



# MOPANI *Bulletin*

## MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Official Quarterly Newsletter (October - December 2019)

Executive Mayor opens water taps at Makgakgapatse



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## Editor's Note

Led by the Executive Mayor, we have in this quarter hosted a number of campaigns, and one of the key campaigns was the Cheka Impilo Campaign. The campaign is aimed at accelerating screening and testing for HIV, TB and STIs.

We hosted the campaign under the theme: "Communities make the difference." The campaign presents an opportunity for us to recognize the role that communities have and continue to play in the fight against AIDS.

We have also seen an upsurge in the number of cases of killings and abuse of women and children. This calls for us to continue our campaigns on no violence against women and children. Our campaigns going forward will focus on getting men and boys to actively participate in ending violence against women and children. Dialogue among men and boys is important because changing their attitude will contribute immensely to us winning the fight on women and children abuse.

The Executive Mayor has opened water taps for the community of Makgakgapatse in ward 22 of Greater Letaba Municipality, and the message from him was very clear – safeguard the infrastructure. And, I want to believe he will be opening more water taps in the coming year. He has also had a successful engagement with the community of ward 15 in the Greater Letaba Municipality, this as part of his Imbizo programme.

This newsletter continues to be a platform for information sharing, and we would appreciate feedback and comments because communication is a two-way process. On behalf of the team, I wish to take this opportunity to wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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# EXECUTIVE MAYOR 'S FOREWORD



Executive Mayor  
Cllr Pule Shayi

We have come to the end of yet another eventful year. Recently, we have witnessed the launch of the new District Coordination Model by President Cyril Ramaphosa. The model aims to improve the coherence and impact of government service delivery at the level of the district. This new district model brings to action the Khawuleza approach which is a call for an accelerated service delivery. Through this model, district municipalities will be properly supported and adequately resourced to speed up service delivery.

This year, we have seen young people rising in defence of their own communities against criminal elements through the formation of street patrol groups. We are at peace knowing that going into the festive season, working together with the police and other organised community structures, these young people will be out there to ensure a safe environment for our people.

We take this opportune moment to thank these young people for having taken it upon themselves to contribute in the fight against crime. But, we also wish to appeal to our people to be vigilant during the festive season.

Parents and caregivers should always be aware of their children's whereabouts, and ensure that children are left under the care of responsible and trusted adults. Let us also discourage young people from consuming alcohol and experimenting with drugs.

We are sad though, to have lost many lives on our roads since the start of this year. We are also worried that more lives may be lost if we are not cautious on our roads during this period. We commend the provincial government for having appointed additional traffic officials and we are assured of visible law enforcement patrols on all our roads during this period. However, we wish to appeal to our motorists to take responsibility for themselves and others while driving. We need to avoid drinking and driving, and texting while driving. May the lovely souls of all the departed rest in peace.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the Matric Class of 2019 for having had successful exams. We also wish to appeal to parents and guardians to support these learners during this anxious time when they are waiting for their results. The support must overlap beyond the release of the results early next month. We are ready as government to support them and ensure they realize their dreams of pursuing their studies at institutions of higher learning.

The heavens have not been smiling on us this year as we did not receive enough rains. We have even called for divine intervention through prayer session with the hope that it will rain. We make a clarion call to all that we use water sparingly and responsibly.

We look forward to 2020, and we again invite all residents of Mopani District Municipality to continue this journey with us – the journey of building a future where everyone will have access to basic services. Let us have a blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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# Executive Mayor opens water taps at Makgakgapatse

This infrastructure belongs to us, and we must care for it as we all depend on it. Vandalism and theft derail our efforts of providing sustainable water source to our communities, the Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi has told the community of Makgakgapatse when opening water taps there.

He urged the community to report illegal connections to authorities, saying all structures must work together to safeguard the infrastructure. "Let us report illegal connections to authorities. Our backlog in water provision is compounded by illegal connections on our infrastructure."

"The temptation will be there for some to connect from the main lines to the households, and that will collapse the system, as these illegal connections temper with the infrastructure."

The Mopani District Municipality committed an amount of R9,6 million to upgrade the internal water reticulation network at Makgakgapatse, which included the construction of 360 kilolitre storage tank, drilled and equipped borehole, construction of the rising main pipeline as well as installation of 62 communal taps.

The Executive Mayor has thanked community leaders for working together to ensure the completion of the project. "We are pleased to learn that the leadership of the ward played an oversight role throughout the implementation of this project and provided guidance when needed."

"We are also pleased that SMMEs benefited from this project. We are told that at least just under half-a-million (R495 800) went to four SMMEs. We hope that the exposure has benefitted these SMMEs. The project also created 30 work opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme," said Shayi.



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# Leaders, worshipers bow down in prayer for rain

The Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi together with Deputy Minister of Police, Cassel Mathale and MEC Dickson Masemola joined worshipers from various churches across the district in prayer for rain at the Nkowankowa Stadium.

Shayi said that the dam levels across the district were very low, and council expressed concern that if the drought persist, people may soon run out of drinking water.

"We are currently experiencing drought in the district, and we are worried that if the rains hold off for much longer, we may soon find ourselves on the brink of an unprecedented disaster.

"The levels at ten of our major dams are significantly lower as compared to the same period last year. The Tzaneen dam which is a major source of water to most parts of Greater Tzaneen Municipality is at 6,32% as compared to the same period last year, when it was at 21,68%," he said.

He said the Ebenezer dam was at 35,98% as compared to last year when it was 73,18%. The Nsami dam in the Greater Giyani Municipality is at 25,71%, while Middle-Letaba dam is at 3, 16%. The Modjadji dam is currently at 5,49%.

The Executive Mayor said that the municipality has a plan to respond to the drought, but also need divine intervention. "We used our allocation from the Drought Relief Fund to drill ninety-eight (98) additional boreholes to augment water supply. We have also purchased and distributed water tankers to all our local municipalities. But most importantly, we have established a joint operational centre, which involves all relevant stakeholders."

"With all of the plans we have, we do concede as leadership of the district municipality that this matter of drought may be beyond our scope of work as a water service authority, hence we are here today to call for divine intervention from the Almighty," he said.



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# Executive Mayor calls for caution on the roads as he launches campaign

The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has called on motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution on the roads during the festive season.

Speaking at the launch of the District's 2019 Festive Season Road Safety Campaign on the R81 road at Maphalle, Shayi said that "indeed we cannot afford to lose more lives in our roads like we have since the start of 2019."

He said as the festive season approaches, millions of people will take to the district's roads to visit their families, their loved ones or even traveling to various holiday destinations across the country and neighbouring countries.

"We also know that it is during this season that we lose more of our people to road accidents. MEC Namane Dickson Masemola has launched the provincial festive season road safety campaign, and he has identified the R81 road as one of the priority roads for law enforcement visibility during this period.

"It is by no coincidence that we are here today to launch the Festive Season Road Safety Campaign for the district. Our presence here is largely informed by the priorities as identified by the provincial government in the festive season plan. It is on this road that we lost 24 young people in a tragic accident in June this year. We are doing this also in their remembrance," said Shayi.

Police earlier arrested a drunk driver who allegedly failed a Breathalyzer test while the Executive Mayor was participating in the road

block. Shayi said that there will be zero tolerance for road offences during this period. "Obey traffic rules at all times and avoid excessive speed. Don't drink and drive or text and drive. Always check your vehicle roadworthiness before taking a journey, and don't attempt to bribe traffic officers."

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*“Obey traffic rules at all times and avoid excessive speed. Don't drink and drive or text and drive. Always check your vehicle roadworthiness before taking a journey, and don't attempt to bribe traffic officers.”*

He has also appealed to parents to be vigilant and never leave their children with strangers during the festive season, saying “we want to appeal to parents never to leave children unattended. Always be aware of your children's location and ensure that they are left in the care of responsible, trusted adults.”

Shayi called on men to stand against gender-based violence and applauded the police for apprehending the suspect in the murder of a 28-year-old woman from Sekgosese. Sibongile Nkanyane's lifeless body was discovered last week.

The Executive Mayor also handed over food parcels to four child-headed families, and urged communities to share with the needy during the festive season. “Let us have Ubuntu and share with the less privileged during this season, so that they also join in the festivities.”



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# EXECUTIVE MAYOR INVITES SANPARKS TO PARTICIPATE IN DISTRICT LED FORUM



The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shay says it is important for SANParks to start participating in the District's Local Economic Development Forum.

He said this during his meeting with SANParks's management at the Kruger National Park's regional offices in December. The Executive Mayor listened to the presentation on their planned Activity Hub which will help boost the economy of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality.



The envisaged Activity Park will be built at the Phalaborwa gate through the funding from the Department of Tourism, and the Executive Mayor has called on all stakeholders to ensure the project becomes a success.

"It is important for SANParks to form part of our LED forum, both at local and district level. We also need good working relations between our technical teams from both Ba-Phalaborwa and Mopani as well as the engineers from SANParks," said Shayi.



The Executive Mayor was accompanied by the MMC for Infrastructure, Councillor Given Malatji, the acting municipal manager and the senior manager for technical services.

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## Executive Mayor leads District Cheka Impilo Campaign

The fight against lifestyle diseases is key in reducing the burden on the public health care system, the Executive of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has told government officials at the Cheka Impilo Campaign in Giyani.

The Executive Mayor led his mayoral committee team in participating in the campaign which aims to accelerate screening and testing for HIV, TB, STIs and non-communicable diseases such as hypertension and diabetes.

He said that the biggest problem facing South Africa today may not be HIV and TB, but lifestyle diseases such as obesity, diabetes and cholesterol.

"And all of these lifestyle diseases can be prevented if we lead a healthy active lifestyle. Many of us including our children are obese, and it is obesity and lack of physical activity that contribute to the rise of diabetes and hypertension.

"The National Health Insurance will not fail, despite resistance. Our little contribution towards the success of the National Health Insurance will be leading a healthy lifestyle. Physical activity reduces the risks of high blood pressure, heart attack, diabetes, some cancers, and even mental illness. Our reluctance to participate in physical activity may ultimately contribute to the overloading of the public health care system," said Shayi.

The Executive Mayor said that the massive rollout of the Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) programme has contributed in the increase of the life expectancy of South Africans. "Our province has an estimated four hundred forty-one thousand six hundred seventy-seven (441 677) people who know their HIV status and at least 372 886 on ART.

"We also know that the expansion of our health programme have helped in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission. The infant mortality rate has declined from an estimated 56,5 infant deaths per 1000 live births in 2002 to 22, 1 infant deaths per 1000 live births in 2019. Our target as per the NDP is to reduce it to less than 20 deaths by 2030," he said.

He said he was worried with the new infections on young women. "Recent statistics paints a picture that says that almost four out of every ten new HIV infections in South Africa occur among females between the ages of 15 and 24. And indeed if we are dig deeper we would find that these infections are caused by older men. Older men who call themselves blessers targeting young girls at high schools and sleep with them without protection. These satanic acts expose our children, our sisters to HIV and STIs.



Executive Mayor led a campaign of screening and testing during the District Cheka Impilo Campaign in Giyani



The Chief Whip of the ruling party in the Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Martha Maswanganyi also had her blood pressure checked.

Employees also had fun participating in aerobics



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## Mopani District Municipality conducts workshop for its drivers

A senior traffic official attached to the Department of Transport and Community Safety has told municipal drivers that good driver behaviour can contribute to improved service delivery

Speaking at the Driver Road Safety Workshop held at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen in November, Vicky Khumalo said that bad driving results in the municipality losing money it would have used on service delivery.

"Government is losing money because of reckless driving on our roads. We can contribute to service delivery by adhering to road safety rules, which will also save the municipality money," said the chief traffic officer.

The workshop organizer, Patrick Maponya who is the Occupational Health and Safety Officer said that the workshop was aimed at changing driver behaviour and to educate all municipal drivers on road traffic legislation and enforcement.

"In terms of statistics, we know and understand that our country has one of the worst road safety records in the world, losing over 40 people a day to traffic crashes, with a further 20 being left permanently disabled and several hundred suffering serious injuries. Most of these crashes are unnecessary and occur due to law infringement.

"It is the responsibility of every single driver to ensure their own safety. The challenges in addressing road safety in South Africa are primarily those of human behaviour," said Maponya.



## Handover of certificates and devices to blind mobility trainees



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# Provincial Safety Summit hosted in Mopani



Both the MEC for Community Safety and Transport, Namane Dickson Masemola, and National Police Commissioner, General Khehla Sitole have thanked the community for sharing information leading to the swift arrest of the suspect linked to the brutal murder of Precious Ramabulana.

Ramabulana was reportedly stabbed 52 times while asleep in her room at Mokomene village, just at the start of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign on Violence Against Women and Children.



Masemola and Khehla briefed the media on the side-lines of the two-day provincial safety and security summit held at Karibu Leisure Resort from 28-29 November.

"Precious was murdered during a time when the men around the country are challenged to mobilise against gender-based violence, the abuse of children and people with disabilities," said Masemola.

The summit was aimed at aligning the strategy to the new mandates and the changing crime trends and patterns. The strategy encourages participation of communities in crime prevention and safety in line with the National Development Plan.



The national police commissioner, General Khehla Sitole said that he was relieved that the police made a breakthrough in the case. "We are confident that we have the right suspect in custody and that he has a case to answer to. I also want to thank the community for remaining calm as well as for their patience during this investigation process, and for the role they played in this or other crime fighting initiatives."

Also in attendance at the summit were the MEC for Education, Polly Boshielo, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Dr Monica Mochadi, the MEC for Agriculture, Nandi Ndalane and Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi.

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## Executive Mayor meets with Tshwale community leadership



**E**xecutive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has directed that the Planning and Development Department supports the Tshwale community in their efforts of rebuilding their land.

The Tshwale community successfully claimed back over 1500 hectares of land through the land restitution programme. Some of their plans apart from farming, include a township development programme and building of a shopping mall.



The Executive Mayor met with the leadership in December where he was taken on a tour of the land. He was accompanied by the Speaker, Councillor Wireless Sedibeng, the chairperson of LED portfolio committee, Councillor Richard Makasela, the acting municipal manager, the LED manager and officials from the Department of Agriculture.

He said that through collaboration and partnership the community can realize their dreams of making the land profitable and creating jobs for the people. "In Mopani, Council recently appointed the Municipal Planning Tribunal, which can be useful in assisting you around your plans to rezone a portion of your land for township establishment. There are also under institutions outside of government that can help without you having to pay for their services. The Development Bank of Southern Africa is one such institution."



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# Drought

## Executive Mayor expresses concern on the ongoing drought



The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has expressed concern on the ongoing drought in the district.

Speaking to SABC TV News reporters, Shayi said "the ongoing conditions experienced across the Mopani District is a matter of great concern for us."

The Executive Mayor said that the district municipality needs to work with all stakeholders to develop a plan to deal with drought situation because water at most of the district's major dams are very low. The Tzaneen Dam which supplies water to Tzaneen CBD, Tzaneen residential, Nkowankowa and over 40 villages is just at 7,23% capacity.



**"We have instructed local municipalities to implement water restrictions, including water shedding which is a council resolution. We need to work faster with Eskom to ensure that boreholes drilled are energized to augment our water sources."**

**"In August we distributed additional 10 water tankers to our local municipalities to supply water in areas where there is no source at all, and in other instances to augment water from the boreholes,"** he said.

He has called on all residents of the district to play a role in water conservation. "Water conservation begins with each one of us. Every resident of Mopani District Municipality needs to take immediate measures to preserve and save water so that we do not face a future water crisis. We need a change of attitude on water usage."

A Joint Operational Centre which will involve all stakeholders will be activated within a space of a week. The JOC will include amongst others, the Department of Water and Sanitation, Department of Agriculture, Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, the Department of Labour, and the Agricultural Farmers Union.

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# Executive Mayor leads a team on benchmarking visits to Gauteng and Western Cape



The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi led a team on a benchmarking visit to the City of Ekurhuleni and the City of Cape Town Metros in October.

He was accompanied by MMC for Finance, Councillor City Modjadji, MMC for Infrastructure, Councillor Given Malatji, MMC for Transport Councillor Japisa Mathonsi, and senior officials including Senior Manager Dumisani Shitlhangu and Head of Disaster Management, Hannes Steyn.



The visits arise from the investigation and the report by the Provincial Coordinating and Advisory Committees Task Group which found that Disaster Management Centres need to play a leading role in the establishment and operation of Centralized Communication Centres. The Task Team found that communication links between different stakeholders largely relies on telephones/cellphones and there are no common radio communication networks or common IT system in use.



The first stop was the City of Ekurhuleni's Disaster Management Centre where they were received by the Acting Executive Mayor, MMC Lesiba Mpya. He was joined by MMC for Community Safety Councillor Frans Mmoko and the MMC for Transport Planning, Councillor Phelisa Nkunjana. Mpya said that the doors of Ekurhuleni are always open for sharing of best practices. "We pride ourselves of having the best disaster management services in the country. We were of phenomenon help to the City of Johannesburg during the burning of the Bank of Lisbon building last year," he said.



In the City of Cape Town's Transport Management Centre, they were received by MMC for Safety and Security, Alderman Jean-Pierre Smith. The City of Cape Town develops different themes annually targeting different communities, which Smith said were the key drivers when the City was hit by "day zero" last year. He said that 29% in the reduction of loss of lives is credited to disaster management.

The City of Cape Town has many volunteers working with the Metro's disaster management team to create awareness, including encouraging families to have disaster preparedness plans. The team led by the Executive Mayor was taken on a tour of the City's Disaster Management and the Transport Management operational centres.

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# Mopani District Municipality host career development workshop for people with disabilities

Mopani District Municipality's Special Programme Unit convened people with disabilities from across the five local municipalities for a career development workshop at the Mopani South TVET College in Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality.

The workshop was aimed at creating awareness to people with disabilities on the process of securing entry into higher education institutions, including the available funding model for them.

Deputy Director at the Department of Higher Education and Training said that there are measures in place to assist people living with disabilities to access higher education institutions. "The department of higher education and training has psychologists on standby to assist prospective students in choosing qualifications that suits best an individual's physical challenge."

"The Waterberg and Vhembe TVET Colleges are designated to cater for physically challenged people here in Limpopo. However, those who live with mild physical challenges may access all other colleges in the province," said Romeo.Nkoale

Mopani District Municipality through the Office of the Executive Mayor has committed to provide support. "We have requested representatives from all local municipalities to consolidate the list of those who intend to register next year and submit to the district office for assistance to ensure that no one misses the opportunity," said the disability officer, Raymond Mabuza.

Representatives from the Department of Labour and Employment encouraged people living with disabilities to apply for government jobs whenever they see adverts because majority of government departments have not yet met the quota for people living with disabilities.

# disabilities



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## Parliament portfolio committee on COGTA gives MDM 'benefit of the doubt.'



The parliament's portfolio committee on cooperative governance and traditional affairs says they are ready to give Mopani District Municipality "the benefit of the doubt" that it can turn things around.

The oversight committee chaired by Hon. Faith Muthambi visited Mopani in November where they met with the leadership of both Mopani District Municipality and Greater Giyani Municipality.

They wanted progress report on issues raised by SCOPA where the Executive Mayor and the Acting Municipal Manager were summoned for a hearing regarding the findings from the 2017/18 Auditor General's report. But they also wanted a report from Greater Giyani Municipality on their state of affairs following the failed investment on the collapsed VBS.

Executive Mayor told the committee that they have already presented the SCOPA report to a special sitting of council, where it was resolved that monthly progress reports on the implementation of the audit action plan will be shared with both Cogta and SCOPA.

"We had a special council to deal with the report emanating from SCOPA engagements. In fact, at the level of council, we presented the transcript (question and answer) so that council is able to have a sense, but also appreciate the kind of challenges that SCOPA has been raising with the municipality."

"Out of that particular council, we took resolutions that we will report to SCOPA on a monthly basis on issues relating to audit in terms of how far we have gone to ensure that the findings of the AG are being dealt with," he said.

**Muthambi said that the committee will monitor progress. "We are happy that a member of MPAC is saying to us there is progress in this municipality. We are going to monitor progress. We will send a template on matters that you must report to us on a quarterly basis."**

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# People with disabilities receive wheelchairs from Mopani District Municipality

**P**eople living with disabilities have hailed the commitment from Mopani District Municipality to promote inclusive citizenship.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi handed over 55 wheelchairs to persons with disabilities at a ceremony held at the Lulekani community hall, under the theme: "Removing barriers for inclusive development."

The 55 wheelchairs sponsored by MaxProf, included one reclining wheelchair handed to Tintswalo Sithole and one electronic wheelchair.

Atlas Ngobeni from Mbawula village has thanked the municipality for reaching out to people living with disabilities by giving them assistive devices. The 55-year-old father of five had his leg amputated in 2016.

"I've had one wheelchair which I got when my leg was amputated 3 years ago while in Gauteng. I used to work as welder. I'm have no work now, but I want to thank the municipality for giving me this wheelchair. This shows that this is indeed a caring government," said Ngobeni.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi says business people who have been empowered by government must give back to the less privileged. He said the relations with MaxProf strengthens government's commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for inclusive citizenship.

"We have today handed over fifty-five wheelchairs to beneficiaries selected through the assistance of the Disability Development Forum, ward councillors and community development workers.

"We are aware that there is a serious backlog experienced by the department of health, and we welcome the contribution from business in delivering these assets for our people. Together with MaxProf, this is our attempt to push back the backlog for assistive devices," said Shayi.



# *MDM welcomes support from Japanese Agency*

The Mopani District Municipality has welcomed the support by the Japan International Cooperation Agency to strengthen its capacity in reducing non-revenue water, as a result of water leakage and illegal connections.

In her welcome address, MMC for Water Services Councillor Maditshego Sefufi told the representative of the Japanese Agency that Mopani District Municipality "will always embrace initiatives that boost our sustained effort to deliver potable water to the people of this district, particularly now when we are faced with the challenge of drought.

"Where we are now, we can no longer afford to lose water due to leakages and illegal connections. We appreciate the support from this Japanese Agency, and we hope that our officials would benefit from your expertise."

The Department of Water and Sanitation has signed a memorandum of understanding with JICA. The agreement between DWS and JICA has the backing of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA).



Akinori Miyoshi of Japan International Cooperation Agency, said "our commitment as JICA is to support water service providers to reduce non-revenue water."

The experts, led by Miyoshi from JICA will be providing training and support to staff within the Water Services Unit. The operation may necessitate water supply interruptions during the night while work is carried out on the pipelines.

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# Vatsonga royal leaders pledge support to the Executive Mayor

The chairperson of Mopani Local House of Traditional Leaders, Hosi Phyllia Nwamitwa II says they are lucky to have a "Young, energetic, intelligent Executive Mayor leading the district of Mopani."

She said this on Tuesday, when she led a delegation of Vatsonga/Machangana Royal Leaders Unity on their courtesy visit to the Office of the Executive Mayor. The Royal Leaders Unity is made up of vatsonga royal leaders from Mopani, Vhembe and some parts of the Mpumalanga province.

"You have a very important position, Executive Mayor. We will not keep quiet when we see wrong things happening. We will always come and speak to you in the spirit of building. Our door is always open as well for you to speak to us about anything," said Hosi Nwamitwa II

Hosi Shilungwa Mhinga from the Vhembe District Municipality also congratulated the Executive Mayor. "We congratulate you as the Vatsonga/Machangana Royal Leaders Unity for your election to the position of Executive Mayor. May God protect you and give you wisdom as you lead service delivery efforts to the people of this district."

The Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi welcomed the visit by the RLU, saying "I wish to receive the congratulatory messages with a deep sense of humility and respect. I also appreciate the opportunity to be exposed to the leadership of Vatsonga/Machangana Royal Leaders Unit."



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## Police launch provincial safer festive season operations in Maruleng

Deputy Police Minister Cassel Mathale has launched the provincial safer festive season operations in Maruleng on Monday, 04 November 2019.

Addressing thousands of community members gathered at the Lorraine Sport Ground for the Imbizo held under the theme "#Zizojikaizinto,"

Mathale said his department will deploy members of the tactical response team (TRT) to the Sekororo area ahead of the festive season.



There has been a number of business robberies reported in the area in recent weeks, including repeated break-in at Mahlakung Mall.

Mathale was accompanied by MEC Dickson Masemola, MMC for Transport in Mopani, Councillor Japisa Mathonsi and senior police officials including the Deputy National Commissioner Lieutenant General Fannie Masemola, and the National Head of the Hawks Lieutenant General Godfrey Lebeya.



He said that "when it is hot inside the houses, our people must be able to sleep outside without fear of being attacked and robbed by criminals. And we will need the support of everyone to achieve this, especially our traditional leaders. We want u to work with us, not against us."

He handed over 35 vans to the Tzaneen Cluster, which will also service the people of Maruleng through the Maake Police Station. The day started off with simulations, including one from the Special Task Force's paratroopers, and car hijacking which got the crowd excited.



The provincial police commissioner, Lieutenant General Nneke Ledwaba said that his office will send the research team to Sekororo within seven days on the matter of building of a police station in the area



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# EXECUTIVE MAYORS OPENS THE MOPANI LOCAL HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS

The institution of traditional leadership is central to the realization of a future as envisioned in the National Development Plan, the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, Councillor Pule Shayi has told traditional leaders.

Delivering the keynote address at Nwamitwa during the Opening of Mopani Local House of Traditional Leaders in October, Shayi said traditional leaders have a role to play in promoting socio-economic development in the district.

"The institution of traditional leadership is central to the realization of a future as envisioned in the National Development Plan and the UN's Agenda 2030 and Africa's Agenda 2063, which speaks of building a new society that is inclusive, that is peaceful, equal and just."

The Executive Mayor traditional leaders that they have a role to play in contributing to integrated human settlements, and undermine apartheid spatial planning. "As a district municipality, we recently handed over service providers for the Gravelotte Township Establishment project, and our view is that through this project we are attempting to respond to the wishes of our people as espoused in the Freedom Charter. Together, we can build integrated human settlements that give dignity to our people."

Shayi said that the municipality is happy with the commitment of traditional leaders in wanting to contribute to building a better life for the people of the district. "We value your contribution on matters of governance, and shall continue to seek your wise counsel and guidance as we continue on this journey of building a better life for our people."

"As the leadership collective of Mopani District Municipality, we greatly appreciate your strong commitment of building unity in this district. We also appreciate your support and working relations within the structures of local government," he said.



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# Special Council Sitting adopts revised budget for 2019/20 financial year

A special council sitting of Mopani District Municipality has adopted a revised budget of R 1,6 billion following a directive from the National Treasury.

Mopani District Municipality is one of the many municipalities in the province that had adopted an unfunded budget in June, which is in contradiction of Section 18 of the Municipal Finance Management Act.

In presenting the special adjustment budget to council, the MMC for Finance Councillor City Modjadji said "the unfunded budget is attributed mainly to the high liabilities the municipality is obligated to in relation to the Department of Water and Sanitation and Lepelle Northern Water debts."

He said that as part of the strategy to adopt a funded budget, the municipality has entered into payment agreement with Lepelle Northern Water for repayment of historic debt and is currently engaging the department of water and sanitation to find common ground on handling of the current account.

"The municipality is also in the process of finalising the revenue enhancement strategy, and turnaround strategy to implement an effective and efficient management strategies," said Modjadji



## **TOTAL BUDGET**

R1,9 billion reduced to R1,6 billion

## **Operating budget**

R1 345 billion reduced to R1 199 billion

## **General Expenditure**

R225,4 million reduced to R173,4 million

## **Employee related cost – salaries and wages**

R 368 million reduced to 320 million

## **Repairs and maintenance**

R107 million reduced to R91 million

## **Bulk purchases**

R20, 7 million increased to R225,7 million

## **Capital expenditure**

R569, 4 million reduced to R486,1 million

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# Mopani District Municipality Launches Disability Rights Awareness Month

Mopani District Municipality has launched a month-long district programme to create awareness on the rights of people living with disabilities.

The launch was held at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen on Wednesday, the 6th of November under the theme 'Together building South Africa inclusive of disability rights #disabilityinclusiveSA.'

The National Disability Rights Awareness Month is observed annually from the 3rd of November leading to the International Day of People with Disabilities on the 3rd of December every year.

The MMC for Community Services Councillor Mikateko Shimange-Fazi, delivered the keynote address on behalf of the Executive Mayor, saying "As part of celebrating Disability Rights Awareness Month, we have lined up activities which will culminate in the celebration of the International Day of People with Disabilities on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December."

"We will have an opportunity to reflect further on the progress made towards the realization of inclusive citizenship as enshrined in the sustainable 2030 Development Agenda," she said.

She unpacked the month-long programme, which will include a workshop on small businesses for people with disabilities. "Our activities will include the handing over of mobility devices, we will also host SMME roadshow to empower people living with disability with business skills and knowledge to promote all-inclusive participation."

"This week, together with blind SA the Mopani District Municipality have started to orientate a group of 10 blind people from our district, and this will also extend to other groups. The 10 blind people to be trained will as well receive white canes free of charge from blind SA," she said.

The blind SA Head of Department Johnson Mdluli sighted limited resources in the organisation a challenge. "We would love to orientate every blind person in South Africa but limited resources prohibit us from achieving that hence we started with this smaller group, however with your support we can make a difference to the blind community." said Mdluli.



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# Executive Mayor interacts with residents of ward 15 in Greater Letaba Municipality



Mopani District Municipality has budgeted R20 million for Sekgosese Water Scheme to augment supply from Middle Letaba Scheme, the Executive Mayor has told the residents of ward 15 in Greater Letaba Municipality during the Imbizo held at the Soetfontein hall on Friday, 08 November.

The Executive Mayor told the community that the municipality will also build 1764 VIP toilets in the Greater Letaba Municipality during the 2019/20 financial year.



"Mopani District Municipal council has a resolution relating to youth economic empowerment in the form of a program called Youth Entrepreneurship Programme (YEP). Enough research was done regarding the functionality and where else is the programme functioning better.

"Vhembe TVET College has adopted this programme and we are certain of the future. The TVET Colleges in Mopani District are also brought on board to support the programme. South African Youth Council (SAYC) is set to convene its assembly before year end. We are hopeful that the structure will be revamped to realise its purpose of championing the interests of young people in Mopani," he said.



Shayi told the community that the municipality used the Drought Relief Fund to drill additional boreholes, and also distributed water tankers to local municipalities, but that communities still needed to use water sparingly since the municipality is faced with drought.

Community raised challenges of water in the areas, even suggesting that the municipality must start to extract water from the farms. They also raised the challenge of bad road conditions. The Executive Mayor has promised to follow up on all issues raised by the community.

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**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**

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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  
Modjadjiskloof  
PO Box 36, Modjadjiskloof 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**

"Best Tourism Destination in Limpopo by 2020"

**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

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+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

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+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  
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+27(0) 15 811 5500

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

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