

# 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.”**



“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



## 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.”