



NGAKA MODIRI MOLEMA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

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MEDIA STATEMENT ON “90 DAYS ROAD MAP TO 2016”

“Restoring Hope for Ngaka Modiri Molema District Communities”

The Political Management of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality takes this opportunity to welcome members of the media invited today to outline progress made by the Council in our first engagement since our election on the 04th of December 2014.

I prefer to compare our “90 days road map to 2016” service delivery with a quote by Harry Ford, an American Businessman, who once said, I quote **“Coming Together is a Beginning, Keeping Together is Progress, Working Together is a Success”** close quote and what we are presenting today, is a sign of our commitment as the Political arm to continue to work together with the Administration, National and Provincial Government, the Trade Union Movement, SAMWU, Business Sector, Dikgosi tsa rona, Bang ba mmu, and Communities at large to ensure success in “build a responsive, caring and accountable” Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.

It has been 90 days to be exact, since we were appointed to lead the Council of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality after the Provincial Government instituted Section 139 c leading to the Bi-election in November 2014 of which during my Inaugural ceremony when I accepted the role as the Executive Mayor, amongst others, I committed to **“Restore dignity and hope for the communities of Ngaka Modiri Molema District”** and **“Provide a platform for the Political Leadership of Local Municipalities in the District to give direction in strengthening the Administrative Capacity focusing in Powers, Functions and Governance”**.

Ka jalo, re le Mmasepala wa Sedika, ra tsaya tshwetso ya gore re simolole ka go phepafatsa ntlo ya rona pele fa re ka lebelela ka fo go bo Mmasepala ba Selegae.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality therefore, put on record that we will continue to implement the Local Government Strategy **“Back to Basics”** as a Framework on the operations of the Municipality, and report on progress made in 90 days:

“Leaders in integrated municipal governance”



On “Building Capable Institutions and Administration”

The District Municipality upon the lapse of the Section 139 c, the Department of Local Government and Human Settlement instituted Section 154 to provide administrative capacity, whereby Council then appointed the then Administrator, Mr Kumaran Nair as the Acting Municipal Manager for a period of three (3) months ending on the 28th of February 2015 in order to facilitate smooth transition and proper handing over to the New Council.

We therefore, officially inform members of the media and our communities that, the Acting Capacity of Mr Nair ended and the Council during its sitting on the 26th of February 2015 appointed Ms Nono Dince as the Acting Municipal Manager and Mr Lomax Gopane as the Acting CFO due to the fact that the former CFO resign in 2014 for a period of three months as per the Legislative requirement.

Please take note that both Candidates as appointed are qualified, competent and known for their good managerial skills as they are both experienced and have a requisite skill in the Administration and Financial Management areas for over 20 years.

It's an honour and pleasure to introduce the new Acting Municipal Manager of the Ngaka Modiri District Municipality, Ms Nono Dince and Acting CFO Mr Lomax Gopane respectively.

I don't believe in what they say “a new broom sweeps clean”, I believe in a Leader who uploads honesty and integrity to assist in Moving the District Municipality forward, Ms Dince and Mr Gopane are an example of such a Leader.

We regard our District Municipality as “Priority 1” as we found it in a state of dysfunctional due to non-performance and non-provision of basic services, which is Water and Sanitation, it is imperative that we ensure appointment of competent staff as it is key to our plan to turn this Municipality around.

On “Good Governance, Basic Service, Sound Financial Management and Public Participation”

The District Municipality seeks stability and good governance in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, with an administration that supports our Local Municipalities and provide our communities with basic services especially water and sanitation as it is a core business of our existence.

The Municipality held two (2) ordinary and two (3) special council sittings and amongst other appointed the Acting MM, the Acting CFO and Members of the Mayoral Committee, in accordance with the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act.

Our focus in the next three months is to:

- Create a sound Inter-governmental relations with Department of Water and Sanitation; Department of Local Government and Human Settlement; and Sedibeng Water in finding a lasting solution to water shortage problem in Ngaka Modiri Molema despite the fact that we are a water scarce area solely relying on ground water.
- Present the Infrastructure maintenance plan to the Premier
- Identify and Submit names of projects that requires intervention to the Premier.
- Present District Infrastructure water Plan to the Premier;
- Submit District Water and Sanitation Master Plan.
- Reduce Yard Connections backlogs by 100% (all households who paid the yard connection fees to-date).
- Convene the District Water Summit to amongst others look at measures to reduce water tankering atleast by 20%.
- Present the revenue enhancement plan to the Premier.
- Draft an audit action plan to execute the AG's Audit recommendations.
- Develop a sustainable financial recovery plan to service our debts and pay service providers.
- Convene a meeting with the District House of Traditional Leaders to forge proper working relationship with regards to infrastructure projects.
- Amend the IDP/Budget for the 2015/16 financial year through proper community engagements by the 31st of March 2015.

We acknowledges that challenges such as institutional incapacity, alleged maladministration and non-payment of service providers led to the collapse of projects, therefore it is evident there is so much that needs to be done to bring water supply stability with no interruptions in the District by putting up quality infrastructure, these plans is a must-achieve.

All these reported progress builds trust that we are further committed in turning around the Management of Municipal Finances as for the past four (4) financial years, the Auditor General Report has reflected negative outcomes, and this phenomenon needs to be turned around as we aim for an improved audit outcome.

As I conclude with our progress and plans for the next trimester, let me deal with the much awaited matter relating to the Litigation against the District Municipality.

I am going to keep my face to the sunshine so that I must not see a shadow, in order for me to deal with all the insinuations.

Yes, it is true that on the fateful Friday, the 20th of February 2015, the Municipal vehicles and trucks where attached but not auctioned due to a debt of three service providers who received a judgement against the Municipality, that is Down Touch Investments (Pty) LTD, Fastcon Tlotlo Joint Venture, and King & Associates Engineering and Project Management (Pty) LTD to a tune of R 1 821 700.76; R 8 443 840.78 and R 779 577.44 respectively.

This Council officially informs the community formally through media as medium tool of communication that, these debts back-dates as far as 2013 and ascertain that the Political management, the Municipal Legal Services and the Department of Local Government and Human Settlement met with the affected service providers and their legal representative to map a way forward regarding the "writ of execution" of which necessary steps are being taken to ensure the return of all the removed Council property.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality welcomes the announcement by the MEC for Local Government and Human Settlement, Honourable Collin Maine to bail out the Municipality and therefore commit that this money will be paid to service providers not later than the transfer date from the Department. I personally commit that a report with proof of payment will be submitted a day after payments has been done.

The Political Management of this District Municipality, that is myself as the Executive Mayor, Cllr Tshepo Justice Makolomakwa, the Council Speaker, Cllr Yoliswa Sechoaro and Council Whip, Cllr Eric Landsman on behalf of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Council commit that this Council takes serious efforts in playing its role as a

watchdog, to guard against maladministration, fraud or corruption without fear or favour.

We are a council that is accountable to our communities as per the pronouncement of "**Back to Basics**", we will continue to oversee and assess the speed in which service delivery is efficiently implemented through "**Setsokotsane and Bua Le Puso**" Programmes to further identify community development and alignment of IDP projects/programmes to the National Development Plan 2030.

"Mmogo re tswelela go isa Sedika sa Ngaka Modiri Molema le the People's Province of Bokone Bophirima kwa pele"

KE A LEBOGA

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