" said Mahasha. Staff members have been urged to give all the necessary support to the interns as they embark on their experiential learning in different directorates.

# Mopani host Children's Parliament

**M**opani District Municipality hosted Children's Parliament at the Lulekani community hall in the Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality on Thursday last week.

The session was convened under the theme, "We are you, you are us.... please protect us." Children from across the district debated issues ranging from teenage pregnancy, bullying, gangsterism, as well as improving the school curriculum.

Ricky Ndlovu, a grade 7 learner from Nwarisenga Primary School led a commission on "Bullying, what does it mean, how to fight it."

He told parliament that the best way to fight bullying was not being a bully. "If you are a bully, you are also going to be bullied. Learn to apologize when you have wronged others, because of you don't apologize they would want revenge."

Ndlovu whose dream is to be a pilot said that participating in school activities such as sport can also minimize chances of being bullied. "Never walk alone. If you walk alone, you become an easy target for bullies. Participate in sporting activities at school and avoid being in isolation," said Ndlovu

Tlou Matjeke from the Advocacy Unit in the Office of the Premier encouraged learners to read, saying "strive for knowledge. You must know who is the minister responsible for children. You must know who is the premier of our province. As a unit our key responsibility is to advocate for your rights as children, including the right to life, survival and development."

**The Youth Officer in Mopani District Municipality, Oliver Mabunda outlining the purpose of the children's parliament.**



**Ricky Ndlovu making a presentation on ways to deal with bullying.**



**Learners from across the district at the Children's Parliament at Lulekani.**



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# MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY PARTICIPATE AT THE IMSSA GAMES



**T**he Mopani District Municipality's football team failed to qualify for the quarterfinals of the Inter-Municipal Sport of South Africa (IMSSA) games held at Mokopane over the weekend, after drawing three of their group stage matches.

The team played to a goalless draw with Maruleng in their first game, followed by another goalless draw with Lephalale before demolishing Molemolle with an emphatic 5 – 0 score line. Needing a victory in their last game in order to progress to the quarterfinals, Mopani again failed to score against Polokwane Municipality. The match ended with a goalless draw.

The netball team also failed to reach the semi-finals despite a gutsy performance against the host municipality. They beat Capricorn, but their gallant performance was not enough against Mogalakwena, succumbing to a 22 – 19 defeat. A win over Mogalakwena would have booked them a spot in the semi-finals.

Speaking on the side-lines of the games at Mokopane, the newly-appointed MMC for Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture Councillor Nyiko Baloyi said that the teams can build from their performances in preparations for the SAIMSA games in September.

"We are happy that both the netball and football teams performed well. They were very competitive, and that says to us we can build from this performance as we prepare for the SAIMSA games to be hosted in Zambia in the next coming months," he said.

Baloyi also said that the games are important for encouraging healthy lifestyle. "We are happy that more and more of our employees take in interest in participating in various sporting codes. Of course, there are challenges in getting them to train together over a period of time because of the vastness of our district. Others are stationed in our satellite offices which makes it difficult for them to train together as a team and build on combinations," he said.



**Mopani District Municipality's Netball team playing against Mogalakwena Municipality, the host for the 2019 IMSSA Salga games.**



**Mopani District Municipality football team ahead on their match with Molemolle at the IMSSA games held at the Hoerskool Pit Potgieter in Mokopane.**





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Mopani District Municipality



#### VISION

To be the food basket of Southern Africa  
and the tourism destination of choice

#### MISSION

Provide Services to the people and co-ordinate  
activities of other service providers resulting  
in the enhancement of sustainable social,  
physical and economic well being for all

### Mopani District Municipality

Giyani Main Road, Government Buildings  
Mopani District  
Limpopo Province, South Africa

Private Bag X 9687, Giyani, 0826

Tel: +27 15 811 6300 | Fax: +27 15 812 4302

[www.mopani.gov.za](http://www.mopani.gov.za)



#### VISION

To be a successful agro-production and eco-cultural-tourism hub,  
ensuring affordable access to basic services for all households

#### MISSION

To promote:

- Local, accountable democracy through active and informed community participation and co-operative governance;
- Social upliftment and environmental management to ensure a balance between improved quality of life and safe and healthy communities;
- Economic advancement to alleviate poverty and unemployment and to sustain the economy;
- Universal access to need-satisfying infrastructure and service rendering in a sustainable, affordable manner;
- Municipal transformation and institutional governance advancement.

### Greater Letaba Municipality

Botha Street, Civic Centre  
Modjadiskloof  
PO Box 36, Modjadiskloof 0835

Telephone Numbers  
+27 (0) 15 309 9246

[www.greaterletaba.gov.za](http://www.greaterletaba.gov.za)



#### Vision

To be the fastest growing economy in Limpopo, this will ensure  
access to basic services to every household.

#### Mission

To exceed our constitutional mandate in delivering developmental  
services to our people through partnerships with stakeholders.

### Greater Tzaneen Municipality

Agatha Street, Civic Centre  
Tzaneen  
PO Box 24, Tzaneen 0850

Telephone Numbers  
+27(0) 15 307 8000

[www.tzaneen.gov.za](http://www.tzaneen.gov.za)



#### Vision

"Provision of quality service for community well  
being and tourism development"

#### Mission

- To ensure financial viability, sound administration, and accountable governance for investor attractiveness;
- To render all stakeholders with quality and affordable infrastructure and services for enhancing a safe and better life for all;
- To manage the environment for future sustainable economic growth;
- To build the mining industry for economic growth;
- To position Ba-Phalaborwa as a tourism destination of choice.

### Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality

Civic Centre Nelson Mandela Drive  
Phalaborwa  
Private Bag 01020, Phalaborwa 1390

Telephone Numbers  
+27 (0) 15 780 6300

[www.ba-phalaborwa.gov.za](http://www.ba-phalaborwa.gov.za)



#### Vision

The Vision of the Maruleng Municipality is to become the  
powerhouse of socio-economic development through  
sustainable and integrated agriculture and tourism.

#### Mission

The Mission statement reads as follows: "Maruleng is  
committed to the provision of integrated basic services and  
sustainable infrastructure development in an accountable  
manner"

### Maruleng Local Municipality

64 Springbok Street  
Hoedspruit  
PO Box 627, Hoedspruit 1380

Telephone Numbers  
+27 (0) 15 793 2409

[www.maruleng.gov.za](http://www.maruleng.gov.za)



#### Vision

A municipality where environmental sustainability, tourism and  
agriculture thrive for economic growth.

#### Mission

A democratic and accountable municipality that ensure the provision  
of services through sound environmental management practices, local  
development and community participation.

### Greater Giyani Municipality

Main Road BA 59, Civic Centre  
Giyani  
Private Bag x9559, Giyani 0826

Telephone Numbers  
+27(0) 15 811 5500

[www.greatergiyani.gov.za](http://www.greatergiyani.gov.za)