



**Mopani District  
Municipality**

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## MOPANI

## COUNCIL APPROVES A R2,1 BILLION BUDGET FOR 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR

A special sitting of Mopani District Council held on Wednesday, 31 May has approved a R2,1 billion budget for the 2023/24 financial year, which has been widely welcomed by opposition parties in Council.

Delivering the budget speech, the Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi said the 2023/24 will be yet another difficult year, but the Municipality was on a path to recovery having adopted a funded budget for the first time in many years.

“In our budget speech last year, we spoke of the urgent need for us to start to live within our means – cutting our coat according to our cloth. We are faced with difficult choices. The cost of living is too high.

“With the ongoing efforts to recover from the negative effects of the Covid pandemic, our people are badly affected by this unstable electricity supply. The recent increase in the repo rate will not make things any easier for our people. But, we all have to swiftly adapt to this environment,” he said.

The Executive Mayor said R1,8 billion will be from transfers and subsidies. “We are projecting an amount of R287 million from the water revenue and R26 million from the sanitation revenue. The 2023/24 projections are based on the tariffs as approved by the District in consultations with the locals. All municipalities’ basic tariff has been increased by 5,3%.

He said the Municipality is budgeting R61 million, which constitutes 2,8% of the budget will be channelled towards servicing the historic debt with both Lepelle Northern Water and the Department of Water and Sanitation.

Councillor Patrick Hlungwani of the Patriotic Alliance (PA) welcomed the budget, saying “we want to welcome the budget as presented by the Executive Mayor, mainly because it is a funded budget. I want to applaud the administration at least this time. But we want to thank you for this budget. At least it is taking us somewhere. The budget deals with all that I want to hear, the historic debt and the legal issues.”

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## **COUNCIL APPROVES A R2,1 BILLION BUDGET FOR 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR**

*“Informed by our firm commitment to adopt a funded budget, which has eluded us for many years, big sacrifices had to be made. It is a budget that correctly projects our strength, but also exposes our weaknesses, but of course our obligation remains that of meeting the expectations of our people.”*

And the breakdown from transfers and subsidies is as follows:

- **R1,2 billion (R1 265 409 000)**  
from Equitable Shares
- **R548 Million (R548 214 000)**  
from Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG)
- **R8,7 Million (R8 713 000)**  
from EPWP
- **R3 Million (R3 000 000)**  
from Financial Management Grant
- **R2,3 Million (R2 370 000)**  
from the Rural Roads Asset Management Grant



*“We did commit as the fifth generation councillors that we are only going to choose options that maximize service delivery than opulence and we remain firm on that commitment. We are going to lead from the front. We are clear in terms of our mandate, we remain focused, and we are in no way going to exaggerate our strength.”*

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