



Mopani District
Municipality

MOPANI

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BULLETIN

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OPERATION FIX ALL

PAGE 7

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SOUTH AFRICA 2025

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Editorial

We write to you on the backdrop of what has been an eventful quarter – the first quarter of 2025/26 financial year. The Executive Mayor delivered the State of the District Address. He used the address to reflect on the work of the fifth council over the last financial year, but also outlined key plans for 2025/26 financial year, and beyond.

We had an opportunity to host the National Women's Day event as a district. President Cyril Ramaphosa used the event to laud the contribution of women in the liberation struggle, describing them as the backbone of the nation. The President said the celebration is also a clarion call to accelerate the role of women in the economy and empower them as well as tackle the complex barriers, such as poverty, inequality and unemployment, that hinder their development.

We've seen the Premier coming to the district to introduce the contractor for the upgrade from gravel to tar of roads D15, D3150 and D3232 stretching from Morebeng to Sekgosese (Wholesale), in the Greater Letaba Local Municipality. The project is very key in connecting those communities, and facilitating the movement of goods and services.

The Executive Mayor took his quarterly imbizo to Butswana in Maruleng Local Municipality. He used the imbizo to outline the progress around the Mametja-Sekororo Regional Water Scheme Project, but also touched on some of the short-term interventions to water supply in the area.

The biggest highlight of this quarter has to be the launch of Operation Fix All, an aggressive campaign to fix boreholes across the district. The campaign is aligned to Hi Nwa Mati Campaign which was announced by Premier Dr. Phophi Ramathuba as the leader of the 7th Administration in the province. We have recorded remarkable progress with 100 boreholes fixed in August, the first month of the campaign.

We look forward to the second quarter of this financial year, and we still invite members of the public to engage with us on how best we can make our communications platforms more interactive. It is only through engagements that we are able to get a sense of where we need to improve as a Municipality, especially on the information needs of our people.

We further invite members of the public to engage with us through our social media platforms, including our Facebook Page. We also have a WhatsApp channel which we invite members of the public to follow. We thank you for your continued support.



Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi

Executive Mayor's desk

As we conclude the first quarter of the 2025/26 Financial Year, we find ourselves filled with a deep sense of honor and humility in reflecting on the achievements of the Fifth Council over the past three months. We have initiated a comprehensive program aimed at addressing the issue of borehole repairs throughout the district. Operation Fix All aligns with the Hi Nwa Mati Campaign, launched by Premier Dr. Phophi Ramathuba last year. This endeavor has been an exhilarating journey, resulting in the refurbishment of over 200 boreholes in just two months.

As we continue to ensure a consistent water supply to our communities each week, we take pride in the active involvement of our citizens in identifying solutions for improved service delivery. We firmly believe that by collaborating with them, we can enhance our efforts to provide this essential resource. Their experiences inform our strategies, allowing us to adapt our programs for better community service.

We had the privilege of presenting the State of the District Address on behalf of our residents, reaffirming our dedication to the social contract established with our community in the framework of the fifth democratic local government. We vividly recall the strong message conveyed by our constituents regarding this commitment.

Buoyed by our 100% expenditure on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant in the previous financial year, we are making significant progress with our water infrastructure projects. Key milestones are being achieved in the Tours Project within the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, and we are nearing the completion of Phase 1 of the Giyani Water Reticulation Project, having successfully completed 23 of the 24 targeted villages. Additionally, we are off to a strong start with the rural household sanitation project, which aims to construct 19,880 units throughout the district.

While our community expresses concern over aging infrastructure, we face another significant challenge: water theft and vandalism. It is imperative that we take decisive action against these issues. We will enhance the capabilities of our peace officers and collaborate with law enforcement to safeguard our water sources. We also call upon our communities to support the District Municipality's efforts in this regard.

From the Executive Mayor's desk

The project to extend the Tzaneen Dam Wall is currently at 52% completion, with a revised deadline set for March 2026. Our Political Management Team conducted an oversight visit, and we were encouraged by the commitment demonstrated during this meeting. We are optimistic that adherence to the acceleration plan will ensure we meet the new deadline.

The ultimate objective of this project is to increase the dam's raw water storage capacity from 157 million cubic meters to 195 million cubic meters, planning for a 20-year horizon. This project is part of the Department of Water and Sanitation's Glewap program, which includes the construction of the N'wamitwa Dam, ensuring water sustainability for future generations.

We are pleased to report that the Moshupatsela Mopani District Municipality DDM LED Initiative is gaining traction and aims to extend beyond agricultural boundaries to support local economic development in the district. In partnership with Mukhufhi AgroProcessing and Essential Oils, a local SMME, this initiative attracted a total pledged investment of R9.8 billion at the Limpopo Invest Conference in October 2024.

We have established several partnerships to bolster SMMEs and stimulate the district's economy. In collaboration with Limpopo Connexion, we are finalizing a proof of concept for establishing Broadband Network Infrastructure that will benefit our rural communities, including the Nkowankowa township. The model envisions utilizing traditional authority offices as Public Free Hotspot Wi-Fi Zones.

Additionally, through our partnership and Memorandum of Understanding with Letaba TVET College, we initiated spaza shop training at the beginning of this quarter. This training is part of the District Municipality's efforts to support the Presidential Executive Order on Standard Draft Bylaws for Township and Village Economies, announced on November 16, 2024.

From the Executive Mayor's desk

Twenty-five spaza shop owners who met the criteria have undergone training in the Small Business Manager (Owner) Skills Programme, accredited at NQF Level 3 by W&RSETA, incorporating Artificial Intelligence tools for sustainable SMME continuity in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

As we reflect on our progress, we remain conscious of the challenging economic landscape ahead. By working together with our communities, we are confident in our ability to navigate these turbulent times, much like a skilled sailor adjusting their sails to harness the wind rather than resist it. Our focus remains steadfast on the goal of building better communities alongside our people.

CLLR. PULE SHAYI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



"As we reflect on the work of the past year, we look to the future alive to the realities of the challenging economic conditions. Working with our people we should be able to navigate the stormy seas, just as a skilled sailor must adjust their sails to harness the wind rather than fight against it. Our eyes remain fixed steadfastly on the task of building better communities with our people," – Executive Mayor

MDM launches OPERATION FIX ALL which has reignited hope in communities



Mopani District Municipality has launched an aggressive program to fix boreholes as part of Operation Fix All Campaign which has reignited hope in communities across the district with people now receiving water supply after many months of struggle.

The Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi launched the campaign in the first week of August, and since then he has been leading the mayoral committee every week in monitoring the work as carried out by the Water Services' maintenance team to fix the dysfunctional boreholes.



Through this campaign, the Municipality has been actively attending to boreholes in villages across the district with over 200 fixed by the end of September. The Executive Mayor has declared that the mayoral committee will be on the streets every week ensuring that boreholes are fixed to provide water to the people.

“We are starting this September invigorated, continuing to fix boreholes and provide water to our people. Through Operation Fix All, our people should be able to have access to potable water,” the Executive Mayor said at the start of September.

Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality

The Operation Fix All Team has managed to fix boreholes at Majeje, Mashishimale, Matiko-Xikaya, and Prieska. Speaking on the streets of Mashishimale, the Executive Mayor said the campaign is making an impact. “As we proceed to consistently give water every week, we take pride from the fact that on the streets our people are part of finding solutions on how we can serve them better. We believe working with them, we deliver better on this much-needed resource. We learn a lot out of their own experiences and adapt our programme to serve our people better.”

Greater Giyani Municipality

As part of the ongoing efforts to improve water supply to communities across the district, the team also fixed boreholes Mayephu, Xikukwane, Ximausa, Shawela, Nwamankena, Mninginisi Block 3, Basani, Gandlanani, Rivala, Mavhusa, Nkomo, Matsotsosela, Vuhehli, Mushiyan, Loloka, Mapayeni, Giyani Section E, Voninga.

The team also fixed three of the boreholes in Noblehoek to help augment water supplied from the Middle-Letaba Dam.



Greater Letaba Municipality

The Municipality has fixed boreholes at Raphahlelo, Senwamokgope, Lomondokop, Maphalle, Ga-Sekgopo, Sehlakone-Mabosana, Thabelang, Mamaila-Mphotoana, Boshakge, Mohokoni, and Seapole village where a new borehole has been linked to the reticulation to help augment bulk supply from Modjadji dam.

Simon Selowa, a member of the water committee at Ga-Seapole said the community was happy to have water, but also appealed to the Municipality to respond faster to maintenance of the infrastructure.

Greater Tzaneen Municipality

Communities touched in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality include Khujwana, Makhwibidung, Semarela, Shongani, Nwajaheni, Lwandlamuni, Babanana, Ga-Wally, and Mookgo Block 6. The focus was also on Mariveni village where three boreholes have been refurbished to help service the community which is not sufficiently covered by the bulk water supply from the Nkowankowa Water Works.

The team also visited Mandlakazi village, ward 13 of Greater Tzaneen Municipality where two boreholes have been fixed to complement the other four working boreholes. The Executive Mayor has previously said declared that the mayoral committee will be on the streets every week ensuring that boreholes are fixed to provide water to the people.

Meanwhile, Ndhuna Masabana from Mandlakazi expressed relief and excitement, saying she was receiving complaints about shortage of water in every tribal meeting. “My people were struggling with shortage of water. I’m very excited,” she said.

Maruleng Local Municipality

The Executive Mayor also led the team to Maruleng Municipality where boreholes have been fixed in the communities of Metz, Bochabelo, Molalane, Butswana, Tickylane, Sedawa, Turkey 3, Worcester, Finale, Baloon, and Calais. The pump station at Kampersrus has also been fixed to help provide water to that community.

Community members’ pledge to safeguard the infrastructure

The community patrol group at Mandlhakazi has also pledged to help safeguard the infrastructure. Daniel Rikhotso, speaking on behalf of the patrol group said “we have had the concerns about vandalism, and we are going to do our best to safeguard this infrastructure for this community.”

Executive Mayor reaffirms commitment on water infrastructure provision as he delivers SODA



The Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has reaffirmed the District's commitment to expand on water infrastructure provision, and secure water sources while also driving economic growth in the district.

Delivering the state of the district address at the Mopani TVET College on 04 July, the Executive Mayor said "water infrastructure provision is the backbone of our work, and true to the commitment made to our people in 2021, we will continue to invest on water infrastructure provision. Sustained focus on water infrastructure is the defining feature of the Fifth Council.

"Through our capital budget of R638 million, particularly from the MIG, WSIG and RBIG, we will be able to continue our work around water provision and addressing the sanitation backlog,"

He said the Giyani Water Project Phase 1 Reticulation is at 97%, with 23 of the 24 villages practically completed. Upon completion of all the projects, over 35 000 of our households in Greater Giyani will have access to sustainable safe drinking water

"We know that our people in Nwakhuwani are receiving water from household connections. We know that our people at Ndindani are receiving water from household connections. Our people at Mhlaba Willem are receiving water. We know that our people at Muyexe are receiving water. Our people at Khakhala, Thomo, Gawala, Vuhehli can also relate to this story.

"At least 31,6% of the population in this district is young people between the ages 15 and 34. Therefore, much of our work should be geared towards the support of young people – this we should do through partnerships and collaborations."



“We have villages where bulk water supply coverage is not 100% - this of course is due to the ongoing work on the bulk water lines by Lepelle Northern Water. These villages would include Bambeni, Homu 14A and B, Mapayeni, Mageva, Maphata, Ka-Mininginisi, Dzingidzingi, Maswanganyi, Sikhunyani, Mahlati, Ngove and Bode,” the Executive Mayor said.

He said there have been delays encountered in Risinga View where only one of the three contractors has completed work. The other contractors are at 73% and 88%, respectively. An amount of R136 million from the Water Infrastructure Services Grant (WSIG) is set aside to help work around water reticulation as part of the Giyani Water Project.

The Executive Mayor said the Municipality developed a corrective action plan for the Green Drop Status. “And of course part of the work is to ensure that we recruit seven plant superintendents with Class V certification. Major boast to this plan is the utilization of the 10% MIG to refurbish at seven of our wastewater treatment this financial year.

“The Giyani Waste Water Treatment Works has a budget of R6 million, Kgapane Waste Water Treatment Works with a budget of R8 million, he Lenyenye Waste Water Treatment Works with a budget of R8 million, the Lulekani Waste Water Treatment Works with a budget of R9 million, the Namakgale Waste Water Treatment Works with a budget of R8 million, the Nkowankowa Waste Water Treatment Works with the budget of R8 million, and the Phalaborwa Waste Water Treatment Works with a budget of R8 million,” he said.

He said the Municipality will partner with the NYDA to help contribute to efforts around youth economic development and has already set aside R2 million as part of the memorandum of understanding. “Through this contribution and the portion that will come from the NYDA, we will be able to provide support to deserving youth owned enterprises and cooperatives within Mopani District Municipality to fully participate in the economy.”

The Executive Mayor also said the conceptualised Moshupatsela Mopani District Municipality DDM LED Initiative is gaining momentum and is set to go beyond the boundaries of the farm and will anchor local economic development in the district

“Performance management system is now embedded to our daily work as the Municipality. All employees have signed performance agreements, including employees at entry level posts.”



“We continue to elevate the issue of accountability, having committed to deal decisively with corruption, mismanagement, wastage and under-performance. We are on a qualification audit opinion for a second consecutive year. Our resolve as the Fifth Council is to deliver unqualified audit opinion as we steadily build a culture of good governance, transparency and accountability.”
– Executive Mayor



SODA in numbers:

19 880	the number of Rural household sanitation (VIP toilets) to be built
2260	the number of work opportunities created in the district through the Expanded Public Works
240	the number of young people assisted through internship and learnership programmes.
1662	the number of young people from Mopani District who are receiving training on Artificial Intelligence
100	the number of SMMEs assisted to take their services and products closer to the people during 2024/25 financial year
97	the percentage of progress on the Giyani Phase 1 Water Reticulation Project
46	the percentage to the project to extend the Tzaneen Dam Wall
241	the number of work opportunities created on the Tzaneen Dam Wall project
122	the number of people issued with grants from the NYDA
146	the number of units to be built this year in Talana as part of the community residential units.
169	number of food inspection blitz conducted in the district
145	the number of fire awareness campaigns in the district
54	the number of external posts filled.



“Working with our people, we have recorded steady progress, but we remain fully aware of the task that lies ahead. As we continue with this journey, we are once again reminded of the words of President Nelson Mandela during his final state of the nation address speech when he said, and I quote: “There is no time to pause. The long walk is not yet over. The prize of a better life has yet to be won.”



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MUNICIPALITY WILL INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS TO REFURBISH BOREHOLES, EXECUTIVE MAYOR COMMITS DURING IMBIZO

Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has assured the residents of Maruleng that the Mopani District Municipality's maintenance team will intensify its efforts to refurbish boreholes, while exploring ways to expedite the implementation of Mametja-Sekororo Regional Water Scheme Project, which has stalled due to funding difficulties.

He has hailed the efforts from the maintenance team in reducing the backlog of non-operational boreholes, saying there are 208 boreholes in Maruleng, with 126 (61%) operational, and 82 (39%) not operational. Transformers have been stolen in 12 of the non-operational boreholes, and 14 have been vandalized.

The Executive Mayor engaged with residents during his imbizo at Butswana on Friday, 05 September – this on the backdrop of his earlier visit to Tickylane village where he opened taps – this after all the 10 boreholes in the village were fixed as part of Operation Fix All Campaign. The Executive Mayor was also joined by the Mayor of Maruleng Municipality Cllr. Tsheko Musolwa.



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“We are on the ground every day, and so far we have fixed 112 boreholes since the beginning of August. The mayoral committee continues to support the efforts of our maintenance team in ensuring that our people have water in the immediate while we work at providing a sustainable solution through the bulk water projects.

“To boost capacity within the water services directorate, we have recently appointed 30 process controllers to help with water and wastewater management. We have also appointed 14 Plant Scheme Superintendents who will be responsible for overseeing operations in our plants. They all started work on Monday. We also appointed four booster pump operators, including 18 general workers,” he said.

The Executive Mayor expressed confidence that funds will soon be made available to help continue with Phase 2A of Mametja-Sekororo which is set to benefit communities including Sedawa, Ga-Mametja, Mabins A and B, Bochabelo, Butswana, Molalane, London, Worcester and Enable.

He also took the opportunity to report on the progress made in the implementation of the Rural Household Sanitation Project. He said that three contractors have already started with work to construct 843 VIP toilets in the villages around Maruleng, adding that four more contractors will also take forward the work by constructing 1124 units.

The Executive Mayor said that the partnership and MoU with Letaba TVET College, the Municipality is busy training 27 spaza shop owners (SMMEs) who have just concluded theoretical sessions that ran for five weeks, and set to start with practical work. He said the Municipality is also engaging some private companies to help join in support of the registered spaza shop owners in the district.





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PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA LEADS “THE BEST WOMEN’S DAY” CELEBRATION HOSTED IN MOPANI

President Cyril Ramaphosa has described the National Women’s Day Commemoration hosted at the Nkowankowa stadium on Saturday, 09 August “the best Women’s Day celebration held in many years.”

Delivering the keynote address, President Ramaphosa said he was pleased to see white compatriots in attendance, reflecting the diverse nature of South Africa’s population. He said he was also pleased with the huge attendance, including the attendance of young women who are at school.

President Ramaphosa went on to pay tribute to the heroic women generation of 1956 who paved the way for gender equality in South Africa, saying: “Men were already subjected to the humiliation of carrying the dreaded dompas but it took women who were considered as minors at the time to stop the apartheid government in its oppressive tracks.”

He said the celebration is a clarion call to accelerate the role of women in the economy and empower them as well as tackle the complex barriers such as poverty, inequality and unemployment, that hinder their development.



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The President said the overarching purpose of the commemoration is to promote women's participation and representation in leadership and the economy in line with the theme: "Building Resilient Economies for All."

"It is focused on advancing women's access to decent work, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion and care infrastructure. It reinforces the paradigm that resilient economies are those that are inclusive, equitable and gender responsive. As government, we have enacted robust policies to increase women's participation in the workplace and bridge the gender pay gap," he said.

He further said that about 40 percent of the preferential procurement in the public sector is awarded to women-owned businesses. Women-owned SMMEs are also supported through the National Empowerment Fund, the Small Enterprise Finance Agency and the National Infrastructure Fund.

President Ramaphosa said the greatest challenge facing the country was the pandemic of violence against women and children, urging for sustained efforts to fight the scourge. "Let us strive to be a society where we teach young boys that women are to be protected, and respected, and not abused. Real men do not abuse women. Real men do not rape women. Real men do not kill women."



EXECUTIVE MAYOR URGES LOCAL PEOPLE TO TAKE SHO'T LEFT AS HE LAUNCHES TOURISM MONTH

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has urged local communities to take advantage of the free day pass offered as part of Limpopo Wildlife Resorts Mahala Week and the SANParks Mahala Week.

Speaking at the Tourism Month Activation Campaign in Phalaborwa on Monday 01 September, the Executive Mayor said that local communities should be the first to experience the wonders of the wildlife and natural heritage in the district.

He said the Limpopo Wildlife Resorts Mahala Week from 08 – 14 September 2025 as well as the SANParks Mahala Week which will run from 22 – 28 September 2025 presents an opportunity for communities to explore their own country. The SANParks Mahala Week allows for free day visit to most of the national parks, including the Kruger National Park.

He also called for collaborative efforts to create a safe environment for tourists visiting the district, saying the sector remains very key in the creation of jobs and viable communities.





“It is through tourism that we bring in visitors who contribute to our local economic development, creating jobs for our people. It therefore calls for collaborative approach that seek to promote our tourist attraction sites, but also prioritizing efforts around ensuring safety of the tourists, including around issues of road safety.

“Let us work together to create a culture of safety that enhances the tourism experience while protecting the lives of those who come to enjoy our offerings as a district. Working with the law enforcement authorities, we must heighten patrols on the routes leading to the Kruger National Park and all the other tourist hotspots in the district,” the Executive Mayor said.

The Executive Mayor also lauded the presence of the delegation from the Bushbuckridge Municipality, which was led by the MMC for economic development Cllr. Patricia Gubayi. “We cherish this opportunity to be hosting you in our district, and we believe it is an opportunity to learn from each other, share experiences and perspectives on how best we can promote tourism and integration.

“The Gateway airport in Hoedspruit is so key to the promotion of tourism between the two municipalities. From next month, FlySafair is introducing weekly flights to Cape Town which means even more affordable air travel for tourists wishing to visit Mopani as well as the Mpumalanga Province,” he said.





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EXECUTIVE MAYOR SAYS STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE ACCELERATION PLAN IS KEY TO MEETING THE DEADLINE FOR THE TZANEEN DAM WALL PROJECT

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi says he is optimistic that with strict adherence to the acceleration plan, the March 2026 revised deadline for the Tzaneen Dam Wall Raising Project will be met.

The Executive Mayor led the multi-stakeholder task team on an oversight visit to the dam on Wednesday 17 September, with the current progress at 52%. He was also joined by the Mayor of Greater Letaba Municipality Cllr. Dagma Mamanyoha, the Speaker for Mopani District Municipality Cllr. Martha Maswanganyi, and the Chief Whip Cllr. Magdalena Lewele.

The raising of the Tzaneen Dam wall by three meters will help increase the storage capacity of the dam from 157 cubic meters to 195 cubic meters. It is set to provide much-needed water to communities around Tzaneen, including those benefiting from the Nkowankowa Water Scheme.

The project's current progress is at 52%. There is an acceleration plan, which includes increasing working hours up to 22:00 at night. This project has so far created over 150 work opportunities, as well as work-integrated learning opportunities for students from Letaba TVET College.

"We are impressed with the progress that we are experiencing, and we believe that through the acceleration plan and the increase in hours into the night, the deadline should be met. We know that the extended hours will inconvenience the community, but we must assure them that we need to go through this path so that we can make sufficient progress. We are happy, and we think that by working together with all the stakeholders, we should be able to finish at that critical time as planned," he said.

The Executive Mayor has previously indicated that the project is important to cater to the exponential growth in Tzaneen, as well as to plan for the 20-year horizon.

"Tzaneen is fast-growing, but the dam will definitely benefit many communities outside of Tzaneen. The Nkowankowa Water Scheme and communities around Ritavi are also dependent on the work that is happening here. We are happy that stakeholders are part of this," he said.



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SPAZA SHOP WORKSHOP

HOSTED AT LENYENYE TOWNSHIP, GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY



The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition in collaboration with the Department of Small Business Development, hosted an interactive Spaza Shop Support Awareness Campaign session at Lenyenye on Tuesday, 01 July 2025.

The workshop forms part of a nationwide campaign aimed at raising awareness about the Spaza Shop Support Fund, a R500-million initiative launched jointly by the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Mr Parks Tau, and the Minister of Small Business Development, Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni in April this year.

It was hosted in partnership with the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) and the National Empowerment Fund (NEF), two implementing agencies of the DSBD and the dtic respectively.

Spaza shop owners and informal traders had an opportunity to engage with officials and stakeholders on how to apply for the fund and gain a better understanding of the compliance and operational requirements needed to benefit from the support.

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Mr Parks Tau has previously indicated that with this fund, government is taking a concrete step to formalise and empower the informal sector. He says supporting spaza shops would be enabling entrepreneurs, often women and young people, to participate fully in the economic process.



"These small businesses generate employment, drive local commerce, and channel much-needed income into communities that have long been underserved. Studies show that small businesses account for a significant portion of job creation in South Africa. By providing spaza shop owners with financial support, infrastructure upgrades, and essential business training, we are setting the stage for sustainable job creation," said Tau.

The campaign places a strong focus on formalisation, business development, and sustainable participation in the township economy. Through initiatives like this, government aims to ensure that township and rural-based convenience shops are better equipped to thrive in a competitive market

"Our spaza shop owners are the backbone of township economies — they create jobs, support families, and keep our communities going. Through this fund, we are not just investing in businesses, we are investing in people, in dignity, and in sustainability." said MMC for Local Economic Development, Cllr Nyiko Baloy delivering the keynote address.





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COUNCIL NOTES THE 100% SPENDING ON THE MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

An ordinary sitting of Mopani District Council has noted the 100% spending on the municipal infrastructure grant – this for the third year running. Amongst the projects funded through the municipal infrastructure grant is the Tours Water Scheme Project which is set to benefit 25 communities in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.



Council also noted the ongoing engagements with the department of water and sanitation around increased WSIG allocation to fund the Giyani Intervention Projects, and also for the appointment of Mopani District Municipality as implementing agent for Phase 2 of Mametja-Sekororo Regional Water Scheme Project.



Council further received and noted the report that 11 wastewater treatment works within the Mopani District Municipality have been assessed for Green Drop Certification, while verification is set for August 2025.



The ordinary sitting also deliberated and approved the fourth quarter performance report, with 80% of the targets set on the SDBIP achieved. Progress on the AGSA Action Plan shows that 37% of the AGSA findings have been resolved.



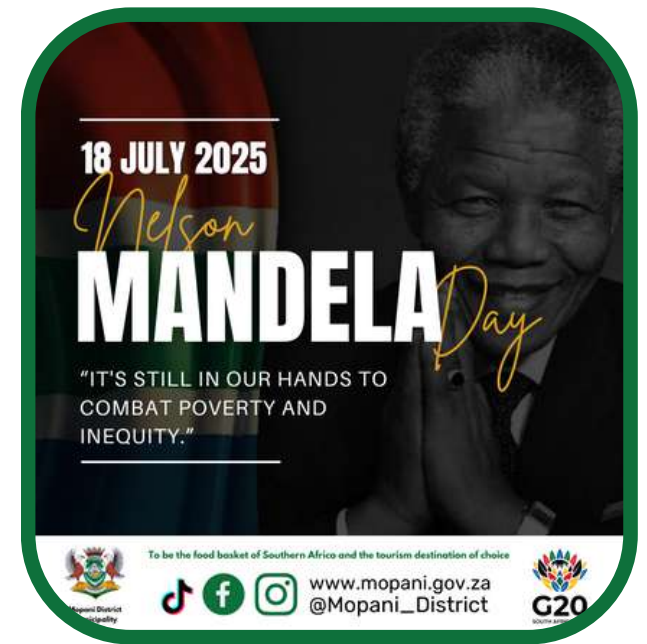
Council also welcomed Cllr. Gezani Makhubele who is joining as a rep from the Greater Tzaneen Municipality following the resignation by Cllr. Maripe Mangena.



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Mandela Day Initiative: Executive Mayor Donates School Shoes to Support Education



In line with the values of service, dignity, and education inspired by the legacy of former President Nelson Mandela, the Executive Mayor, Cllr Pule Shayi, led a Mandela Day outreach programme in Mashishimale under the Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality on Saturday, 19 July 2025.

The programme included the donation of school shoes to a group of young initiates who recently completed their traditional rites. The initiative was carried out in collaboration with the Mashishimale Traditional Authority and other local stakeholders.

Speaking during the handover ceremony, the Executive Mayor emphasized the importance of supporting learners particularly those in rural and vulnerable communities as they prepare to return for the second term of the academic year.

“As government, we remain committed to creating an enabling environment for every child to access quality education. These young men are not just coming out of initiation, they are stepping into a future full of potential. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the road ahead is one they walk with dignity and pride,” said Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi.

The event was well received by parents, educators, and traditional leaders, who expressed appreciation for the municipality’s continued support for education and cultural integration. The donated school shoes are expected to directly benefit learners who might otherwise struggle to meet basic schooling needs.

This Mandela Day activity forms part of Mopani District Municipality’s broader social development agenda, aimed at improving access to education, reducing dropout rates, and aligning traditional values with long-term development goals.

The Executive Mayor also used the platform to encourage learners to focus on their studies and to view education as a critical tool in building a prosperous and inclusive society.

EXECUTIVE MAYOR CONFIDENT OF IMPROVED AUDIT OUTCOMES IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN THE DISTRICT



Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi is confident that Mopani District Municipality will achieve unqualified audit opinion with at least two local municipalities in the district are expected to move to clean audit “and add cherry on top of the achievements recorded by the provincial government.”

The Executive Mayor said this when delivering the opening address to the MPAC District-wide session held from 10 -12 of September at Zebula Golf Estate. The session was also held on the backdrop of the municipal audits by AGSA, and in attendance are the Speakers and members of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee from all the six municipalities.

He also said the Municipality is making progress in its efforts to improve the internal control systems, adding that the issue of EPWP fraud as well as the fuel fraud was detected through internal processes and consequence management is being implemented. “It was detected by us out of own system, and we said that we need to investigate. We suspended some officials.”

He said that part of the commitments made to the AGSA is to work on ensuring water provision to communities across the district. He said that the first and sustainable option is the bulk water supply from the source, reticulation into household, but where it is not possible boreholes become an option, and even water tankers so that there is no gap.



But if we are able to infuse all the three at once, they support each other. That is why we introduced Hi Nwa Mati Friday, brought the operations and maintenance team, engaged in Operation Fix All. We are focusing on boreholes while bigger projects are still running.”



The Executive Mayor urged MPAC to remain professional and ethical while executing their duties. “We must reaffirm our commitment in ensuring that the work of MPAC and council continues to be conducted in an open and transparent.



“As you do your work as MPAC, you should be able to make sure you don’t work outside your mandate. Don’t unwittingly erode your own credibility and create environment of fear in the institutions. Don’t divert your precious energy because you will be tempted to play into the space of abuse. Good luck on your work. We are depending on your investigation, the probing, so that we elevate and hold each other accountable.”





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MDM PARTICIPATES IN THE ONE MILLION TREES CAMPAIGN

Mopani District Municipality, in partnership with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and Youth Zone, participated in the One Million Trees Campaign by planting fruit trees at Siyandhani and Fuyatha Primary Schools in Giyani on Wednesday, September 24.

Under the inspiring slogan “My Tree – My Oxygen – Plant Yours Today,” this campaign aims to enhance environmental awareness within our communities. During the event, learners received education on the significance of trees, engaged in practical planting lessons, and actively took part in the planting activities. These enriching experiences will contribute to their understanding of environmental preservation as they grow into adulthood.

In addition to this initiative, Mopani District Municipality has been planting trees at primary schools throughout the district to celebrate Arbor Month. This effort is part of the Municipality’s broader Clean Earth Campaign, which focuses on promoting environmental consciousness. Students are not only taught about the importance of trees but also equipped with the skills needed for proper tree planting techniques.

Trees were also planted at Diphuti Primary School in The Oaks village, located in Maruleng Municipality. This activity not only provided valuable knowledge and skills but also supported the school’s preparations for the Baswa Le Meetse (BLM) Competition, an initiative by the Department of Water and Sanitation. Diphuti Primary will represent Limpopo Province at the national level of this competition, which creatively utilizes art forms such as music, drama, and poetry to educate intermediate-phase learners on water resource management and hygiene.



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MDM recognize efforts from learners who completed the Water and Wastewater Programme

The Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Community Services, Cllr. Basani Shibambu lauded the efforts by 96 young people who managed to complete the one year Water and Wastewater Process Control Supervision Level 4 training programme, which is funded through EWSETA.

MMC Shibambu commended the learners for their dedication and achievement in a critical field that supports sustainable service delivery and environmental protection. This initiative is part of the Mopani District Municipality's ongoing commitment to empowering unemployed youth through skills development and creating pathways to employment in key sectors.

“All of you have chosen a path that is set to contribute directly to our efforts around improvising water provision in the district. The skills and experiences you have acquired will serve as a strong foundation for your future endeavours,” said MMC Shibambu.

She said that young people have a role to play in contributing to the efforts around water provision in the district. “Working alongside your peers, you had an opportunity to engage in hands-on training, worked and mentored by seasoned officials. You also learned from each other and collaborated to find solutions to complex problems. This experience helped prepare you for future opportunities.

“Therefore, we urge you to continue fostering your passion for this field. Stay curious, keep learning, and remain open to new ideas and innovations. The challenges we face in water management are evolving. It demands your creativity and determination.



Morutji community welcomes borehole

The community of Morutji in ward 7 of Greater Tzaneen Municipality has expressed relief following the handover of a borehole by Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi on Wednesday, 02 July.

The borehole was drilled to provide temporary relief after the community shared their frustration with the Executive Mayor during a meeting held a month ago.





MDM Speaker welcomes the newly sworn in Cllr. Ngove

MDM Speaker Cllr. Martha Maswanganyi has welcomed the new Member of Council, Matsalwa Basani Ngove, who was sworn in on Tuesday, 16 September. She fills a vacancy from the ANC after the resignation of Cllr. Desiree Selaelo.



EXECUTIVE MAYOR CELEBRATES THE PROMOTION OF PHALABORWA UNITED

Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has extended his congratulations to Phalaborwa United on their promotion from the SAFA Hollywoodbets league to the ABC Motsepe league, the third tier of South African football.

True to his commitment made during his State of the District Address, the Executive Mayor joined the team for support at Mahwelereng stadium during the inter-regional playoff.

He also congratulated Ayabonga “Mageba” Mokgalaka from Mashishimale who has signed a 3-year contract with Sekhukhune United. He played a key role in helping Phalaborwa United secure promotion.



Letaba TVET College hosts GBV Awareness Art Performance

The Letaba TVET College hosted a GBV Awareness Art Performance & Career Exhibition at Kgapane on Tuesday, 05 August. The event was aimed at raising awareness on gender-based violence through art, while also providing career guidance and opportunities to the youth. Cllr. Japisa Mathonsi who is in the community services portfolio committee was in attendance, representing the Mopani District Municipality.



G20 Youth Engagement at Mopani TVET College



The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in partnership with Mopani TVET College, hosted a dynamic G20 conversation at the Sir Val Duncan Campus in Phalaborwa on Thursday, 17 July- this as part of the VUK Talks initiative.

Targeting over 200 students, the event forms part of efforts to engage young people and raise awareness about South Africa's G20 Presidency.

The session was officiated by MMC for Governance Cllr. Lucky Mohlala, joined by Cllr R. Makasela on behalf of the Mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality, GCIS Provincial Director Thanyani Ravhura, and Chief Director for Cluster Communication & G20 Project Leader, Mndeni Ndwandwe

PREMIER INTRODUCES CONTRACTOR FOR MOREBENG – SEKGOSESE ROAD

Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba has officially introduced contractor for upgrade from gravel to tar the road stretching from Morebeng to Sekgosese (Wholesale), in the Greater Letaba Local Municipality. #7thAdministration #LetsGrowLimpopoTogether #ALimpopoThatWorksForAll



Executive Mayor's meet & greet with SANDF

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor, Cllr. Pule Shayi together with the Speaker Cllr. Martha Maswanganyi and Chief Whip Cllr. Magdelina Lewele had a meet and greet session with Colonel Adv. E.M. Baloyi, Officer Commanding of Army Support Base Limpopo, and his team from the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). Strengthening collaboration and mutual support for the benefit of our communities.



Food Safety Workshop

Mopani District Municipality through its Municipal Health Services Division held a food safety workshop on Wednesday 17 September, for food handlers operating in schools around the Greater Giyani Municipality. The workshop was aimed at educating the food handlers on acceptable practices for food handling to prevent contamination and ensure public health.





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ROAD RUNNERS SHINE AT THE SAIMSA GAMES FOR MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Road Runners distinguished themselves as the standout athletes for the Mopani District Municipality, securing gold medals in the Marathon at the Southern African Inter-Municipality Sports Association (SAIMSA) Wellness Games held in Maseru, Lesotho, from September 21 to 26, 2025.

Mopani District Municipality sent formidable teams to compete in Netball, Soccer, Volleyball, and Darts. Despite their commendable efforts, these teams were unable to advance beyond the group stages.

The true highlight for Mopani came in the Marathon, where they achieved remarkable success with two gold medals. Beryl Monakisi clinched gold in the 21km race for participants aged over 50 years, while Sostina Mhlongo triumphed in the 10km race.

Confidence Makumbila, chairperson of the MDM Sports Committee, praised the team's efforts and expressed gratitude to the council for their support. "While we are disappointed that we could not bring home more trophies, we take pride in the dedication and resilience exhibited by our teams. These games emphasize wellness, yet they also offer valuable lessons that will strengthen us moving forward.

"We have demonstrated our talent, and with improved preparation, we are confident in our ability to achieve greater success. We will take this opportunity to reflect, recharge, and prepare for victory as we look ahead to next year. Most importantly, we wish to acknowledge the Council's support, which made our participation in these international games possible."



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To be the food basket of Southern Africa and
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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

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

Private Bag X 9687, 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

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