

IDP AND DRAFT BUDGET SPEECH DELIVERED BY EXECUTIVE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MAETU KGAILE, 29th MARCH 2019, KLERKSDORP.

Honourable Speaker - Cllr Washington Ntozini;

Chief Whip of Council - Cllr Vusi Chinga;

Members of the Mayoral Committee;

Members and Leaders of all Political Parties;

Honourable Councillors;

Municipal Manager - Mr Roger Nkhumise and council employees;

Leaders of Business and Captains of Industry;

Leaders of the Labour Movement

NGOs and Organs of Civil Society;

Members of the Media;

Most Importantly, People of the City on the Move;

Honourable Speaker,

That time is back with us again where we have to reflect, look in hindsight the avenues we have come across and to the journey we have travelled together. As we deliberate on the successes and challenges we have been faced with in this departing financial year, we are equally able to use the benefit of retrospective view and budget for better interventions in the forthcoming fiscal year.

In terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act; the Municipality must submit a draft budget to the community for its consideration and comment before a final budget can be presented and approved by Council. This people centred approach was espoused long before the advent of democracy in Kliptown when the Freedom Charter shouted in 1955 that “The People Shall Govern” - today People of the City on the move are an integral part of this planning process with the government through consultative meetings as per legislation.

Honourable Speaker Matlosana Municipality has received an unqualified audit opinion for the financial year 2017/2018, which denotes an excellent governance and top administration.

The unqualified audit unfortunately does not mean wealth and prosperity. Matlosana Local Municipality is not wealthy and the economy is constrained. We have dug deep to seek meaningful instruments for growth, investments and development. A low tax base and lack of varied revenue generation streams and income sources for our citizens is a major obstacle to the city’s growth and development aspirations.

Honourable Speaker as we table this draft budget today, we are fully aware of the problems and technical obstacles facing Matlosana and her citizens; which fact include the aforementioned lack of income resources that limits our ability to fund all areas that need to be funded by the municipality.

This draft budget places on us the duty to make decisions between competing concerns and economic realities. The problem is mainly caused by little resources at hand and the escalating costs of maintaining assets that the municipality has.

Draft Budget 2019/2020 is annexed hereto in its entirety for ease of reference. I will request MMC Farouk Tagaree to take the council through the budget presentation.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to share with the august house the key observations and analysis I made during the IDP Representative process

1. Our low growth trajectory, limited foreign direct investment inflows pose a huge challenge for our municipality and the citizens of Matlosana.
2. The sunset mining sector challenges us to radically transform our economic model for a diversified economy to provide more jobs and inclusivity in ownership and participation.
3. We are hard-pressed to prioritise our spending better, implement our plans more effectively, make impact and extract value for money for each and every rand in our fiscus

Honourable Speaker, developing this budget was not easy task and the process was as ever complex and required exceptional expertise, hard work and dedication. It required lateral and clear thinking. It is my considered opinion that we have managed to draft a document that serves the best interests of the city and the people.

My greatest gratitude goes to all Councillors, the Municipal Manager, Directors, Drickus and staff at treasury and IDP Office for the hard work you all have put into this process.

Honourable Speaker, this Draft Budget and IDP is an expression of the ambitions of Matlosana, a City of People on the Move. As a document it just has latent potential, however with discipline and commitment of women and men who are forever determined in striving for set goals of creating a better life for all, and that all institutional efforts are aligned with the set norms and standards.

Honourable Speaker; I hereby present for adoption of the IDP and Draft Budget for the financial year 2019/2020.

I THANK YOU