

March 2024



**EMFULENI**  
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

# VOICE OF EMFULENI

External Newsletter

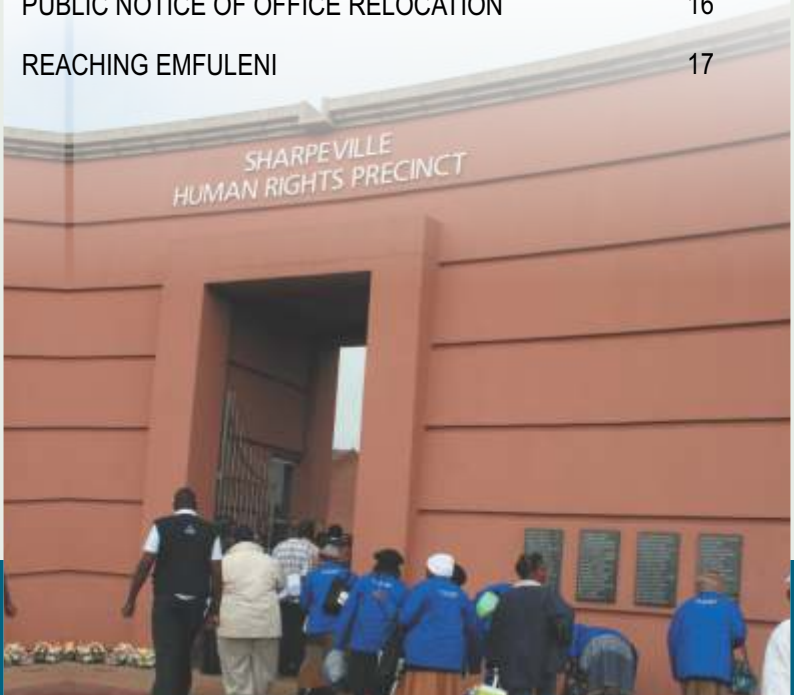
SHARPEVILLE  
HUMAN RIGHTS PRECINCT

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY  
21 MARCH

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## EMFULENI FOCUS ON FILLING CRITICAL POSITIONS TO IMPROVE GOVERNANCE

The Emfuleni Local Municipality Council has over the past year made significant progress in filling some of the executive positions that have been vacant for a while. Mr M Maseanoka was appointed the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) on 01 March 2024. Executive Director (ED) for Economic Development Planning & Human Settlement Mr Thendo Masia also assumed his role in March. ED for Shared Services, Mr TTE Msibi was also recently appointed. These latest appointments certainly signal a new era for Emfuleni governance standards.

The Municipal Manager Mr April Ntuli who was appointed last year in March has been working tirelessly to turn the municipality around. In order to achieve the set objectives for a better, improved and functional Emfuleni, he needs a strong, skilled and qualified team. In his acceptance speech, Ntuli tabled five key strategic areas of focus, one being “building credible governance structures.” It is in this light that council is on the drive to make sure that right candidates occupy positions that are critical for running the municipality affairs.

Through the human resources department the municipality vets all the candidates to ensure that required skills are acquired. This provides new opportunities for the municipality to provide service delivery to communities and achieve high corporate governance standards.

Other Senior Manager positions filled since last year include the Chief Risk Officer, Chief Audit Executive, Managers of Legal Services, Internal Audit & Project Management Services. Council is on the pipeline of acquiring the expertise of Chief Operations Officer & Executive Director Community Services. Other middle management positions have also been acquired, promotions of internal staff have also been quite significant in the municipality.

### Newly appointed EDs



*Mr T Masia  
Executive Director: Economic Planning  
and Human Settlement*



*Mr TTE Msibi  
Executive Director:  
Shared Services*

# A STATEMENT BY THE NEW CFO



*Mr Mpfareleni Maseanoka  
Chief Financial Officer*

“My responsibility is to assist the Municipal Manager to turnaround the Municipality both in financial terms and service delivery. We will have to improve governance so as to improve audit outcomes and achieve clean audit . It should be a clean audit that is supported by improvement in service delivery. The Municipality is currently facing financial challenges that are in the public domain. We need to review our business model and improve internal controls to ensure revenue improvement and reduction of expenditure that is not warranted . We need to have partnership with our business community to ensure that they play a role that supports the municipality while the Municipality creates an environment that will result in their business thriving. We will be supporting the Mayor on the work that he has done in partnering with the business community. We have a responsibility as senior managers to improve the morale of the employees by finalizing all the historical disputes to ensure employees are focused on the municipality mandate of service delivery.”

Mr Mfaraleni did his article at Deloitte between 2000 and 2004, had a short period in Gobodo before joining ELM as Chief Accountant in 2005 . During that period he acted as Manager Revenue until he left in February 2009 .He rejoined the Municipality as Head of Operation in Revenue in 2012. Part of the team that achieved an unqualified opinion for the first time in the Municipality. He has been in the Municipality when the municipality was on an upward trajectory and also when it was on a downward trajectory. He acted as head of Revenue since 2014 until was appointed to act as CFO since April 2022.

# CONTRACTORS APPOINTED FOR ROAD FIXING IN EMFULENI

The Emfuleni Local Municipality (ELM) has appointed contractors for some of the roads earmarked for rehabilitation and resurfacing in Emfuleni. In 2023, the Premier of Gauteng Panyaza Lesufi announced the 40 road rehabilitation support programme for Emfuleni by the Provincial department. The municipality has been struggling with road infrastructure maintenance. During his oversight visit to assess the state of service delivery in ELM the state President Cyril Ramaphosa also committed to this project. The municipality is happy to announce that work is currently underway which involves arteries for economic activities in ELM.

On 29 February 2024, the Executive Mayor of Emfuleni, Cllr Siphso Radebe, conducted an oversight of Waterdal road formerly known as 'Serope Sea benya' where work is being done. Other roads being fixed include the Nelson Mandela Chris Hani in Bophelong, Zwane Street in Sharpeville and Golf Road in Three Rivers. The road rehabilitation and resealing programme of Emfuleni will be rolled out until the forty identified roads are all covered.

In early February SANRAL, Gauteng Department of Transport, Sedibeng District Municipality and Emfuleni came together to forge ahead with this intergovernmental project. The meeting with the municipal Manager, Mr April Ntuli was mainly to identify gaps and challenges the municipality has been facing since the road rehabilitation programme was announced and find solutions thereof. SANRAL Chief Executive Regional Demana and Chris Hlabisa, Deputy General for Roads and Public transport led the discussions and reiterated the urgency to kickstart the project.

The new roads will not only contribute to improved transportation but have a lasting effect on the overall development and economy of Emfuleni. Executive Mayor Radebe has called on



residents and community members to “stay away from damaging roads especially during protests.”

During the official handover of roads to contractors on 14 February, the MMC for Public works, Cllr Mochawe urged the appointed contractors to give priority to sourcing local labour in order to provide employment opportunities in the region. Funding of this project comes from the provincial department with an estimated cost of 280 million rands.



*The Boy Louw undercarriage was officially reopened for public use on 07 March 2024. This is after seven months of construction work.*

*The EM was joined by MMC for Public Works, Cllr. Tumi Mochawe and Mr. Midday Mali from SANTACO Sedibeng during the opening.*





# PEOPLE GET THE LIGHTS BACK THROUGH LESUFI TRANSFORMER PROJECT

*By Thabiso Radebe*

The Evaton community is the most hard hit due to the failure of Eskom transformers that have blown-up, leaving many families in darkness for a period of over four years without electricity. In a short period of 15 months as Gauteng Premier, Panyaza Lesufi's administration has brought jubilation to over two million Gauteng families who for many years were forced to live in the darkness despite having reported the problem at Eskom.

The premier's transformer replacement project is done in partnership with both City Power and Eskom. Emfuleni Local Municipality areas were allocated 31 transformers. To date nineteen transformers have been installed and switched on by the Premier supported by the Executive Mayor, Cllr Siphso Radebe. Sebokeng Ironside, Eastonside, Three Rivers, Evaton Boitumelo, Bophelong and Boipatong have been switched on. The program is continuing.

Today, most of Gauteng communities are safer places because of the ongoing massive program for transformer replacement projects. An audit outcome confirmed five hundred non-functional, broken transformers around the province. The current administration is taking practical steps to fix the energy crisis. Panyaza said "as premier I don't have peaceful sleep with millions of Gauteng people living their daily lives without electricity." The premier notes challenges of infrastructure vandalism, cable theft and illegal connection by consumers. The reality is that there is a growing trend from consumers by-passing the approved Eskom electricity retailers and buying "izinyokanyoka". This has been proved to cost Eskom billions in revenue losses.

Lesufi has kept his commitment to the people of Gauteng through Operation Khanyisa which reaches out to the most affected places from townships, suburbs, hostels and to informal settlements. The Gauteng Provincial Government is exploring other sources for energy supply like renewable energy, establishment of green energy plants, and solar high mast light as part of the permanent solutions.



# SAFE

## DRINKING WATER

**IS IT SAFE TO DRINK EMFULENI WATER?**

**ARE RUMORS OF CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN EMFULENI FALSE?**

**HAVE WATER SAMPLES BEEN TESTED AND FOUND NEGATIVE?**

**Yes, yes and yes!**

**EMFULENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IS COMPLIANT WITH SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS (SANS) DRINKING WATER SPECIFICATIONS.**



**Metsi-a-Lekoa**

The Water Services Unit of Emfuleni Local Municipality



# MEET THE NEW MPAC CHAIRPERSON



Councillor Tebogo Thlokwe  
Chairperson of the  
Municipal Public Account Committee (MPAC)

*By Thabiso Radebe*

Councillor Tebogo Thlokwe is the new chairperson of the Municipal Public Account Committee (MPAC) for Emfuleni. Thlokwe brings a wealth of experience from Sedibeng District Municipality where he used to serve in the same committee. MPAC is an independent section 79 committee that conducts an oversight work on municipal executives, reporting directly to Council.

Accepting his new role, Cllr Thlokwe expressed his immediate focus to get the work done in the remaining three years of the current tenure. He is confident to help steer the Emfuleni council to achieve a clean governance report. As an independent council committee, MPAC boasts unlimited access to do its job without having to worry about the partisan but pursue objectives to eradicate unauthorised expenditure, irregular and fruitless expenditure.

Thlokwe was the only nominee and got the majority of votes conducted with a show of hands during the council sitting. All the parties represented in council wished him the best in his new responsibility. His appointment came four months after the resignation of Cllr SG Mokhele in June 2023. Mokhele's resignation was referred to as a 'forced departure' after he was shot 9 times by unknown suspects.

## THUTO TIRO SCHOOL OF SPECIALISATION LAUNCHED IN EMFULENI

*By Thabiso Radebe*

At Sebokeng Zone 10, MEC for Education and Youth Development Matome Chiolane led his entourage to the launch of Thuto Tiro Engineering School Of Specialisation (SOS) with focus on renewable energy. Executive Mayor, Cllr Siphso Radebe, joined the MEC to unveil the plaque at the school's administration block to mark the official opening of the school. They were joined by the school SGB chairperson Mr Isaac Chakela and principal Khumalo. Thuto-Tiro, launched on 15 February 2023 is the 33rd school of specialization launched in Gauteng Province and the seventh in Sedibeng District.

School of specialisations are engineering skills based. In his welcoming remarks, Mayor Radebe highlighted the need for learners to acquire the skills for renewable energy, technologies, solar, wind, biomass and geothermal. "The schools of specialization do not have fixed feeder areas, any parent staying in Gauteng can have their children registered at the school depending on the outcome of the learner's assessment for admission." Explained Chiloane.

Chiolane emphasised that the SOS are built to ensure that learners are being prepared to become future engineers and professionals, to get young people away from relying on social grants. Schools like Thuto-Tiro with focus on renewable energy are part of government programmes and an investment to develop solutions for country energy challenges. The dignitaries started the day with touring school classrooms that have been converted into workshops fitted with industrial machines. The curriculum also offers learners skills in welding, sewing, fitting & turning, woodwork and construction.

All the SOS are aligned to the Gauteng provincial government programme to develop townships, informal settlements and hostels. From Industry was Richard Maloka representing Delta Engineering based at Sharpeville. He pledged to guide the school in its new journey and to give learners support that includes internships. More public private partnerships are required to ensure the success of the SOS.



*Matome Chiolane, MEC for Education and Youth Development with Executive Mayor, Siphso Radebe at Thuto Tiro Engineering School of Specialisation*



## MAYOR'S SCHOOL SHOES PROGRAM CONTINUES AID TO TOWNSHIP SCHOOL LEARNERS

*Thabiso Radebe*

Over 1300 boys and girls from various primary schools received new school pairs of shoes during the 2024 academic year. The learners who benefit from this programme come from disadvantaged families. In the effort to ensure children attend and stay in schools, the Executive Mayor Cllr Siphso Radebe, partnered with Serite Mining to provide assistance to learners who cannot afford to buy proper school uniforms. These categories of children are often negatively impacted on their academic achievement, with some learners opting to drop out of school.

This year's program opened with Bafokeng and Mogogodi Primary Schools respectively which both received a donation of the school shoes. During the school shoes rollout programme last year, Mayor Radebe committed to ensure that the programme is sustained “in order to bring back the dignity of a black child at school.” His office is working directly with local schools to help to identify and profile learners coming from poor families.

“The donation of school shoes not only provides essential items to the learners but highlights the importance of social partnerships between the private, local municipality, and educational institutions.” said Sharon Montoedi from Meriti. This type of support aims to alleviate the financial burdens on families struggling to afford for their school going children.

Principal Molefe of Mogogodi primary school in Sebokeng zone 11 expressed her appreciation to the Emfuleni Local Municipality executive mayor for the school shoes project. Parents, teachers and members of school governing bodies from various schools visited thanked the government for the national school nutrition program. Every learner gets free meals five days a week which is made possible by the department of basic education. Cllr Radebe continues to scout private companies and individuals to partner in this programme, with the hope of ensuring every learner attends school with proper school uniform.



# EMFULENI PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DIMAKATSO MARTHA MOROBI



*Farewell Mamorobi*

*By Thabiso Radebe*

The Emfuleni Local Municipal council speaker Sibongile Soxuza led the proceedings for a civil funeral service for the late Dimakatso Martha Morobi on Saturday February 10 2024. The Bophelong community bid farewell to one of their own oldest residents. The 83 year old “Mamorobi” was described as beacon of hope, light and strength for community of Vaal. Her legacy of resilience and service to humanity will forever echo in the hearts of her family, the church and ANC which she served her whole life.

Mamorobi's story is intertwined with the struggle for freedom and justice in SouthAfrica. In the face of adversity, she became a fearless advocate for change, risking her safety as a communication courier and transit operator during the struggle for liberation. Her home, 640 Mdoni Avenue became a sanctuary for those seeking refuge from the brutality of the apartheid system, a testament of her courage and compassion. Paying tribute, the Speaker of National Assembly Mapisa Nqakula said that she remembers the late Mamorobi when she became MP in 1999. “



our relationship was like mother and daughter,” said MapisaNqakula.

She empowered the community through leading organisations like Vaal Women and Federation of Transvaal, supporting political prisoners and facilitating the repatriation of those from exile. She became the first chairperson of the ANC women's league sub-region in the then former Pretoria Witwatersrand Vaal. She has in her lifetime served in parliament. Became PCO (Parliamentary Constituency Officer) and led her first constituency in Evaton and later in Vanderbijlpark. She retired from parliament in 2008 and focused her community work to support the Emfuleni shelter for boys.

Executive Mayor Siphso Radebe delivered the eulogy describing Mamorobi as a “lighthouse guiding us through the dark times and inspiring us to reach for a brighter future. Let us carry her touch and continue her fight for better tomorrow to ensure her legacy echoes in the hearts and actions for generations.” concluded Radebe.

The chief-whips of political parties represented in council were each given time in the program to send their message for condolence. Speaking on behalf of the family, Mamello Morobi said that the family is feeling very comforted by the show of love and since the passing of my mother.



*Cllr Sibongile Soxuza: Speaker of Council*



## RECOGNITION CORNER: WENZILE PHAPHAMA SECURITY CONTRIBUTION TO JOB CREATION

*By Thabiso Radebe*

For a period of two years Wenzile-Phapahama Security took out many unemployed youths from the cycle of unemployment. A total of 38 thirty-eight have been employed by the company, explained Wenzile -PhapahamaSecurity Manager.

On Wednesday 28 February a total of (80) eighty qualified security officers formed part of the pass out ceremony that was held at ward 19 Evaton multipurpose Centre. According to the supplied information WenzilePhapahama security has trained hundred and fifty security officers of which some have been employed by retail shops.Emfuleni Local Municipality was represented by member for mayoral committee Cllr. Ndade Mokoena in charge of the public safety cluster.

As part of the company's social responsibility, they have responded positively to the proposal that was submitted by a local community leader from military veterans association Daddy Thinane, to make this opportunity in the quest of reducing the rate of unemployment within Emfuleni.

The Emfuleni Mayor, Cllr Sipho Radebehas welcomed this initiative and continues his call on private companies to make meaningful contributions to our communities.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### OFFICE RELOCATION

Following the temporary closure of the Emfuleni Local Municipality Trust Bank building offices for compliance reasons, an interim plan has been crafted to relocate nine Trust Bank departments to other municipal buildings. Members of the public are therefore notified that the departments will be moved as follows:

- **PROPERTIES DEPARTMENT:** Vanderbijlpark Library, Klasie Havenga Str.
- **BUILDING CONTROL DEPARTMENT:** Facilities Department, Hans Strijdom Str.
- **HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT (HOUSING):** ELM Head Office, Office of the Chief Whip, Frikkie Meyer Blvd.
- **LABOUR RELATIONS DEPARTMENT:** ELM Head Office, Park Homes, Frikkie Meyer Blvd.
- **BY LAWS DEPARTMENT:** ELM Head Office, 3rd Floor, Frikkie Meyer Blvd.
- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LAND USE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT:** ELM Head Office, 1st Floor, Frikkie Meyer Blvd.
- **LAND USE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT:** Trust Bank Building - Foyer, President Kruger Str. and ELM Head Office 4th and 5th Floor Boardrooms, Frikkie Meyer Blvd.
- **HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT:** Trust Bank Foyer, Benefits, LLF and Leave Section, President Kruger Str., 1st Floor Management & 3rd Floor Recruitment,
- **MESO (MEDICAL):** Vanderbijlpark Library, Klasie Havenga Str.
- **AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT:** Vanderbijlpark Information Center next to Banks, President Kruger Str.

The municipality apologizes for any inconvenience caused.

*This message is brought to you by the Emfuleni Local Municipality.*



## REACHING EMFULENI



### Fire and Rescue Control Centre

087 310 9622

087 310 9632

087 310 9633



### Electricity Department Control Room

087 562 0425

087 310 3369

087 562 0524

**WhatsApp** 065 871 7483



### Metsi-a-lekoa Customer Care Centre

087 310 4095

087 310 3424

087 310 4109

010 345 1640 / 1

## Bank Account Details



### TO PAY UTILITIES

Bank - FNB

Account No. 62865705746

Account Holder:

Emfuleni Local Municipality

Branch Code 210-554

Swift Code FIRNZAJJ

### TO PAY FINES PLEASE USE

**ACCOUNT NO. 62865706538**

*This newsletter is issued by Manager Communications: Makhosonke Sangweni*

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