



**Mopani District
Municipality**

MOPANI

APRIL - JUNE 2026

BULLETIN

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SODA 2026

**EXECUTIVE MAYOR, CLLR PULE SHAYI DELIVERED THE FINAL
STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS OF THE 5TH COUNCIL**

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PAGE 6

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Table of Contents

SODA 2026

.....PAGE 6

MOPANI YOUTH FUND SET TO UNLOCK OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

.....PAGE 10

MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY WELCOMES MIDDLE LETABA WATER CHALLENGES REPORT

.....PAGE 13

MOPANI COMMENCES WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

.....PAGE 14

MOPANI ADOPTS R2.651 BILLION BUDGET TO DRIVE WATER SECURITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY

.....PAGE 20

SERVICE DELIVERY WEEK BROUGHT GOVERNMENT CLOSER TO COMMUNITIES IN GIYANI

.....PAGE 23

MOPANI DISTRICT BOOSTS EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY

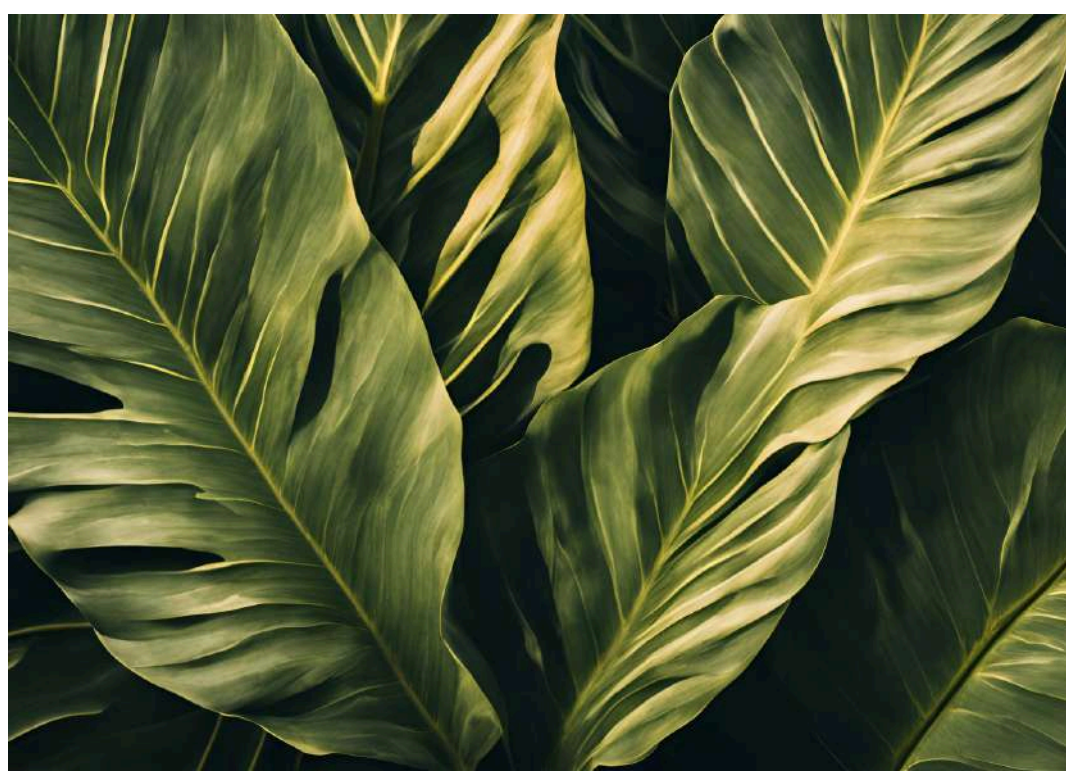
.....PAGE 25

MOPANI EXCEEDS TARGETS AT AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA 2026

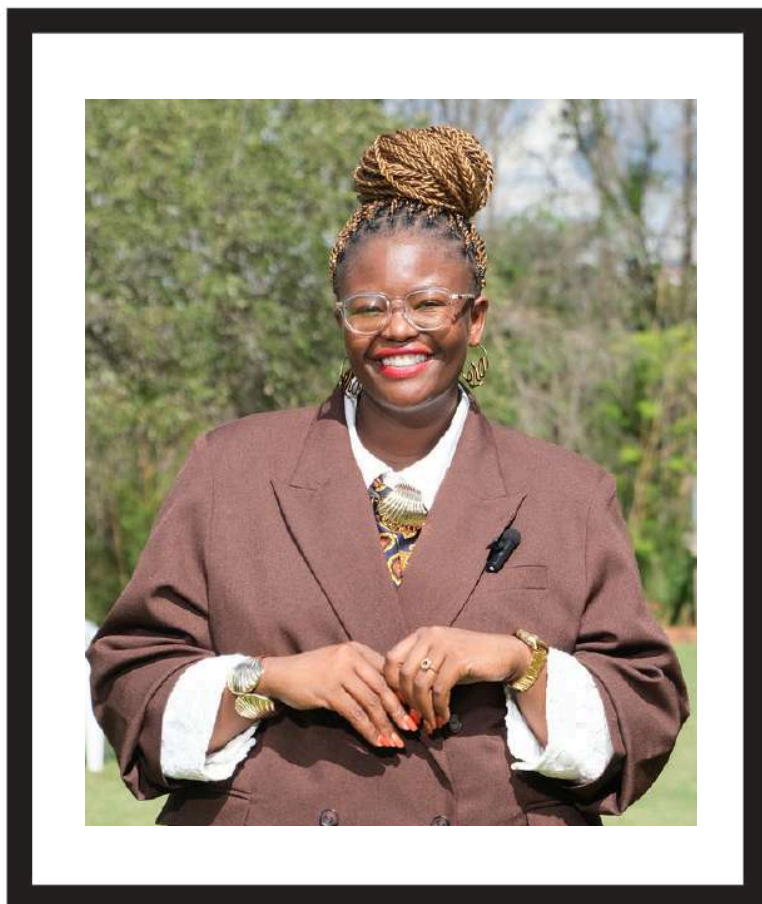
.....PAGE 36



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Editorial

Welcome to another edition of the Mopani District Municipality Quarterly Newsletter, Mopani Bulletin.

This publication reflects our continued commitment to keeping our communities informed, engaged, and connected to the work being done to improve the quality of life across our district. We believe that transparent communication is essential in building trust, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring that every resident understands the progress being made on their behalf.

This quarter has been characterised by purposeful action and meaningful investment in our communities. From expanding access to water and improving emergency services, to strengthening environmental compliance, empowering young entrepreneurs through the launch of the R4 million Mopani Youth Fund, supporting local businesses and tourism, we continue to demonstrate our commitment to service delivery that makes a tangible difference in people's lives.

You will also read inspiring stories of community partnerships, infrastructure development, youth empowerment, environmental stewardship, and the dedicated municipal employees who work tirelessly to serve the people of Mopani every day.

While we celebrate these milestones, we also recognise that challenges remain. We are committed to listening to our communities, responding to their concerns, and working collaboratively with all stakeholders to deliver sustainable solutions. Every achievement featured in this edition is another step towards restoring confidence in local government and creating a district where every resident has the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for taking the time to read this edition. We invite you to stay informed, engage with us on our social media pages and continue walking this journey with us as we build a stronger, more resilient Mopani.

Together, we are delivering today and building tomorrow.



Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi

Executive Mayor's desk

As we conclude another quarter, I am encouraged by the progress we continue to make in improving the lives of our people. Every project we launch, every kilometre of pipeline we lay, every young entrepreneur we support, and every emergency vehicle we deploy brings us one step closer to the Mopani we all envision. A district where opportunity grows, essential services are reliable, and no community is left behind.

In my recent State of the District Address, I reflected on a simple but important truth: the future of Mopani will not be defined by our challenges, but by how we respond to them together. Our responsibility is not only to provide services for today, but to build the foundations for a prosperous, resilient and inclusive district for generations to come.

This quarter has demonstrated what is possible when government works hand in hand with communities, traditional leaders, business and our social partners.

One of our proudest milestones was the launch of the R4 million Mopani Youth Fund in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA). This initiative is an investment in the ideas, talent and determination of our young people. We want our youth to become job creators, innovators, and business owners who will drive the local economy for generations to come.

We also strengthened public safety through the introduction of five specialised Fire and Rescue vehicles, significantly improving our ability to respond to fires, road accidents, and other emergencies across the district.

Our commitment to protecting public health remains unwavering. We have begun refurbishing wastewater treatment plants to improve sanitation services and further strengthen our Green Drop compliance journey. This investment reflects our determination to protect our rivers, preserve the environment and ensure healthier communities for future generations.

From the Executive Mayor's desk

Access to clean, reliable water continues to be our highest priority. Through ongoing infrastructure projects, new boreholes, water reticulation programmes and close collaboration with national and provincial government, we are steadily expanding access to safe drinking water while addressing longstanding infrastructure challenges. We know there is still much work to do, but we remain focused on delivering sustainable solutions.

Beyond infrastructure, we continue to invest in people. From supporting tourism businesses at Africa's Travel Indaba and empowering local SMMEs, to promoting environmental awareness among our learners and encouraging healthy lifestyles through community programmes, we are building a district where economic growth goes hand in hand with social development. During the quarter, 45 spaza shop owners completed accredited business training, 36 SMMEs received support and youth-focused initiatives such as the Solar Labs continued to create opportunities for emerging entrepreneurs.

These achievements belong to all of us. They are the result of dedicated municipal employees, committed councillors, government partners, traditional leaders, businesses and communities who continue to work together in the spirit of service.

As your Municipality, we remain committed to listening, improving, and delivering. We know that trust is earned through action and we will continue working every day to ensure that the people of Mopani experience tangible improvements in their daily lives.

Together, we are building a district that is resilient, inclusive, and full of opportunities. Let us continue working together because when Mopani succeeds, we all succeed.

Cllr Pule Shayi
Executive Mayor
Mopani District Municipality



6

SODA 2026

EXECUTIVE MAYOR, CLLR PULE SHAYI DELIVERED THE FINAL STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS OF THE 5TH COUNCIL

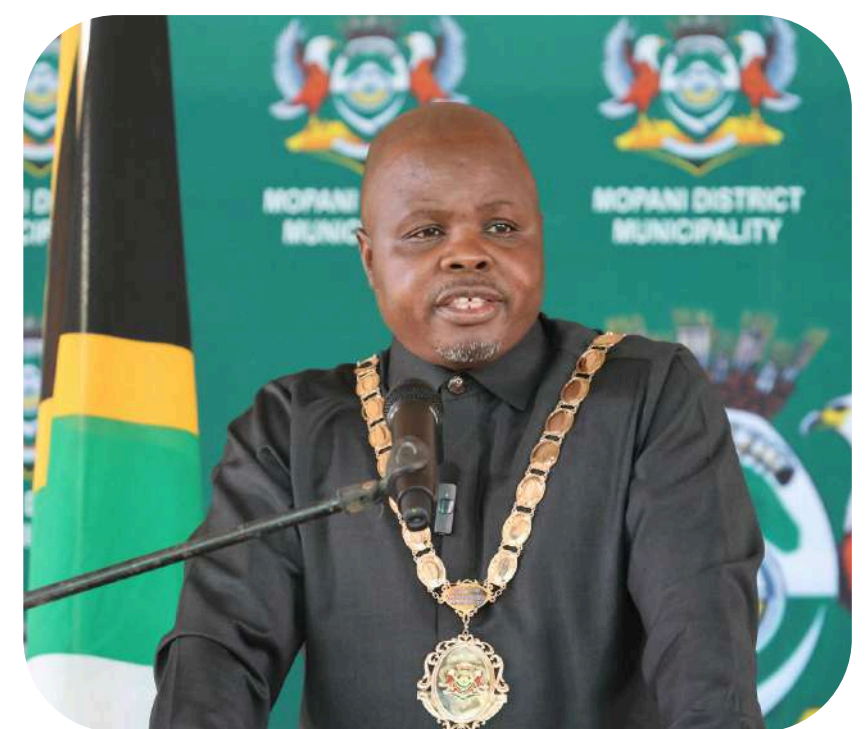
Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi delivered the final State of the District Address of the 5th Council, on Friday, 19 June 2026, in N'wamitwa, reflecting on a journey defined by resilience, partnership and service to the people of Mopani.

Over the past five years, communities have witnessed investments in water and sanitation infrastructure, disaster management, skills development, local economic growth, tourism promotion and environmental sustainability. While challenges remain, significant strides have been made in laying a stronger foundation for the future.

The Executive Mayor expressed his appreciation to communities, traditional leaders, councillors, employees, government partners, organised labour and stakeholders who stood shoulder to shoulder with the Municipality in advancing development across the district.

As the 5th Council approaches the end of its term, the message is simple: the work continues, the foundation has been laid and the future of Mopani remains bright.

"Thank you, Mopani, for your support, your patience, your partnership and your belief in a better tomorrow."



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HONOURING OVER FOUR DECADES OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Mopani District Municipality proudly celebrates employees who have dedicated more than 40 years of service to the institution. Their unwavering commitment, loyalty, professionalism and passion have not only shaped the Municipality but have also made a lasting difference in the lives of the communities we serve.

Over the years, they have witnessed the Municipality's growth, overcome challenges and remained steadfast in their commitment to delivering quality public service. Their dedication exemplifies the values of integrity, accountability and service excellence that define our institution.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation for their remarkable contribution and the legacy they leave behind. Their years of selfless service will continue to inspire current and future generations of employees to serve with purpose, pride, and excellence.

Thank you for more than four decades of outstanding service. Your commitment has helped build a stronger Mopani, and your legacy will continue to inspire us for years to come.



1. Mr CJ Tinghitsi (Accounting Clerk) 40 years;
2. Mr KJ Mahomane (Heavy Duty Driver) 40 years;
3. Mr ME Mhangane (Water Plant Operator) 40 years;
4. Mr KW Mangwani (Senior Operator) 40 years;

5. Mr MI Mahumani (General Worker) 42 years;
6. Mr RI Maake (Heavy Duty Driver) 43 years;
7. Mr MT Letjatji (Artisan Foreman Maintenance) 43 years;
8. Mr DP Hlaise (Artisan Superintendent) 43 years.

MOPANI YOUTH FUND SET TO UNLOCK OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Mopani District Municipality, in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), has officially launched the R4 million Mopani Youth Fund, a bold initiative aimed at empowering young entrepreneurs, promoting innovation and creating sustainable jobs across the district.

The Fund, launched on Saturday, 27 June 2026 at Karibu Leisure Resort by Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi, is financed through a R2 million contribution from Mopani District Municipality and R2 million from the NYDA. The launch was attended by the Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Cllr Odas Ngoben, Speaker of Council Cllr Martha Maswanganyi, MMC Nyiko Baloyi, Cllr Makondo Eric on behalf of the Mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality and other stakeholders.

Addressing young people, Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi encouraged them to embrace entrepreneurship and take advantage of the opportunity.

"Do not wait for jobs, create your own opportunities. This Fund is an investment in your dreams, your innovation and your potential. Take the opportunity, grow your business and help create jobs in our communities," said the Executive Mayor.



NYDA Senior Manager for Business Operations, Mr Tshepo Manyama, said the Fund will provide financial support ranging from R10 000 to R250 000 for qualifying youth owned businesses, together with business development support to help entrepreneurs build sustainable enterprises.

The Fund has officially opened for applications from 27 June 2026 and will close on 31 July 2026. Young entrepreneurs aged 18 to 35 who reside and operate businesses in Mopani District are encouraged to apply through the NYDA online portal by selecting "MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY" when submitting their applications.

To assist applicants, the launch concluded with a live demonstration showing young entrepreneurs exactly how to complete the online application process.

Mopani District Municipality encourages all eligible young entrepreneurs across the district to seize this opportunity and become part of building a stronger, more inclusive local economy.

The future is calling. Apply today, grow your business, create jobs and help shape the future of Mopani.

Application Period: 27 June 2026 – 31 July 2026

Funding Available: R10 000 – R250 000

Total Fund Value: R4 million

Apply via the NYDA Portal and select "Mopani District Municipality" when submitting your application.

<https://erp.nyda.gov.za/>



EXECUTIVE MAYOR ENGAGED COMMUNITIES ON WATER SOLUTIONS AROUND N'WAMANUNGU DAM

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen public trust and improve water security for communities, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi, accompanied by Greater Giyani Municipality, Mayor Cllr Thandi Zitha, engaged with community stakeholders on Wednesday, 22 April regarding draft plans aimed at improving and expanding water provision to communities surrounding the N'wamanungu Dam (formerly Middle Letaba Dam).

The engagement formed part of the Municipality's commitment to transparent governance, public participation and collaborative problem-solving in addressing long-standing water challenges affecting communities in the area.

During the meeting, residents and community stakeholders were encouraged to actively participate in shaping the proposed interventions by submitting inputs and recommendations on the draft plans.

The Executive Mayor also called on communities to work together with government in protecting water infrastructure by identifying and reporting illegal water connections and water theft, which continue to place pressure on already constrained water supply systems.

In reinforcing government's commitment to accountability and openness, Cllr Shayi further announced that the Minister of Water and Sanitation is expected to meet with affected communities before the end of the following month to present the findings of the ministerial independent investigation into alleged illegal blockages of streams feeding the dam.



Mopani District Municipality Welcomes Middle Letaba Water Challenges Report

Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi has welcomed the release of the independent investigation report into the long-standing water challenges affecting communities within the Middle Letaba Sub-catchment area, describing it as an important step towards restoring dignity, rebuilding trust and delivering lasting solutions for affected residents.

The report was officially released on Wednesday, 13 May 2026 at Ndengeza Village by the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms Pemmy Majodina, together with Deputy Minister David Mahlobo and MEC for COGHSTA Basikopo Makamu, on behalf of Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba, during a stakeholder engagement attended by government leaders, traditional authorities and community members.

Commissioned by the Department of Water and Sanitation, the investigation sought to identify the causes behind the Middle Letaba Dam not reaching expected levels, while addressing concerns around inadequate and unequal water access experienced by communities across parts of Mopani and Vhembe districts.

Speaking during the engagement, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi acknowledged the hardship communities have endured over many years due to ongoing water shortages and unreliable supply. "For many families, this has not only been a service delivery challenge, but a daily struggle that has affected dignity, health, and livelihoods. Communities deserve lasting solutions, honest leadership, and visible progress," said Cllr Shayi.

The Executive Mayor said the release of the report should mark a turning point from investigation to implementation. "Today marks the end of uncertainty and the beginning of action. Our communities have waited long enough, and we now have a responsibility to work together to ensure the recommendations of this report translate into real improvements in people's lives," he said.

Cllr Shayi further called for stronger support towards municipalities through the next phase of Operation Vulindlela, particularly in strengthening local government capacity, infrastructure delivery, and sustainable water management systems. "Minister, as Mopani we are saying plug us into Phase 2 of Operation Vulindlela, fix us, strengthen us and help us respond better and faster to the needs of our people," he added.

The report outlines key recommendations aimed at improving governance, accountability, infrastructure planning and equitable water distribution across the Middle Letaba Sub-catchment area. Mopani District Municipality has reaffirmed its commitment to working collaboratively with national and provincial government, traditional leaders and communities to ensure the implementation of sustainable interventions that will improve water security and restore confidence in public service delivery across the district.





14

MOPANI COMMENCES WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

Mopani District Municipality has officially commenced a district-wide wastewater treatment works refurbishment programme following the handover of project sites and contractors by Executive Mayor, Cllr. Pule Shayi on Monday, 01 June 2026.

The programme forms part of the Municipality's strategic investment in improving sanitation infrastructure, protecting the environment and strengthening service delivery to communities across the district.

The Executive Mayor handed over contractors who will undertake refurbishment and maintenance work at wastewater treatment facilities in Ba-Phalaborwa, Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba and Greater Tzaneen municipalities. The projects are funded through the Municipality's ring-fenced 10% Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) allocation dedicated to improving wastewater infrastructure and Green Drop compliance.

Speaking during the handover, Cllr. Shayi said the intervention seeks to address long-standing wastewater challenges that have affected communities for many years.



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"The refurbishment programme is aimed at resolving challenges at wastewater treatment plants and reducing incidents that negatively affect communities, including sewer spillages and overflows. These improvements will contribute towards healthier living conditions and a cleaner environment for our people," he said.

The Municipality has already demonstrated significant progress in wastewater management, improving its Green Drop score from 32% in 2021 to 54% in the latest assessment cycle, making Mopani one of the most improved municipalities in Limpopo Province.

The Executive Mayor expressed confidence that the refurbishment programme would further strengthen compliance and position the Municipality for even better performance in future Green Drop assessments.

Mopani District Municipality manages one of the largest wastewater infrastructure networks in Limpopo, comprising approximately 220 kilometres of sewer pipelines and nine major wastewater treatment works. Given the scale of this infrastructure, improvements within Mopani have a direct impact on environmental protection, public health, and the overall wastewater management performance of the province.

Cllr. Shayi further emphasised that contractors would be closely monitored to ensure quality workmanship and value for public funds.

"We will hold contractors accountable to ensure they deliver quality services and complete projects that make a meaningful difference in the lives of our communities," he said.



MAYORAL IMBIZO BRINGS GOVERNMENT SERVICES CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE

The Mopani District Municipality Mayoral Imbizo and Batho Pele Day, held at Lulekani Community Hall on 5 June 2026, brought government services directly to residents, reinforcing the Municipality's commitment to responsive, people-centred service delivery.

The outreach programme provided community members with convenient access to a range of essential services offered by various government departments and entities, including the Department of Home Affairs, the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), and the Department of Employment and Labour. Residents also had the opportunity to engage directly with government representatives, raise service delivery concerns, and obtain information on available programmes and services.

Speaking on behalf of Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi, MMC Cllr Lucky Mohlala reaffirmed the Municipality's commitment to implementing the 2025/26 Budget and improving the quality of services delivered to communities across the district.

He highlighted the Municipality's continued investment in expanding access to reliable water services, noting that the Lulekani Water Scheme is at an advanced stage of completion and is expected to significantly improve water supply to Lulekani and surrounding communities.

MMC Mohlala also announced that contractors have been appointed to maintain and refurbish wastewater treatment works across the district, strengthening sanitation infrastructure and supporting the Municipality's ongoing efforts to improve environmental compliance.

Recognising that sustainable development also depends on investing in people, he emphasised the Municipality's commitment to developing future professionals through programmes that support students in Water Services, Risk Management, Finance, and Local Economic Development.

The Mayoral Imbizo and Batho Pele Day continue to strengthen the relationship between government and communities by making services more accessible, encouraging public participation, and ensuring that residents remain at the centre of service delivery.



MOPANI STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY VOICE THROUGH IDP AND BUDGET PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



Mopani District Municipality continued to strengthen participatory governance and community-centered planning through its 2026/27 Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget Public Participation Programme conducted across the district in April and May.

The public participation process provided communities, traditional leaders, stakeholders, business representatives, youth, women, and community organisations with an opportunity to directly engage with municipal leadership on development priorities, service delivery challenges, and proposed budget allocations for the new financial year.

The engagements formed part of the Municipality's ongoing commitment to transparent governance, accountability, and ensuring that communities remain at the centre of decision-making processes.

Through the consultation process, residents raised key development priorities including water provision, road infrastructure, electrification, sanitation, disaster relief support, township establishment, tourism development, sports facilities, agricultural support, healthcare facilities, telecommunications infrastructure, and economic empowerment initiatives.



The reviewed draft budget further reflects the Municipality's strategic focus on improving service delivery infrastructure, strengthening water and wastewater management systems, supporting disaster response interventions, and enhancing operational efficiency across key service areas.

Among the notable allocations included in the draft budget are investments towards disaster relief support, maintenance of pumps and generators, refurbishment of wastewater treatment works, water infrastructure upgrades, rural roads asset management, tourism development programmes, and community empowerment initiatives.

The Municipality also continues to prioritise major water and sanitation infrastructure projects across the district through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), including the Ritavi 2 Water Scheme, rural household sanitation projects, bulk water supply interventions, and refurbishment of wastewater treatment plants.

Executive Mayor, Cllr. Pule Shayi reaffirmed the Municipality's commitment to listening to communities and ensuring that public input informs planning and budgeting processes aimed at improving the quality of life of residents across Mopani District.

The public participation programme demonstrated the Municipality's ongoing efforts to build an inclusive, responsive, and developmental local government that works collaboratively with communities to restore confidence in public service delivery.





EXECUTIVE MAYOR ENGAGES TRADITIONAL LEADERS ON REVIEWED IDP AND BUDGET

Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi engaged with senior traditional leaders on the Municipality's reviewed Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and draft budget for the 2026/27 financial year during a meeting held in Tzaneen on Monday, 13 April 2026.



The engagement formed part of the Municipality's ongoing public participation programme aimed at ensuring communities and key stakeholders contribute towards shaping development priorities and service delivery plans for the upcoming financial year.



Traditional leaders were afforded an opportunity to engage on critical community needs, development priorities, and proposed budget allocations as the Municipality continues to strengthen participatory governance and collaborative planning.

The public participation process will culminate in Council considering and approving the reviewed IDP and budget at the end of May 2026.



MOPANI ADOPTS **R2.651 BILLION** BUDGET TO DRIVE WATER SECURITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY



The Mopani District Municipality has officially adopted its 2026/27 Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) Budget, reaffirming its commitment to improving the quality of life for communities across the district through strategic investments in water infrastructure, sanitation, maintenance, and economic development.



Delivering the budget speech during a Special Council Sitting on Friday, 29 May 2026, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi described the budget as a practical response to the needs of communities and a roadmap towards sustainable service delivery despite prevailing financial challenges.



The approved budget amounts to R2.651 billion for the 2026/27 financial year, with R2.052 billion allocated to operational expenditure, R523.6 million dedicated to capital projects, and R84 million earmarked for servicing historic debt obligations.



In line with the municipality's mandate, the budget prioritises water and sanitation infrastructure development. Significant allocations have been made towards the maintenance and upgrading of wastewater treatment works in Giyani, Nkowankowa, Kgapane, Ba-Phalaborwa, Namakgale, Lulekani, and Lenyenye. Rural household sanitation projects will also continue across all five local municipalities, ensuring improved access to dignified sanitation services.

One of the major highlights of the budget is the continued implementation of the Mametja-Sekororo Regional Water Scheme Phase 2A, which includes the construction of pipelines and reservoirs valued at hundreds of millions of rand. The municipality will also continue investing in the Ritavi 2 Water Scheme and the Makhushane Water Scheme to improve water supply reliability in affected communities.

Further strengthening the municipality's water provision efforts, R45 million has been allocated to energise boreholes and electrify water treatment plants. This investment is expected to significantly improve water access in rural communities and support the successful implementation of Operation Fix All & Hin'wa Mati.

The municipality has also committed R20 million towards fleet renewal within the Water and Sanitation Department to improve response times and service efficiency. Additional funding has been allocated for sewer network maintenance, disaster relief support, and road safety initiatives.

Recognising the importance of local economic development, the municipality has budgeted R15 million for the employment of 291 EPWP Borehole Operators, creating job opportunities while supporting water service delivery. A further R2 million has been allocated as the municipality's contribution to the newly established Mopani Youth Fund, which aims to support young entrepreneurs through a partnership with the National Youth Development Agency.

The budget further demonstrates the municipality's commitment to good governance, accountability, and institutional strengthening. Funding has been allocated towards mSCOA implementation, support for Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership structures, oversight functions, and public participation programmes.

Addressing Council, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi acknowledged the financial constraints facing the municipality but expressed confidence in the institution's ability to continue delivering services through prudent financial management and strategic partnerships.

Drawing inspiration from the metaphor of water droplets gradually drilling through solid rock, the Executive Mayor encouraged councillors, officials, and communities to remain focused on long-term progress.

"This budget reflects our determination to confront the challenges of inequality, poverty, unemployment, and water insecurity. Through persistence, discipline, and collaboration, we will continue to make meaningful progress in improving the lives of our people," he said.

As the final budget of the Sixth Democratic Local Government Administration, the 2026/27 MTREF Budget lays a foundation for the incoming administration while ensuring continuity in critical service delivery programmes and infrastructure development projects.

The municipality remains committed to working with all stakeholders to ensure that the approved budget translates into tangible improvements in the daily lives of the people of Mopani.

Approved

MTREF BUDGET 2026/27

Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework

SUMMARY AT A GLANCE

EXECUTIVE MAYOR  CLLR PULE SHAYI

MTREF BUDGET 2026/27 AT A GLANCE

TOTAL BUDGET: R2.651 BILLION

OPERATING BUDGET	CAPITAL BUDGET	DEBT SERVICING
R2.052 BILLION 77%	R523.602 MILLION 19.7%	R84 MILLION 3.1% For historic debt of LNW & DWS

KEY PRIORITIES FOR 2026/27

- WATER & SANITATION**
Major investment in treatment works, pipelines, reservoirs & rural sanitation.
- INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE**
Fleet renewal, sewer network maintenance, road safety cameras & disaster relief support.
- LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Support for EPWP jobs, youth entrepreneurship, GIS system & re-hosting of Marula Festival.
- GOOD GOVERNANCE**
mSCOA implementation, support to Tribal Authorities, MPAC & special programmes.
- FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY**
Cost containment, debt repayment agreements & strengthening revenue base.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Mametja Sekororo Regional Water Scheme (Phase 2A) **R501.4 MILLION**
- Ritavi 2 Water Scheme (Sub-Scheme 2) **R103.1 MILLION**
- Rural Household Sanitation **R136.5 MILLION**
- WWTW Repairs & Maintenance (Giyani, Nkowankowa, Kgapane, Ba-Phalaborwa, Namakgale, Lulekani, Lenyenye) **R84.3 MILLION**
- Ministerial Intervention Project – Greater Giyani (WSIG 6B) **R107.4 MILLION**

R45 MILLION SET ASIDE FOR ESKOM TO ENERGISE BOREHOLES & PLANTS

MDM UPDATES

29 MAY 2026

MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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SERVICE DELIVERY WEEK

BROUGHT GOVERNMENT CLOSER TO COMMUNITIES IN GIYANI

The Limpopo Provincial Government successfully rolled out Service Delivery Week from 07 to 10 April 2026 in the Greater Giyani Local Municipality, bringing essential government services directly to communities while strengthening collaboration across departments and spheres of government.

Led by Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba, the programme focused on accelerating service delivery, responding to community challenges, and supporting areas affected by recent floods that damaged infrastructure and disrupted access to basic services.

Throughout the week, various government departments worked on the ground alongside municipalities, community stakeholders, and traditional leaders to implement interventions aimed at restoring dignity, improving infrastructure, and creating opportunities for local communities.

As part of the programme, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Ernest Rachoene joined officials in pothole patching operations along the Xikukwani–Mbatlo Road (D3804), which had been severely affected by flood damage. The intervention formed part of ongoing efforts to improve road infrastructure and ensure safer and more accessible roads for communities.

In advancing learner support and access to education, MEC for Transport and Community Safety Violet Mathye handed over 150 bicycles to learners through the Shova Kalula Project at Hanyani Thomo High School, Nwakhada Secondary School, and Nghonyama High School. The initiative aims to assist learners in travelling safely and more easily to school while encouraging improved academic performance.

The Department of Education also participated in the programme through a visit by MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya to Mahumani Empowerment Centre Services in Nkomo Village. The visit focused on strengthening skills development initiatives and improving collaboration between education, agriculture, and employment programmes. During the engagement, the MEC officially handed over the refurbished Mahumani High School, donated shoes to learners, and presented certificates to students who completed training programmes at the centre.

Meanwhile, officials from the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development visited Mbaula Village to assess progress on the construction of an animal handling facility following severe flood damage experienced in the area. The project forms part of broader recovery efforts aimed at supporting livestock farmers, restoring agricultural infrastructure, and strengthening resilience within farming communities.

The Service Delivery Week programme demonstrated government's commitment to responsive governance, integrated service delivery, and people-centered development by ensuring that services, support, and solutions reached communities where they were needed most.



RESET@50: The Future Calls



Mopani District Municipality hosted the Provincial Youth Day Commemoration on Thursday, 16 June 2026 at Vasasele Primary School in N'wamitwa Village under the theme "RESET@50: The Future Calls."

Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi joined Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba and thousands of young people in reflecting on the legacy of the 1976 Youth Uprisings while focusing on creating opportunities for today's generation.



Delivering the keynote address, Premier Ramathuba reaffirmed government's commitment to placing young people at the centre of development through skills training, entrepreneurship, education, and economic participation. She highlighted initiatives such as the Limpopo Youth Fund, the revitalisation of Lemana College, the operationalisation of the TUT Giyani Campus, and programmes aimed at developing artisans, entrepreneurs, innovators, and future industry leaders.



In his closing remarks, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi emphasised that the future belongs to young people who are equipped with the skills, opportunities, and support needed to become builders, creators, and owners of tomorrow's economy.



"The future is beckoning. Meet the future halfway with your skills. Don't let the future happen without you," said the Executive Mayor.



25

MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY **Boosts emergency** RESPONSE CAPACITY



Mopani District Municipality has strengthened its emergency response services with the official handover of five specialised Fire and Rescue vehicles on Thursday, 14 May 2026, at the Mopani District Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen.

The handover, led by Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi, forms part of the municipality's efforts to improve disaster management capacity, enhancing response times, and ensuring that communities receive faster and more effective emergency support when it matters most.

The new fleet includes two 6000-litre Structural Fire Trucks to respond to structural and residential fires, a Rapid Intervention Rescue Vehicle for accident and rescue operations, and two 4x4 LDV firefighting vehicles for veld and forest fire response.



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Speaking during the handover, Cllr Shayi said the investment reflects the municipality's commitment to building safer and more resilient communities through responsive service delivery.

"These vehicles represent more than machinery and equipment. They represent our commitment to protecting lives, responding faster to emergencies, and ensuring that our communities feel safer and supported," said Cllr Shayi.

The handover comes at a critical time as the district continues preparing for increased veld fire risks and rising emergency incidents, particularly in rural and farming communities.

Firefighters, rescue personnel, and emergency demonstrations during the event reflected the municipality's growing focus on modernising emergency services and improving operational readiness across the district.



EMPOWERING SPAZA SHOP OWNERS TO GROW LOCAL ECONOMIES



Mopani District Municipality, in partnership with Letaba TVET College, celebrated the successful completion of an accredited business development programme by 45 spaza shop owners from across the district during a certification ceremony held at Sasko Hall in Ga-Kgapane on 9 June 2026.

Participants completed the Business Manager: Owner Skills Programme, an NQF Level 3 qualification accredited by the Wholesale and Retail SETA (W&R SETA). Over six months, they received practical training in business management, regulatory compliance, and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to strengthen and modernise their enterprises. Each participant also received a R2 500 stipend from the National Skills Fund to support their learning journey.

Speaking on behalf of Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi, Acting Executive Mayor MMC Basani Shivambu congratulated the graduates and encouraged them to use their newly acquired skills to build compliant, sustainable, and competitive businesses.

She noted that a better understanding of business regulations and food safety standards would help entrepreneurs improve the quality of their services, protect consumers, and contribute to healthier and more resilient communities.

Quoting the National Development Plan 2030, MMC Shivambu emphasised that small enterprises are key drivers of economic growth and job creation. She further called on local municipalities to create an enabling environment that supports the growth of township and rural businesses, ensuring that local entrepreneurs play a meaningful role in driving inclusive economic development across Mopani.

The initiative forms part of Mopani District Municipality's ongoing commitment to supporting SMMEs, promoting entrepreneurship, and building a thriving local economy that creates opportunities for all.



MOPANI COUNCIL NOTES IMPROVED PERFORMANCE AND GREEN DROP COMPLIANCE PROGRESS

An Ordinary Sitting of Mopani District Municipality Council was held in Giyani on Wednesday, 29 April 2026, where Council considered the Third Quarter Performance Report reflecting continued progress in service delivery and institutional performance.

The report indicates that the Municipality achieved 78% of the targets outlined in the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP), demonstrating ongoing efforts to improve service delivery across communities within the district.

Council also welcomed the improved Green Drop Compliance rating awarded by the Department of Water and Sanitation. The report highlights that Mopani District Municipality is among the municipalities that demonstrated measurable improvement in wastewater management compliance.

During the 2024 assessment cycle, the Municipality achieved a Green Drop score of 54%, a significant improvement from the 32% recorded in 2021. This progress reflects improved wastewater management practices, strengthened operational controls, and enhanced technical oversight.

Council further noted that, as part of ongoing efforts to address infrastructure challenges and improve compliance levels, the Municipality will utilise 10% of its Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) allocation towards the refurbishment of wastewater treatment plants across the district.

The Municipality remains committed to strengthening service delivery, improving environmental compliance, and investing in sustainable infrastructure that supports healthier and more resilient communities.



GREEN DROP STATUS

MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

APRIL 2026 UPDATE



Mopani District Municipality has shown significant improvement in wastewater management compliance as recognised by the Department of Water and Sanitation.

GREEN DROP SCORE IMPROVEMENT

2021
32% → 2024
54%

An improvement from 32% (2021) to 54% (2024) reflects real progress and stronger performance.

WHAT THIS IMPROVEMENT MEANS



Better wastewater management practices



Stronger operational controls



Improved technical oversight



A cleaner environment for healthier communities

OUR COMMITMENT

To further enhance compliance, the Municipality will use **10%** of its **MIG** allocation to refurbish wastewater treatment plants.



BETTER PERFORMANCE. **CLEANER WATER.** STRONGER COMMUNITIES.



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EXECUTIVE MAYOR CELEBRATES HIS BIRTHDAY BY GIVING THE GIFT OF WATER TO LOCAL FARMERS

Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi marked his birthday by giving back to the community through the donation of two boreholes to local agricultural cooperatives in Balloon Village under the Sekororo Traditional Authority, on Tuesday, 30 June 2026, reaffirming his commitment to supporting food security, job creation, and sustainable rural development.

The beneficiaries, Ngwanasenwayi Cooperative and Matsheremane Primary Cooperative, are making a meaningful contribution to the local economy through the production of tomatoes, baby marrow, baby corn, chillies, spinach and other fresh produce. Matsheremane Primary Cooperative also produces peanut butter from locally grown groundnuts, with its products reaching both local and national markets.

Together, the two cooperatives provide employment opportunities to more than 27 community members, demonstrating the vital role agriculture plays in improving livelihoods and strengthening the local economy.

Speaking during the handover, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi said there could be no better way to celebrate another year of life than by investing in projects that create opportunities and improve the lives of others.

"The greatest gift I can receive is knowing that more families will have opportunities to earn a living, produce food, and build a better future. These boreholes are an investment in people, in agriculture, and in the future of our communities," said the Executive Mayor.





Delivering the vote of thanks, Maruleng Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Tsheko Musolwa commended the Executive Mayor for choosing to celebrate his birthday through an act of service.

"This gesture reflects servant leadership. We thank the Executive Mayor for leaving behind a lasting gift that will benefit this community for many years to come," he said.

On behalf of the beneficiaries, Ms Anna Selane expressed heartfelt appreciation for the support, saying the borehole would transform the cooperative's farming operations.

"Ntate Shayi, rea leboga, re leboga gobonwa ke lena. Access to water has always been one of our biggest challenges. This borehole gives us hope. It means we can produce more, create more jobs, and continue supplying fresh produce to our customers" she said.

The donated boreholes will improve water security, increase agricultural production, and support the continued growth of these women led enterprises.



MEN ENCOURAGED TO SPEAK UP, SEEK HELP AND PRIORITISE THEIR WELL-BEING

As part of Men's Health Month, Mopani District Municipality hosted its inaugural Men's Dialogue Awareness Programme on Friday, 27 June 2026 at the Tzaneen Fire Bay, creating a safe space for men to openly discuss issues affecting their health, well-being, and personal development.

The dialogue explored important topics including mental health, emotional pressure, financial responsibility, relationships, masculinity, gender-based violence, and healthy lifestyles, encouraging men to support one another and seek help when needed.

Representing the Department of Health, Mr W.M. Mongwe encouraged fathers to prioritise the health of their sons by making use of safe and recognised circumcision services.

"Mopani District has 110 health facilities offering circumcision services. We encourage parents to use these accredited facilities to protect the health and well-being of their children," he said.

A social worker from the Department of Social Development, Mr T. Manganyi, challenged men to break the silence surrounding mental health and personal struggles.



"Seeking help is not a sign of weakness; it is a sign of maturity. Whether you are facing financial pressures, relationship challenges, or emotional difficulties, reaching out is the first step towards healing," he said.

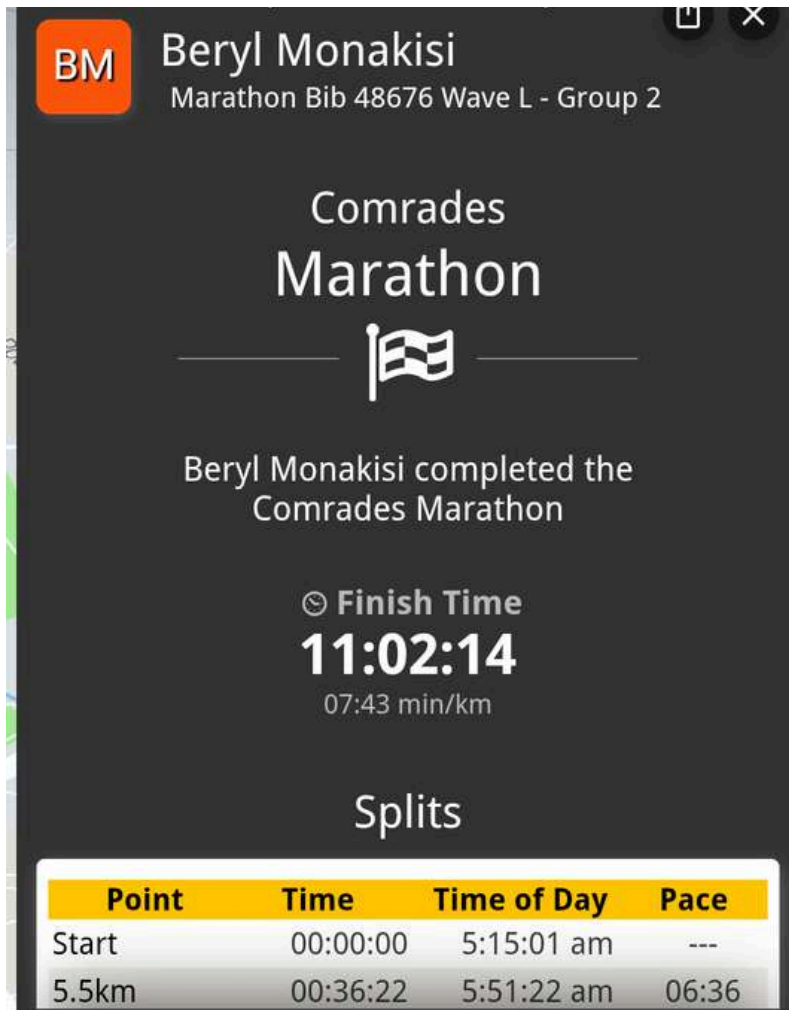
Closing the programme on behalf of the Municipal Manager, Dr Seshoene thanked the male employees of Mopani District Municipality, the South African Police Service (SAPS), and partners including IEMSAS Financial Services, Legal Aid South Africa, AVBOB, and Mahasha Herbalist for their participation and commitment to promoting men's health and wellness.

The Municipality reaffirmed its commitment to creating healthier workplaces and stronger communities by encouraging open conversations, positive masculinity, and support systems that empower men to thrive.

**"Seeking help is not a sign of weakness;
it is a sign of maturity"**



Congratulations **BERYL MONAKISI & MIKATEKO LEOPE**



THEY CAME. THEY RAN. THEY CONQUERED!

While some of us were enjoying a lazy Sunday, Divisional Officer Beryl Monakisi and Environmental Health Practitioner Mikateko Leope were busy running 85.77km and collecting medals at this years' 99th Comrades Marathon on 14 June 2026.

A huge congratulations to our two Comrades Marathon champions for crossing the finish line and making the Mopani family proud. Your determination, discipline, and endurance have shown us that there are no limits when you put your mind (and legs) to it.

The only question now is... when are you starting training for the next one?
Well done, ladies! We are incredibly proud of you.



MOPANI FIRE AND RESCUE TEAM SHINES AT INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY COMMEMORATION

A team of 16 members from the Mopani District Municipality Fire and Rescue Services participated in the International Firefighters Day (IFFD) commemoration held at the Rustenburg Fire Station in Bojanala District Municipality on 4 and 5 May 2026.

International Firefighters Day is commemorated annually to honour and remember firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty, as well as those who dedicated their lives to serving communities through the fire service.

The event, organised by the National Disaster Management Centre, brought together fire departments from across the country to celebrate the courage, dedication, and professionalism of firefighters.

Activities included a 10km marathon, fitness challenges for individuals and relay teams, confined space rescue, swift water rescue, and vehicle extraction rescue demonstrations. Due to adverse weather conditions, some activities were unfortunately cancelled.

Despite the challenges, the Mopani team delivered an outstanding performance in the marathon events. Junior Firefighter Mashale M secured first place in the female category, followed by Divisional Officer Monakisi MB in second place. Senior Firefighter Ngoepe achieved fifth place in the male category, while Senior Firefighter Seweya SM claimed first place in the individual games competition.

The achievements reflect the team's commitment to physical fitness, discipline, and operational readiness. Physical fitness remains a critical component of firefighting, enabling firefighters to perform their duties effectively and respond to emergencies with confidence and resilience.

The Municipality extends its appreciation to the Fire and Rescue Services management team for their commitment to training, preparation, and logistical support, which contributed to the team's success and positive representation of Mopani District Municipality on the national stage.



The Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi, congratulated Cllr MW Mohale on obtaining a Higher Certificate in Local Economic Development (LED) during the University of Johannesburg (UJ) Graduation Ceremony held earlier today in the City of Johannesburg, Gauteng.

This educational initiative, funded by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), forms part of the municipality's ongoing efforts to strengthen the skills and leadership capacity of councillors.



MOPANI MAKES A STRONG IMPRESSION AT AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA 2026



Mopani District Municipality concluded a successful participation at Africa's Travel Indaba 2026 in Durban, further strengthening its position as a premier tourism destination and creating new opportunities for local economic growth.

Through a strategic partnership between Mopani District Municipality, the five local municipalities, and Letaba TVET College, 10 local tourism SMMEs showcased the district's diverse tourism experiences, cultural heritage, wildlife, and hospitality to the global tourism market.

The delegation surpassed its target of engaging 150 buyers, successfully connecting with 188 local and international buyers throughout the exhibition. On the final day alone, exhibitors held 55 business meetings, opening doors to new partnerships, investment opportunities, and future tourism business.

Interest in Mopani's tourism offering came from buyers representing Malaysia, China, the United States, Tanzania, and several other international markets, reaffirming the district's growing appeal as a destination for both leisure and investment.

Beyond promoting the district, the exhibition provided invaluable exposure for local tourism enterprises, enabling them to build international networks, expand market access, and showcase the quality of experiences available across Mopani.

The successful participation at Africa's Travel Indaba advances the Municipality's vision of becoming the tourism destination of choice, while creating sustainable economic opportunities for local businesses and communities.

As the delegation returned home, it did so with strengthened partnerships, expanded market reach, and renewed confidence that Mopani is ready to welcome the world.



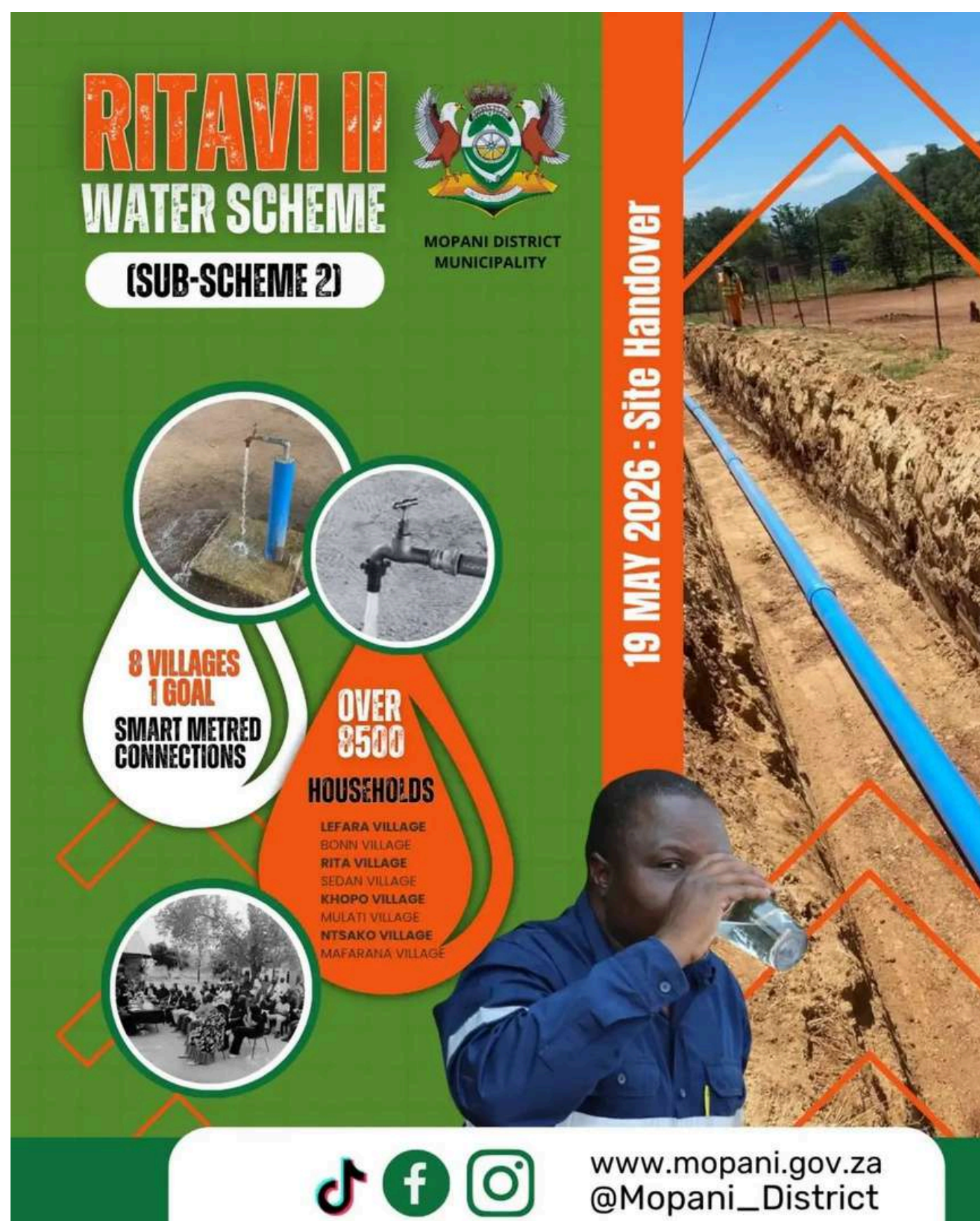
OVER 8 500 HOUSEHOLDS TO BENEFIT FROM RITAVI 2 WATER PROJECT

For many families across villages in the Ritavi area, access to reliable water has been a daily struggle for years. But hope is finally being restored as MMC Cllr Lucky Mohlala officially handed over the project site and contractor on Tuesday, 19 May 2026 at Mafarana Village on behalf of Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi.

Mopani District Municipality is moving forward with the Ritavi 2 Water Scheme Project, a water infrastructure intervention that will improve water supply to eight communities including Lefara, Bonn, Rita, Sedan, Khopo, Mulati, Ntsako, and Mafarana villages.

The project will include the construction of new water reticulation infrastructure and the refurbishment of reservoirs aimed at improving water distribution and ensuring more households have reliable access to water.

“Most importantly, more than 8 500 households are expected to benefit from the project, and hope will flow again,” said Lucky Mohlala.



Clean Earth Campaign

Under the Clean Earth Campaign, Mopani District Municipality, in partnership with South African National Space Agency, continues to empower young minds through awareness campaigns and career exhibitions focused on Environmental Management, Disaster Management, and Space Science.

The programme reached schools across the district including learners from Mandela Barloworld Agricultural High School, Matome Modika High School and Modika High School.

By exposing learners to STEM and sustainability careers, the programme is helping young people imagine bigger possibilities while building greener, smarter, and more resilient communities.



DISTRICT AIDS COUNCIL STRENGTHENS EFFORTS TO PROTECT YOUNG PEOPLE

On 28 May 2026, MMC for Community Services Cllr Basani Shivambu chaired a meeting of the District AIDS Council on behalf of Chairperson and Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi at the Disaster Management Centre in Tzaneen.

The Council discussed key social challenges affecting communities, with particular focus on teenage pregnancy trends within the district. Stakeholders also explored collaborative interventions aimed at empowering and protecting young people through awareness programmes, prevention initiatives, and strengthened community support systems.

The engagement reaffirmed the District AIDS Council's commitment to working with partners to create healthier, safer, and more resilient communities for the youth of Mopani.



World Schizophrenia Awareness Day

24 MAY 2026

YOUR MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Schizophrenia is a chronic, severe mental disorder characterized by a breakdown in the connection between the mind and reality, causing distorted perceptions, thoughts, and emotions. It involves symptoms like hallucinations, delusions, and disorganized thinking, usually appearing in late adolescence or early adulthood.

You are not alone in your Struggles; Schizophrenia is manageable through medication and therapy. SEEK HELP. EAP promotes psychological well-being in our community, join us in spreading awareness and making a difference this world schizophrenia day.

Any assistance can be directed to Mabunda LM @ 083 444 2236

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EXTENDED PCC MEETING ON NATIONAL WATER CRISIS

Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi participated in the Extended Presidential Coordinating Council (PCC) meeting convened by President Cyril Ramaphosa at the Birchwood Hotel and OR Tambo Conference Centre in Boksburg, Gauteng on Thursday, 30 April.

The high-level engagement brought together leaders from national, provincial, and local government, alongside the National Water Crisis Committee (NWCC), to address the escalating national water crisis and strengthen coordinated responses towards improving water security across the country.

The meeting focused on accelerating collaboration between spheres of government, improving infrastructure planning, and developing sustainable solutions to assist municipalities in responding more effectively to water challenges affecting communities.

As a Water Services Authority, Mopani District Municipality continued to advocate for stronger support, investment, and partnerships aimed at improving water supply systems and restoring dignity to communities across the district.



Mopani District Municipality, together with DFFE, LEDET, Foskor and Petco successfully hosted the Waste Indaba Workshop aimed at promoting waste minimisation, recycling, and circular economy principles.

The engagement strengthened collaboration among stakeholders, shared best practices and innovative recycling approaches, and ensured alignment of municipal waste management practices with national legislation. Together, we continue to build cleaner, greener, and more sustainable communities.



MOPANI LEADERSHIP PROMOTES FAITH, UNITY, AND ROAD SAFETY DURING EASTER WEEKEND!!



Mopani District Municipality leadership spent the Easter weekend engaging with communities through faith-based activities and road safety awareness initiatives aimed at promoting unity, responsibility, and safer travel during one of the busiest periods on the calendar.

On Good Friday, 3 April Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi attended a church service at Saint Paul's Roman Catholic Church in Namakgale Township. Earlier in the day, the Executive Mayor joined church leaders, congregants, and various community structures in a 5-kilometre walk symbolising faith, reflection, and community solidarity during the Easter period.

As part of ongoing efforts to promote road safety during the Easter holidays, Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi, joined by Mayor Cllr TD Mamanyoha, also led the Easter Monday Public Transport Road Safety Awareness Campaign at the Mooketsi Weighbridge.

The campaign involved direct engagement with motorists and public transport operators to encourage responsible road usage, compliance with traffic regulations, and collective action towards reducing road accidents and saving lives.

The Easter weekend activities reflected the Municipality's commitment to building safer, united, and socially responsible communities through active public engagement and partnership with community stakeholders.



MMC Lucky Mohlala says there is an urgent need to invest in capacity-building programmes for young accountants in local government to help reduce spending on consultants. MMC Mohlala was delivering the welcome address to the CIGFARO Symposium held at Hoedspruit on Monday, 28 April. “We must as well encourage mentorship programmes, pairing experienced officials with the young practitioners. By doing so, we will be building fluidity and resilience in our systems,” he said. The symposium is convened under the theme: “Through the forge to forte: forging the next generation of ethical public finance architect.”



Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi led his team in the mayoral committee as they engaged with communities around the Greater Giyani Municipality where boreholes have been refurbished as part of Operation Fix All. Some of the communities visited include Ndhambi, Xivulani, Mbatlo, Bongwani, N'wadekudzeku, and Dingamanzi.



District Local Government Elections Forum Launch



Did you know?



RE BAFANA KAOFELA!!
Congratulations
TO BAFANA BAFANA
QUALIFIED
 For Round of 32



Executive Mayor
Cllr Pule Shayi



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MOPANI DISTRICT
MUNICIPALITY



www.mopani.gov.za

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



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 9887, Giyani, 0626

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

www.mopani.gov.za

Vision

"To be the leading municipality in the delivery of quality services for the promotion of socio-economic development"

Mission

- To ensure an effective, efficient and economically viable municipality through:
- Promotion of accountable, transparent and consultative and co-operative governance;
 - Promotion of local economic development and poverty alleviation;
 - Strengthening cooperative governance;
 - Provision of sustainable and affordable services and
 - Ensuring a compliant, safe and healthy environment.
 - To improve the delivery of quality services through the use of smart technology

Slogan
"Maatla go Setšhaba"

Greater Letaba Municipality

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

Telephone Numbers
+27 (0) 15 309 9246

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



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

Telephone Numbers
+27 (0) 15 780 6300

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



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