

LENTšU NEWS

Edition 1



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MAYOR MERAH MAHLASE LEADS EXCO ON
SERVICE DELIVERY MONITORING VISITS TO
TRANSFORMATIVE MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS

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TOP STORY

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
SHINES AT SALGA AWARDS, SECURING
SEVEN PRESTIGIOUS HONORS



Unqualified
Audit Opinion
— 2023/2024 —



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY





Cllr. Merah Mahlase

Mayor of Makhuduthamaga
Local Municipality

Mmogo re šomela diphetogo



VISION

- + A catalyst of integrated community driven service delivery.

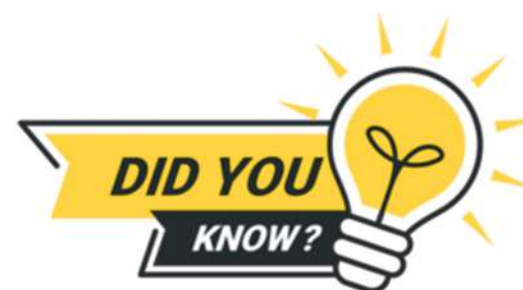
MISSION

- + To strive towards service excellence.
- + To enhance robust community based planning.
- + To ensure efficient and effective consultation and communication with all municipal stakeholders.



Editors' Note

Thomas J Mashabela
Communications Officer



The **Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality** received multiple recognition awards at the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Municipal Awards 2023-2024 held in Bela-Bela on 13 March 2025.

Welcome to another exciting edition of the LENTSU Newsletter, this time focusing on the Municipality's key developments in the third quarter of 2024-2025 (January to March), with some coverage from the second quarter. We have documented major service delivery efforts and progress on a variety of projects and processed them through the Council, ranging from EXCO Project Monitoring, Youth Fund Awarding for Successful Beneficiaries, Bursary Fund Annual Session, and Electrification and Infrastructure targets.

The Auditor-General of South Africa has issued an unqualified audit opinion to Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality for the 6th consecutive year (2023-2024), reaffirming our standing as a credible public institution in the administration and distribution of public funds. To top it off, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) acknowledged the Municipality with awards for achieving a good audit and another for not dropping the mark and spending the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) appropriately by delivering infrastructure projects in various communities.

The Municipality has noticed an increase in occurrences of missing people and urges residents to check on family members on a regular basis and report any such cases to authorities promptly.

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Maišane Ronald Moganedi, Municipal Manager

It is with great honour & a sense of collective achievement that I present the foreword to the 2024/2025 3rd Quarter Lentsu edition to keep our communities informed of the developments and achievements of the municipality.

The quarter under review has been marked by disastrous weather conditions that left the most part of our municipality without access roads and some unfortunate citizens without shelter. The municipality together with Sekhukhune District municipality has tried to their level best to address the challenges brought by this unfortunate times. We are pleased to report that the municipality successfully achieved 87 of the 90 targets set for the quarter, reflecting our relentless dedication to delivering on our developmental mandate. This milestone is a testament to the hard work and commitment of both our administrative and political leadership, as well as our broader municipal workforce.

Significant strides have also been made in addressing both internal and external audit findings. This effort is part of our broader commitment to improving governance and accountability, with the ultimate goal of achieving a clean audit outcome for the 2024/2025 external audit period. We believe that through consistent corrective action and strengthening of the internal control, we are on the right path toward this important achievement. During this quarter, our municipality was also honoured at the Moses Maluleke Municipal Audit Awards, hosted by the South African

MAKHUDUTHAMGA MUNICIPALITY **MAKING BIG MOVES**

Local Government Association (SALGA) in Bela Bela. We proudly received seven awards out of the ten categories, a clear recognition of our improved financial performance, audit outcomes, and service delivery record. However, despite these successes, we continue to face challenges, particularly in revenue generation and collection. This issue threatens the sustainability of our municipality and our ability to deliver quality services. We therefore appeal to our communities, traditional leaders, and local businesses to work with us in developing innovative solutions to address this challenge. Together, we can build a municipality that is financially sound and capable of meeting the needs of its people without dependence on the National Government.

On a service delivery front, we are proud to report the completion of five water projects funded by the Sekhukhune District Municipality, under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between our municipalities. These projects have improved access to clean water for several communities and have brought relief to many households. In addition, we have made significant progress on roads infrastructure projects funded through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG).



Ms. Nozipho Lubisi, Senior Manager for Infrastructure Development



Mr. Pakeng Matsetse, Senior Manager for Corporate Services



Mr. Kole Mothapo, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Budget and Treasury



Ms. Audrey Mashao, Senior Manager for Community Services



Ms. Kutullo Tong, Senior Manager for Economic Development and Planning



Mr. Collen Mathabatha, Deputy Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Budget and Treasury

MAYOR ENGAGES MASANTENG COMMUNITY ON SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES



Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Mayor Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase addresses service delivery concerns at Masanteng Village.

The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase, accompanied by Head of Corporate Services Cllr. Namudi Moses Matjomane, Head of Budget and Treasury Cllr. Malebo Phala, and Ward Cllr. Jerry Monakedi, met with the Masanteng community on Thursday 6 February 2025 to address their concerns regarding service delivery.

One of the primary issues raised by residents was the D4353 road, a 9-kilometer stretch connecting Masanteng and Mogaladi. The community expressed frustration over the road's condition and sought clarity on its future development.

The D4353 road is among ten (10) D-roads and bridges that the Municipality has submitted to the Department of Public Works and Roads for consideration. The Municipality is advocating for these roads to be transferred to its assets register, allowing them to be formally incorporated into the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and prioritized in budget allocations. The Municipality has already completed detailed designs for more than 10 D-roads within its jurisdiction. The Mayor's Office will continue engaging the provincial department to push for authorization and funding to improve these critical routes. Addressing the Masanteng community, Mayor Mahlase assured residents that the Municipality will begin the process of de-

veloping detailed designs for the D4353 road, just as it has for other D-roads. However, she emphasized that implementation will only be possible once the Department of Public Works and Roads grants official authorization.

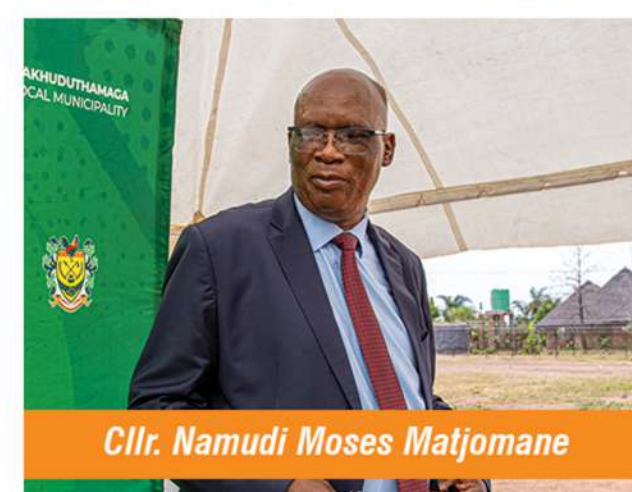
The Municipality urges communities to remain patient and engage constructively as leadership continues negotiations with the provincial department. Efforts are ongoing to secure both interim and long-term solutions for the affected roads.



Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase



Cllr. Malebo Phala



Cllr. Namudi Moses Matjomane



Cllr. Jerry Monakedi

MAKHUDUTHAMGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY SHINES AT SALGA AWARDS SECURING **SEVEN** PRESTIGIOUS HONORS

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality received seven (7) awards from the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) during the annual SALGA Moses "Big Moss" Maluleke Municipal Awards, held on the Thursday, 13 March 2025, at the Sasavona Game Lodge in Bela-Bela.

Achieving these prestigious awards reaffirms Makhuduthamaga's status as the best-practice municipality and a local government institution capable of carrying out its essential mandates. The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Cllr. Merah Mahlase, along with the Speaker, Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, Head of Budget and Treasury, Cllr. Malebo Phala, and Municipal Manager, Mr. Ronald Moganedi, dominated the 2025 edition of the SALGA awards, receiving seven recognitions on one stage for the first time on behalf of the Municipal Council.

- 1 Sustaining Unqualified Audit Opinion 2023/2024
- 2 Receiving additional MIG after 100% spending of initial allocation in 2023/2024
- 3 Over 95% spending of the additional MIG allocation in 2023/2024
- 4 Appreciation for not incurring fruitless and wasteful expenditure during 2023/2024 audit cycle
- 5 Appreciation for in-house preparation of Annual Financial Statements (AFS)
- 6 Appreciation of in-house preparation of Asset Register
- 7 Appreciation for internal compilation of fixed Assets Register during 2023/2024

SALGA awards recognize and celebrate excellence and good practices in local government, fostering a culture of accountability, effectiveness, and responsiveness, while also serving as a platform for sharing best practices and motivating municipalities to strive for higher standards. This historic recognition reflects the Municipality's commitment and dedication to championing service delivery and fostering social change in our communities. Mayor Merah Mahlase describes this milestone as a collective effort driven by the Municipal Council, PMT, Executive Committee, and all councillors; municipal employees headed by the Municipal Manager; the audit committee; our esteemed traditional leaders; and all municipal stakeholders.

The Mayor stresses that the Municipality will continue to drive development to the people: "Our collective efforts will once again be channeled to providing leadership in the provision of basic services aligned with the municipality's strategic objectives on road construction, electrification, and waste management, among others.

We will continue to provide our communities with solutions founded on good governance principles. All necessary corrective actions will also put in place to finally transition from an unqualified audit to a clean audit outcome with visible service delivery impact."



In Picture: Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase is flanked by Council Speaker Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, Head of Budget and Treasury Cllr. Malebo Phala and the Municipal Manager Mr. Ronald Moganedi



MAYOR MERAH MAHLASE LEADS EXCO ON SERVICE DELIVERY *MONITORING* VISITS TO TRANSFORMATIVE *MULTI-YEAR* PROJECTS



Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase, is receiving on-site updates from project managers on the Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng Access Road, which is currently under construction



“

The community is eagerly awaiting the best legacy project of their democracy, which they have long desired. Their hope is that the completion of this initiative would increase their participation in local economic and social activities. Soon, their lives will be made easier and better,

”

said the Mayor

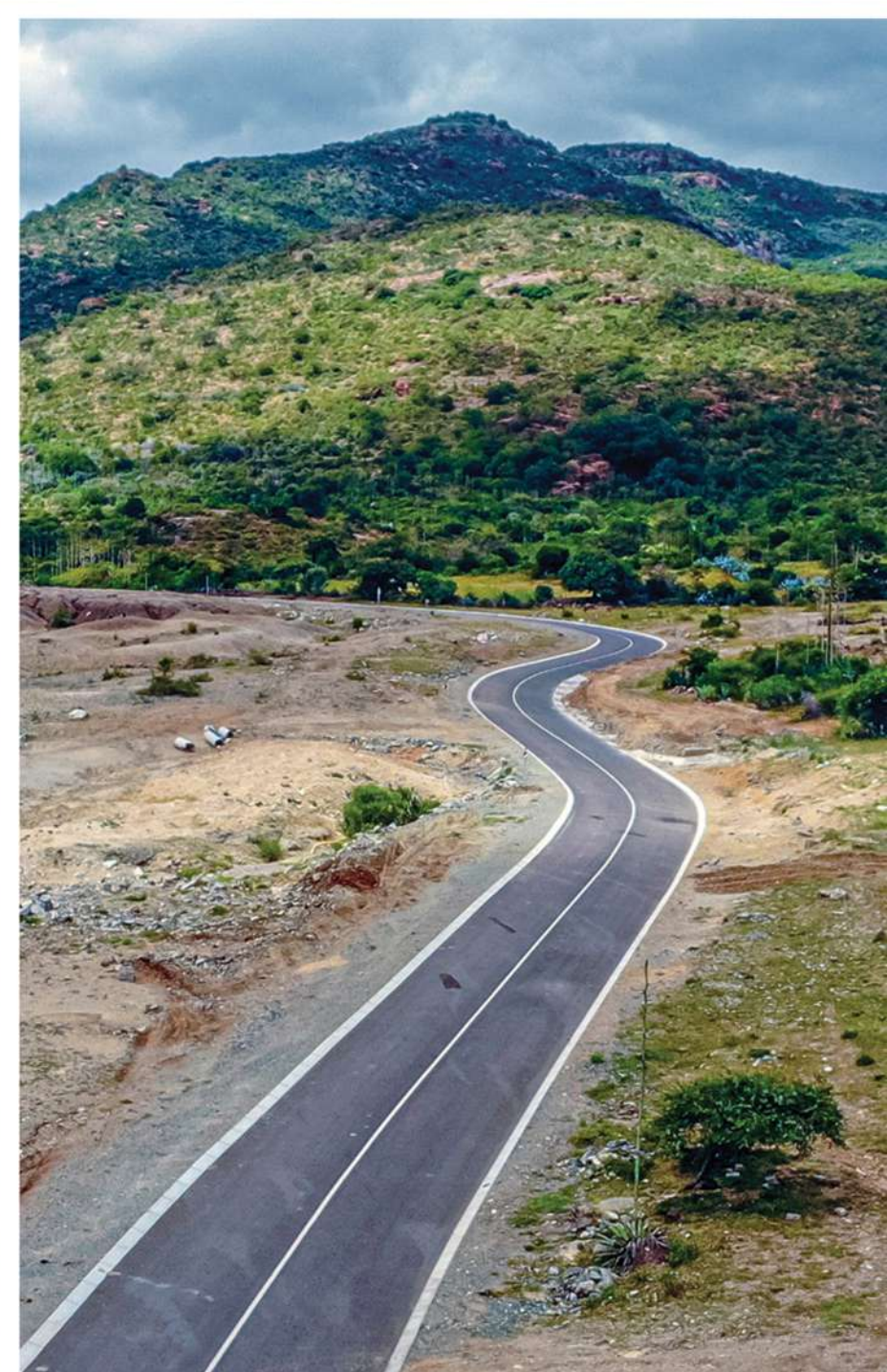


On Monday, 3 February 2025, Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase, led the Executive Committee (EXCO) on a site visit to assess progress on key infrastructure projects. In addition to monitoring the Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng access road, the delegation also acknowledged the progress made on Maila Mapitsane to Mago-lego Tribal Office Access Road, a vital 5km stretch that has reached practical completion. This marks a significant milestone in the municipality's infrastructure development. The road connects to the already completed Maila Mapitsane

Access Road Phase 1, further strengthening regional accessibility and economic opportunities. The completion of this road is expected to significantly ease travel and promote economic activity in the region. Mayor Merah Mahlase, and Executive Committee (EXCO) members Cllr. Sam Malaka, responsible for Infrastructure Development (ID) Department; Cllr. Namudi Matjomane; Cllr. Eric Mosoane; Cllr. Tabane Rankoe; Cllr. Gift Machaba, project managers, and ward councillors visited the construction site of the access road from Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng as part of the Municipality's service de-



Maila Mapitsane to Magolego Tribal Office Access Road on practical completion



visited the construction site of the access road from Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng as part of the Municipality's service delivery monitoring efforts. The Municipality plans to implement five key projects through the MIG grant allocation of R72,858,000 in the current 2024-2025 financial year, comprising two multi-year projects: the access road from Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng (6.5 km) and the Kome internal road (Phase 2)—3.5 km.

The 6.5-kilometre gravel road will be upgraded to a surfaced (asphalt) road with associated stormwater infrastructure, including kerbing, V-drains, portal culverts, drainage structures, road markings, and road signage, as well as other construction elements. The construction work already done on the project involves the installation of culverts, the roadbed layer, the selected layer, and the stabilization of the sub-base layer, and soon the road will be surfaced with an asphalt layer.

The Municipality's EXCO proceeded to another construction site in Ward 31 on the Kome Internal Road, where surfacing is up to 90% done with kerbs and V-drains, and the sub-base layer is currently being finalized with the asphalt surfacing initiated. The Mayor Merah Mahlase expressed

with the development on the Soetveld to Mampana Thabang road and urged the contractor to speed up its implementation and completion, emphasizing the community's eagerness to benefit economically from the project.

"The community is eagerly awaiting the best legacy project of their democracy, which they have long desired. Their hope is that the completion of this initiative would increase their participation in local economic and social activities. Soon, their lives will be made easier and better," she stated.

With the Maila Mapitsane to Magolego Tribal Office Access Road now practically complete, residents will soon enjoy improved transport connectivity, easing access to essential services and enhancing local economic growth. The Municipality remains steadfast in its mission to deliver transformative infrastructure that benefits communities for generations to come.



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase officially opening the youth fund beneficiary awarding ceremony



EMPOWERING THE FUTURE: 58 YOUTH-OWNED BUSINESSES *SECURE* MAKHUDUTHAMAGA YOUTH FUND SUPPORT, CREATING JOBS



Makhuduthamaga Youth Fund beneficiaries and supporting stakeholders



Municipal Manager
Mr. Ronald Moganedi



Member of the Provincial
Legislature Ms. Tumelo Sehopela



Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr. Minah Bahula

The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), led by Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, has, in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), announced the successful completion and awarding of the Makhuduthamaga Youth Fund (MYF)'s first cohort at the Municipal Chamber in Jane Furse. On Thursday 20 February 2025, the milestone event marked a significant step in supporting youth entrepreneurship and job creation.

The ceremony was addressed by the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr. Minah Bahula, underlining the need for economic resuscitation through tourism projects and increased support for youth development programs. Since its launch in May 2024, the Makhuduthamaga youth fund's steering committee has received 119 applications via the NYDA's enterprise resource planning (ERP) online portal.

Makhuduthamaga is South Africa's first municipality to create a youth fund in partnership with the NYDA. Both the Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality and the NYDA allocated R 2 million in 2024 to support and fund startups and well-established youth-owned businesses within the Municipality. During the fund's overview presentation, Municipal Manager Mr. Ronald Moganedi announced that the youth fund's steering committee approved 58 out of 119 applicants with an expected expenditure of more than R1.4 million. The fund's recipients include a variety of businesses such as salons, restaurants, car washes, and agricultural products that applied for

Threshold 1 (R 1000 to R10,000) and Threshold 2 (R 10 000 to R 50 000). It is projected that funding this first cohort of businesses will result in 174 jobs being created. The Municipality will soon announce the second round of the fund's application process. The NYDA has committed to transferring an additional R445 000 into the MYF account to help fund the second phase application intake. The available money to commence the second phase will be R1 million.

Makhuthamaga Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase congratulated all recipients and encouraged them to grow and position their enterprises as key players in the local economic market, assist the government and other parties in creating more jobs for our communities.

The occasion was graced by the attendance of Member of the Provincial Legislature (MPL) Ms. Faith Sehopela, Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) Cllr. Kanana Leokana, Chief Whip Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga, EXCO members Cllr. Moses Namudi Matjomane, Cllr. Peter Rankoe, Cllr. Makan-yoge Morwamakoti, Ward Cllr. Dineo Moshabane who also serves as Chairperson of Portfolio on Corporate Services, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Chairperson of the MYF Steering Committee Mr. Collen Mathabatha, Youth Officer Mr. Mathunye Kgari, NYDA Acting Executive Director Operations Manager Mr. Tshepho Manyama, NYDA Limpopo Acting Regional Manager Mr. Alpheus Mosoma, and other dignitaries.



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ENGAGES BURSARY BENEFICIARIES IN ANNUAL REVIEW AND MENTORSHIP SESSION



Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Her Worship, Cllr. Merah Mahlase, Municipal Manager Mr. Ronald Moganedi, and the Bursary Committee met with existing bursary beneficiaries (who received funding from January 2024) and their parents on, Monday 27 January 2025, at the Municipal Chamber in Jane Furse to review students' academic performance, financial aid impact, and study experience.

The Municipality is currently financing **20 students** pursuing numerous fields at higher education institutions across the country. Since the beginning of December 2024, the Municipality has introduced a holiday work program to provide bursary beneficiaries with learning opportunities in various departments and units. **9 bursary students** are participating in the program till the end of January and will continue during the June study recess.

January and will continue during the June study recess. The MM, Mr. Moganedi, a previous bursary beneficiary who has passionately pushed for the transformation of the bursary policy since his arrival at the Municipality through the Council, told an amazing life story about how the same bursary altered his life for the better.

He further stated *"All of you have the capacity to excel in your academic studies and careers because your matric results have already proved your capabilities and distinguished you as the cream of Makhuduthamaga Municipality. With the temptations of varsity, you must remember the situation you left behind at home. Go make your parents and the entire Municipality proud,"* said Moganedi.

A strong inspiration was given to the group of beneficiaries by Ms. Ntjana Mmaphasoane, a previous bursary recipient and municipality employee who works as a project manager in the Infrastructure Department.

"You have been given a chance to change your life and those around you through the bursary," said Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, who wished the students a successful academic year and encouraged them to work tirelessly to become competent professionals who will eventually serve the municipality's community.

The Municipality's Head of Corporate Services, Cllr. Namudi Moses Matjomane, who also serves as the Chairperson of the Bursary Committee, as well as other committee members, Head of Budget and Treasury Cllr. Malebo Phala, Deputy Head of Budget and Treasury, Cllr. Elizabeth Mahlase, and Cllr. Makwe Patrick Boshielo, attended the meeting.

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA HOSTS MODIMOLLE-MOOKGOPONG MUNICIPALITY FOR *BENCHMARKING VISIT* ON BEST GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), recently hosted a delegation from Modimolle-Mookgopong Local Municipality (MMLM) for a two-day benchmarking visit aimed at learning about best practices in local government oversight and financial management. The visit, which began on the 19 March 2025, concluded on 20 March 2025.

The visit was led by Cllr. Sina Langa, Speaker of Council for the Modimolle-Mookgopong Local Municipality. The delegation's main focus was to conduct a benchmarking exercise on the functionality of Makhuduthamaga's Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) and other governance practices.

The Speaker of Makhuduthamaga, Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, welcomed the delegation to the municipality. She was joined by several other officials, including Cllr. Selege Paul Diketane (MPAC Chairperson), Cllr. Thabitha Selala (Chair of Chairs), Mr. Ronald Moganedi (Municipal Manager), and various other municipal leaders and senior officials. Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality has recently been recognized for its outstanding governance practices. On 13 March 2025, the Municipality was awarded seven honors at the Moses "Big Moss"



Maluleke Municipal Awards, hosted by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). These awards recognize the municipality's commitment to excellence in service delivery, financial management, and public accountability.

The Makhuduthamaga MPAC is recognized as one of the best oversight committees in the province. Its role in ensuring transparency and accountability in municipal operations is central to maintaining high standards in governance. The Modimolle-Mookgopong delegation observed MPAC's work and attended the public hearing season, which began on 20 March 2025, at Masanteng Village, Sepheu Moleke Sports Ground.

Makhuduthamaga Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase, praised the efforts of MPAC and the Office of the Speaker in ensuring public participation and maintaining transparency in governance. She emphasized that these efforts help build public trust and improve the municipality's ability to provide effective service delivery to its communities.

The benchmarking visit highlighted the importance of collaboration between municipalities to share knowledge and best practices. Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality continues to set an example of good governance, fostering an environment of transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement.

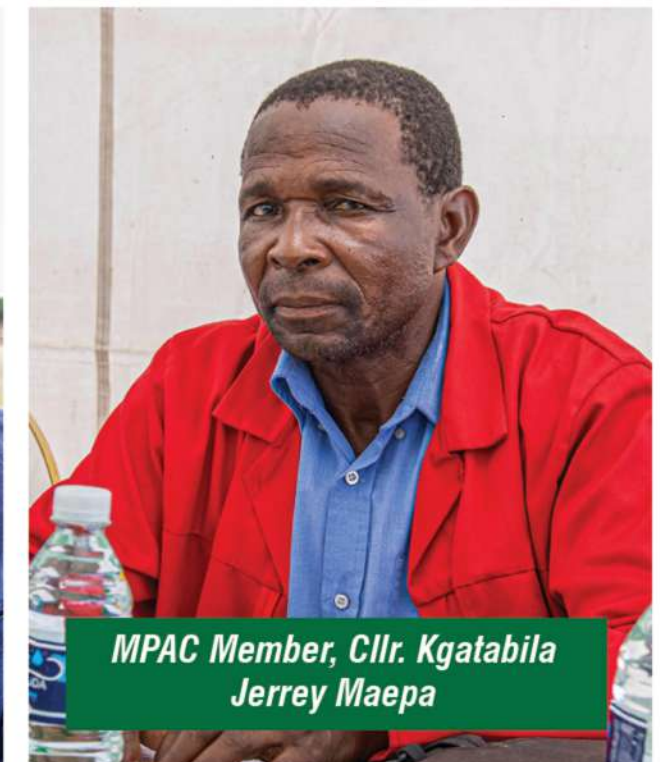


MAKHUDUTHAMAGA EXCO RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS DURING MPAC'S PUBLIC HEARING



The Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, presided over by Cllr. Selege Paul Diketane, convened a public hearing on the 2023-2024 Draft Annual Report at Masanteng Village in Ward 30 to perform oversight on the activities of the Executive. The hearing marked the second day of Modimolle-Mook-

gopong Local Municipality's benchmarking visit to Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality in order to learn best practices for MPAC functionality and other council best practices. The benchmarking visit was led by the Speaker of Council, Cllr. Sina Langa, and the Acting MPAC Chairperson, Cllr. Piet Mathabatha, and other MPAC members and officials. EXCO



Member and Head of Economic Development and Planning (EDP) Cllr. Makatishe Eric Mosoane represented the Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, who was attending the World TB commemoration at the Peter Nchabeleng Sports Complex organised by the provincial government. EXCO Cllr Mosoane was joined by other EXCO members, Speaker of Council, Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, Chair of Chairs Cllr. Thabitha Selala, Municipal Manager, Mr. Ronald Moganedi, others senior managers and councillors.

The MPAC Chairperson of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality, Cllr. Release Marwale Radingwana, also attended the hearing to observe and learn from Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality's MPAC functionality. Makhuduthamaga MPAC is considered as one of the best oversight committees in the province, enabling the Council ensure transparency and accountability in all aspects of service delivery and financial management. On the overall performance based on the Mu-



nicipality's Draft Annual Report, the MPAC committee applauded the Council's efforts for maintaining the unqualified audit opinion for the financial year 2023-2024

NEW EQUIPMENT AND A NEW MARKET FOR SMME SUPPORT RECIPIENTS



Percy Nkgudi (left) benefited from the Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality's SMME support initiative through his branding and printing business.

The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality is making every attempt to stimulate the local economy by providing funding to Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) operating within its area of jurisdiction.

Percy Seremi Nkgudi (37) residing in Glen Cowie, outside Jane Furse, is one of the Municipality's SMME support 2025 beneficiaries, managing and owning a local business called P & Sons Branding Company, trading as Lwale Upholstery. Lwale Upholstery was founded in 2018 and operated from a backyard room in Glen Cowie until moving to a new business market space early this year, just days after getting support from Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality.

On February 18, 2025, Nkgudi's business received a new boost when the Municipality delivered a new printing machine known as the Titan-Jet Digital Printer, which is known for its durability, reliability, and high-quality output and is used for printing banners, signage, and large-format marketing outputs such as large-scale graphics. Mr. Nkgudi used to generate roughly R 20,000 per year from his printing business, which he ran out of his backyard room. However, everything is anticipated to bloom. Lwale Upholstery hopes to generate over R50,000 per year in the first two years.

Lwale Upholstery also received a secondment for two temporary support people from the Municipality to assist with administrative and operational responsibilities.

The two temporary assistants are among the Municipality's 20 Local Economic Development (LED) learnership candidates placed in various economic sectors since February 2025 through a partnership with the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA).

Percy Nkgudi expressed his deep gratitude to the municipality for its unwavering support for local businesses and particularly to young business owners. "Even today it still feels like a dream. When I got a call from the municipality to deliver our new equipment, I was overwhelmed with disbelief, and I couldn't eat the whole day. Nkgudi went on to say that in February, he received a brand new machine that will help him expand his business. "I'm really grateful to the Makhuduthamaga Municipality," stated Nkgudi.

Earlier this year, Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, led by Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, partnered with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) to award funding to 58 Makhuduthamaga Youth Fund (MYF) beneficiaries to help them develop their businesses in various economic sectors. Get Lwale Upholstery's branding & printing services at Mogashoa Complex, adjacent to the municipality traffic light in Jane Furse, or call 0792755683.

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA COUNCIL REVIEWS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase



Makhuduthamaga
Municipal Council in session

Masekwele Merah Mahlase, presented the following ongoing projects—as highlighted in the MIG report. **(1)** Construction of **Access Road from Soetveld to Mampana Thabeng**—6.5 km, targeted (2nd quarter) up to the sub-base layer, progress is at 60%. **(2)** Construction of **Kome Internal Road, Phase 2**—3.5 km, targeted (2nd quarter) up to the selected layer, progress is at 83%. **(3)** Construction of **Access Road from Brooklyn to Makoshala**—6.5 km, project is still at inception (scoping and preliminary work underway). **(4)** Construction of **Cabrieve Internal Road**—4.12 km, detailed project designs completed. **(5)** Procurement of **Specialised Waste Vehicles**: already a front end loader is purchased, and 4 other waste vehicles are at the procurement phase. Likewise, the Municipality intends to upgrade the following roads using the Equitable Share (ES) grant, with some already being implemented.

The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), during its Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) on 31 January 2025, took account of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) report detailing progress on projects under implementation across the Municipality, and other mid-term performance reports for 2024-2025. The Municipality has registered five key projects for implementation through the MIG grant allocation of R 72,858,000 for the current 2024-2025 financial year, consisting two at the construction phase, two at the design phase, and one at the procurement phase, as reported in Council sitting.

According to the Local Economic Development (LED) report submitted to Council, the Municipality received over 350 land applications in the second quarter, with more than 300 of them being tuck shop applications from different communities. Nine (9) of the applications involve high-impact developments such as a regional mall, filling stations, private hospitals, shopping centres, and four (4) of them are approved. The Municipality's MIG expenditure as of the end of the second quarter (December 2024) was 70%, and this puts the Municipality in a better position to reach 100% spending by the end of the financial year. The Council is expanding the municipal road network through several infrastructure projects that are currently underway. During the Council meeting, the Executive Committee (EXCO) led by Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr.

(1) Construction of **Access Road from Maila Mapitsane to Magolego Tribal Office**—5 km, project at practical completion. **(2)** Construction of **Access Road from Molebeledi/ Mamatjekele to Masemola Moshate**—5 km, targeted (2nd quarter) up to the appointment of the contractor (site establishment). **(3)** Construction of **Access Road from Mokwete to Molepane, Phase 2**—5 km (project on the tender evaluation stage). **(4)** Construction of Madibong Internal Road—3.2 km, targeted for the development of detailed design by 30 June 2025 (detailed design). **(5)** Construction of **Access Road from Tsopaneng to Moela/ Kgopana**, targeted for development of inception design by 30 June. **(6)** Construction of **Access Road from Phaahla/ Mamatjekele to Masehlaneng**—18 km, targeted for the development of detailed design by 30 June (detailed design completed). **(7)** Construction of **Access Road from Motor-gate Wonderboom to R579**—10 km, targeted for the development of detailed design by 30 June. **(8)** Construction of **Access Road from Glen Cowie Old PO to Phokwane, Phase 2**—3.5 km, targeted up to box cutting by 30 June. **(9)** Design and construction of **Access Road from Moloi to Phushulang**—10 km, targeted (2nd quarter) for project advertisement detailed designs.

EXCO LEKGOTLA REVIEWS PROGRESS ON 22-KILOVOLT POWER LINE AND ELECTRIFICATION EFFORTS

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM)'s Executive Committee (EXCO) recently held its 2024-2025 2nd Quarter Lekgotla Performance Review Meeting in the Council Chamber in Jane Furse to assess progress on service delivery projects and governance objectives achieved during the quarter under review. During the session, the Municipality



Her Worship Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase presiding over EXCO Lekgotla

Moloi. This project is expected to enhance household electrification efforts in Jane Furse and surrounding communities. The Municipality is now awaiting Eskom to finalize electrical connections on the newly established 22 KV feeder bay at the Mamatshekele Substation.

Key electrification projects highlighted in the second-quarter performance report include: **(1) 550 households in Soetveld** equipped with electrical infrastructure up to the MV line (complete, awaiting Eskom activation). **(2) 170 households in Mohlarekoma** connected up to the MV line (complete, awaiting Eskom activation). **(3) 130 households in Leekukraal** connected up to the MV line (complete, awaiting Eskom activation). **(4) 162 households in Mabintane** with installations reaching the site establishment phase (not yet complete). **(5) 70 households in Hlalanikahle** with installations reaching the site establishment phase (not yet complete). **(6) 40 households in Makhutšo** with installations in the design phase (awaiting Eskom's approval).

The Municipality remains committed to expanding electricity infrastructure and is actively engaging with Eskom to address power capacity limitations in affected areas. Residents are encouraged to remain patient and continue engaging with municipal leadership as efforts progress.

reported that 87 out of 97 targets were achieved, marking an 89% performance rate for the second quarter. One of the notable milestones was the retention of an Unqualified Audit opinion for the 2023-2024 financial year. Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase commended the Council's political leadership, the management team led by Municipal Manager Mr. Ronald Moganedi, and all stakeholders for sustaining the Municipality's strong performance, including maintaining its positive audit standing as recognized by the Auditor General of South Africa. The EXCO Lekgotla also noted significant progress in electricity infrastructure projects, including the installation of a 24 km 22-kilovolt (kV) power line from Mamatshekele to



Municipal Manager, Mr. Ronald Moganedi presenting management reports



Council Speaker, Cllr. Judy Nkgadima

Chief Whip, Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA COMMUNITIES URGED TO CONTRIBUTE FEEDBACK ON DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM)'s Executive Committee (EXCO) Member & Head of Infrastructure Development (ID), Cllr. Sam Malaka, presented the municipality's Draft Annual Report (AR) for the 2023-2024 financial year to the vulnerable citizens of the municipality, alongside representatives from Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), at the Kgaola Mafiri Municipal Building in Jane Furse.

The public consultation event was co-facilitated by SDM Speaker Cllr. David Chego and MLM Speaker Cllr. Judy Nkgadima. This consultation was part of a crucial process set by municipal governance legislation, requiring municipalities to share their annual report as part of their performance management system, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Key highlights from Makhuduthamaga's Draft Annual Report include: • Unqualified audit opinion, demonstrating strong financial management • 98% of issues raised in the previous financial year have been successfully addressed • 100% Municipality

pal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) spending, fully implementing allocated funds. As part of the ongoing consultation process, the municipality is encouraging residents to provide feedback on the draft annual report, which is now available on the official municipal website at www.makhuduthamaga.gov.za. Alternatively, members of the community were advised to submit comments and suggestions can be sent to Mr. Chiloane Thabiso (PMS Officer) via email at chiloanet@makhuduthamaga.gov.za or by phone at 0132658612.

Public consultations continued on 19 February 2025, engaging the Jane Furse and Schoonoord clusters at the Peter Nchabeleng Community Hall, and was concluded on 20 February 2025 with the Phokwane and Masemola clusters at Makgwaabe Community Hall.



Community members participating on the Draft Annual Report



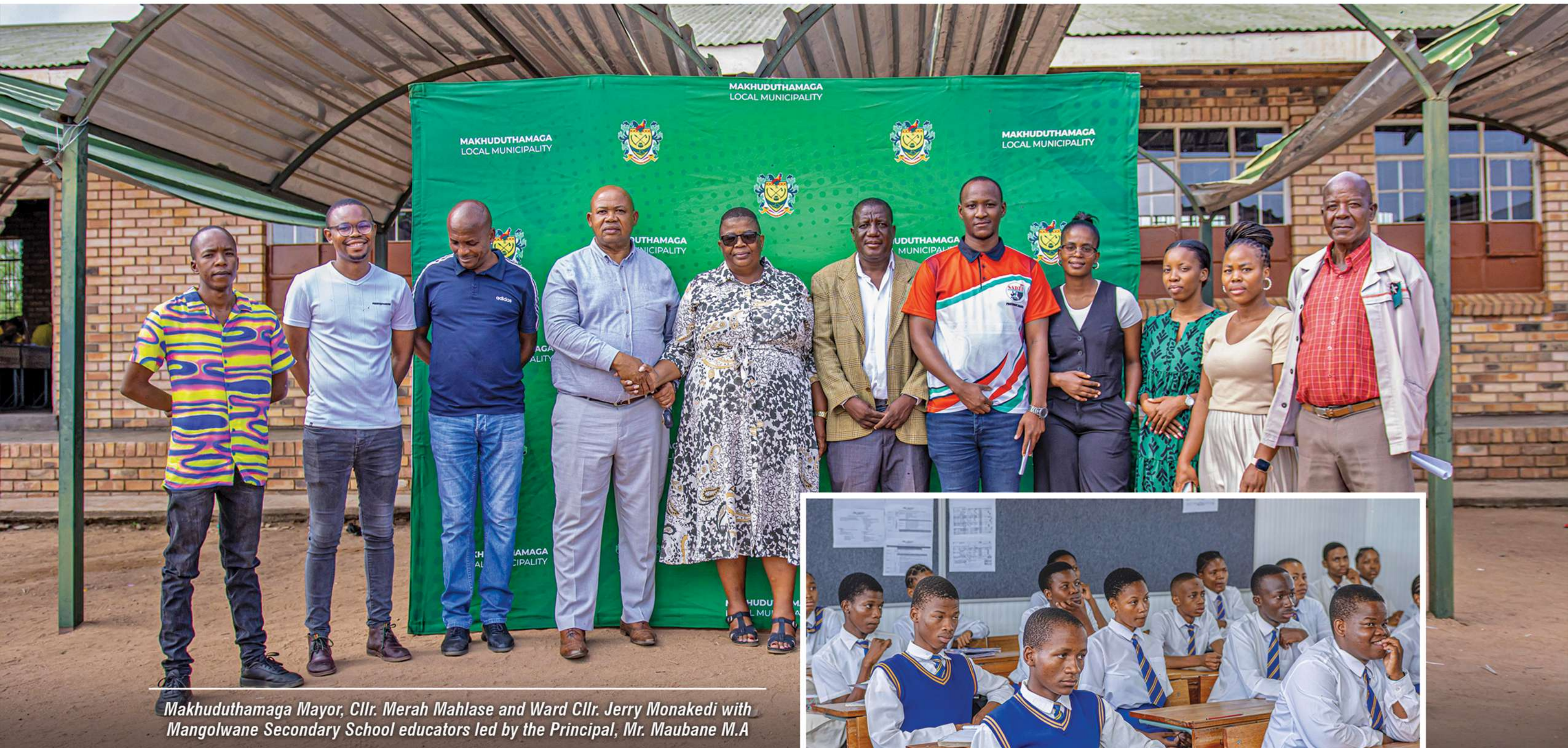
Council Speaker, Cllr. Judy Nkgadima



Chair of Chairs, Cllr. Thabitha Selala and Head of Infrastructure Development, Cllr. Sam Malaka



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA MAYOR'S VISIT TO A 100% PASS RATE SCHOOL IN LEPELLE CIRCUIT /S GREATLY VALUED



Makhuduthamaga Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase and Ward Cllr. Jerry Monakedi with Mangolwane Secondary School educators led by the Principal, Mr. Maubane M.A

Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase, visited Mangolwane Secondary School under Lepelle Circuit in Legotong Village, Ward 30, to congratulate them for their great success during the 2024 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination results. The Mayor, together with Ward Cllr. Jerry Monakedi, met with the school management team (SMT), educators, and members of the school governing body (SGB) prior to attending a scheduled community meeting in the area.

Mangolwane Secondary School came position one in the Lepelle Circuit, increasing from 93% in 2022 and 96% in 2023 to 100% pass in 2024, with all the 42 pupils passing. To top it all off, the school received 100% passing grades in all matric subjects. Mr. Maubane M.A., the school principal who leads a team of young and energetic teachers, appreciated the Mayor's visit on behalf of the school. The principal stressed that the achievement would not be possible without the selfless dedication of the teachers, who go far beyond by offering Saturday extra classes on a consistent and voluntary basis with-



out compensation. Meanwhile, Executive Committee (EXCO) members Cllr. Malebo Phala, Head of Budget and Treasury, and Cllr. Namudi Moses Matjomane, Head of Corporate Services, met with the school management team (SMT) at Sepheu-Moleke Secondary School in Masanteng Village, which had an 83% pass rate. The EXCO members led the visit to convey the Municipality's support and compliments on the school's improved performance.



MAYOR MERAH MAHLASE CELEBRATES MALEKUTU SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL FOR SHAPING A PROVINCIAL TOP ACHIEVER

Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Merah Mahlase, as well as Executive Committee (EXCO) members, led the second phase of the back-to-school campaign at various schools to support and motivate teachers and learners on their 2025 educational journey.

Mayor Mahlase, accompanied by EXCO member Cllr. Makanyoge Morwamakoti and Cllr. Motubatse Ngwanatso-bane, paid a visit to Malekutu Secondary School in the Ngwaritsi Circuit, Sekhukhune South District, Mamone Village, to congratulate the school on producing a Provincial Top Achiever, Makola Ratsape Tlhologelo (17), who attained a perfect score of 300/300 in Mathematics in the 2024 matric results. The principal of Malekutu Secondary, Mr. Mphahlele GPM, who teaches grade 12 mathematics, received commendation from the Mayor for the school's improved pass rate (since his arrival), which increased from 51% in 2020 to 91.7% in 2022, 76.4% in 2023, and 89.7% in 2024. EXCO member, Cllr. Malebo Phala, alongside Cllr. Norman Aphane, led a delegation to Lengama Secondary School in Jane Furse to congratu-

late the school management and school governing body (SGB) on improving performance from 76% in 2023 to 97% by 2024. Meanwhile, Kgahlanamorulana Secondary School in Ngwaritsi Village has increased its pass rate over the years and today they also received visit from the Municipality's leadership, led by EXCO member Cllr. Mogobe Sam Malaka and Cllr. Thembi Malatjie. Kgahlanamorulana climbed from 94.8% in 2023 to 97.8% in 2024.

Lehutjwana Secondary School, located in Ga-Moretsele Village, had a support visit from the Municipality, led by EXCO member Cllr. Makatishe Eric Mosoane, accompanied by fellow EXCO members Cllr. Tabane Peter Rankoe and Cllr. Lekobane Pontsho Moretsele and Cllr. Magane Amos Moretsele. The school's performance dropped from 88.6% in 2023 to 70% in 2024.

MAYOR MERAH MAHLASE COMMENDS MONAMOLEDI SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR ACHIEVING A 100% PASS RATE IN 2024 MATRIC RESULTS



Makhuduthamaga Mayor, Cllr. Merah Mahlase, Ward Cllr. Koboro Nkadimeng and Monamoledi Secondary School Principal Mr. Leutle M.T.



Monamoledi Secondary School's pass rate increased from 50% in 2022 to 86% in 2023, and it achieved 100% in 2024, with all 115 learners passing

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM)'s Executive Committee, led by the Mayor, Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase, visited four schools in the Schoonoord and Malegale circuits to encourage learners as well as educators before the 2025 academic year begins.

Mayor Mahlase visited Monamoledi Secondary School in Manganeng Village, to congratulate and celebrate their excellent performance in the 2024 National Senior Certificate (NSC) grade 12 final exams. Monamoledi's pass rate increased from 50% in 2022 to 86% in 2023, and it achieved 100% in 2024, with all 115 learners passing. The school claimed position 1 in the Malegale Circuit with 96 bachelor's degrees, 14 diplomas, and 5 higher certificate passes.

Lamdzandvo Secondary School in Ga-Sekele Village, Leolo Mountains, similarly achieved a 100% pass rate, with 17 learners enrolled, 12 bachelor's degrees, and 5 diploma passes. EXCO member, Cllr. Mogobe Sam Malaka, spearheaded the back-to-school campaign at Lamdzanvo to motivate new learners and the 2025 matric class. In another separate

program, EXCO member Cllr. Tabane Peter Rankoe led a visit to Baphadima Secondary School in Malegale, which has underperformed with a 38.9% pass rate. Meanwhile, EXCO member, Cllr. Makatishe Eric Mosoane, paid a visit to Tshabadietla Secondary School, which also underperformed in 2024 with a 53% pass rate.

The Mayor also congratulate the following public schools within the Municipality which obtained 100%, namely: Molebeledi Secondary in Molebeledi Village received excellent results for two consecutive years, while Mangolwane Secondary in Makhutšo Village & Mmauwane Secondary in Phushulang Village performed similarly brilliantly.

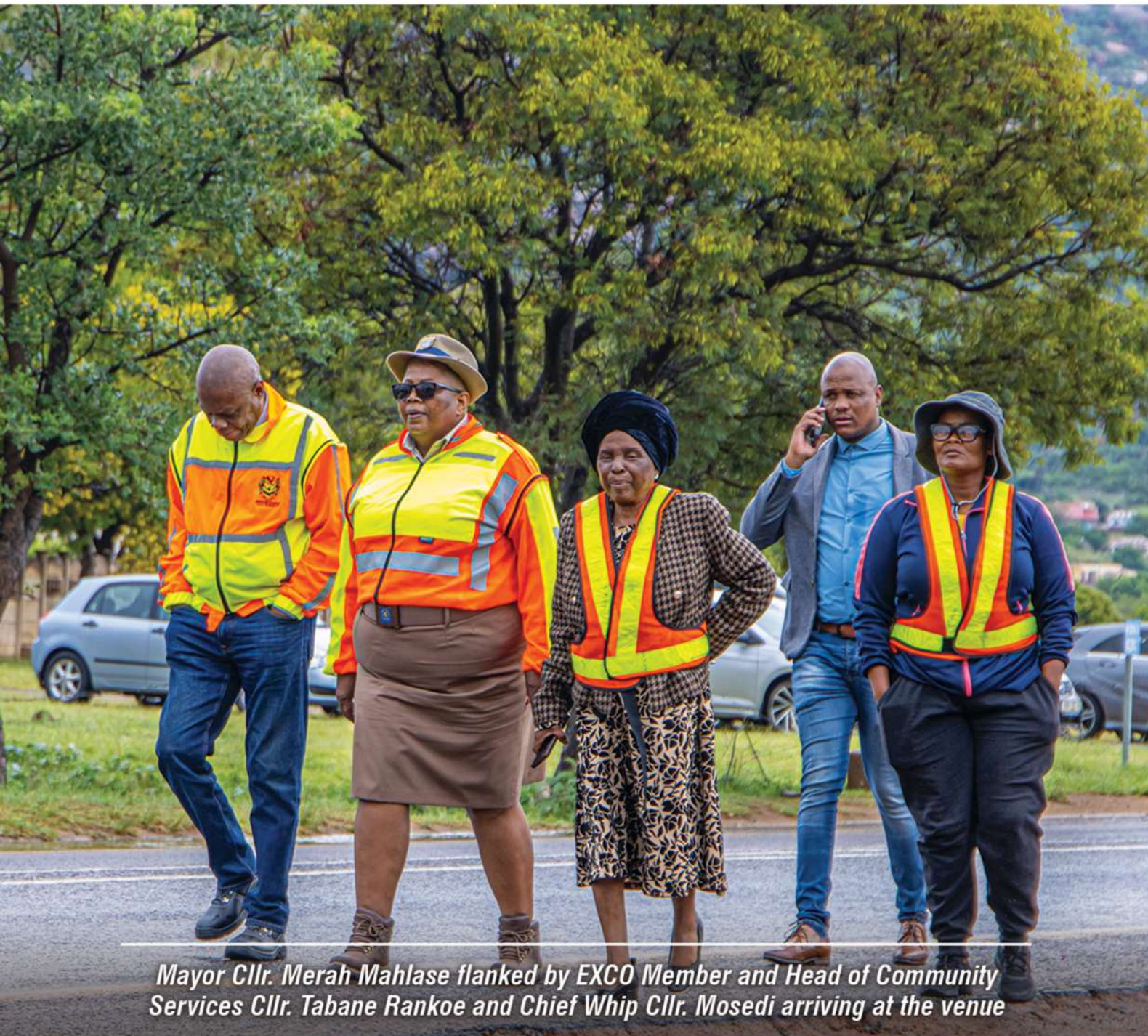
Mayor Merah Mahlase addressed the school assembly, urging the Principal, School Governing Body (SGB), and Schoonoord Circuit to continue working closely with parents to support great educational programs such as school camps, which have pulled off positive results. The Mayor also encouraged young people who completed their grade 12 in 2024 to apply for the Makhuduthamaga bursary fund.

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ASSESSES THE PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES VIA PUBLIC PLATFORMS

Speaker of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, launched community feedback meetings to assess the performance of its ward committees, which have had a significant impact on service delivery and community participation in municipal programs, budget and policy making processes. The initiative was launched on Wednesday, 15 January 2025 at the Mashegoane Tribal Office and later at Dihlabaneng Primary School in Ward 16 alongside the Chief Whip, Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga, Chair of Chairs, Cllr. Thabitha Selala, various portfolio chairpersons and other councillors.

Community members expressed their displeasure with service delivery backlogs resulting from recent severe rains, while also maintaining their trust in the effectiveness of their ward committee, led by Ward Committee Chairperson Cllr. Seekane Makua. The program continued yesterday at Hlalanikahle Community Hall and Kutupu Civic Hall, both in Ward 1. Members of the community expressed satisfaction with the performance of ward committee members led by Ward Committee Chairperson Cllr. Samokobe Martha Vilakazi; though, highlighted service delivery challenges that the municipality should address.





Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase flanked by EXCO Member and Head of Community Services Cllr. Tabane Rankoe and Chief Whip Cllr. Mosedi arriving at the venue



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase addressing the 2025 Festive Season Arrive Alive launch in Ga-Moloi Village

MAYOR MERAH MAHLASE LAUNCHES ARRIVE ALIVE FESTIVE SEASON ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN MAKHUDUTHAMAGA

Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase, launched the Arrive Alive Road Safety Campaign 2024 on Friday, 20 December 2024 in Ga-Moloi Village on the R579 road to ensure safer roads throughout the festive season period.

Mayor Mahlase urged drivers and pedestrians to avoid driving or walking on the road while intoxicated, as this endangers their own and others' lives. The launch marked the start of extensive coordinated efforts by Makhuduthamaga Municipal Traffic Police, the South African Police Service, and other security cluster agencies to combat drunk driving and other road violations using a zero-tolerance approach during the festive period.

Yesterday's operation featured the use of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) K78 trailer, which detected 459 moving vehicles. Three vehicles were impounded for unroadworthy violations, and twelve summonses were given to drivers for crossing the red robot, having expired license disks, and driving an unroadworthy vehicle.

Mayor Mahlase was joined by Council Speaker Cllr. Judy Nkgadima, Council Chief Whip Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga, Executive Committee (EXCO) members Cllr. Tabane Peter Rankoe and Cllr. Makanyoge Morwamakoti, Chairperson of Chairpersons Cllr. Thabitha Selala, Senior Manager for Community Services Ms Audrey Mashao, Jane Furse, Nebo and Masemola police officers, department of transport officials and several other councillors.



Speaker of Council Cllr. Judy Nkgadima



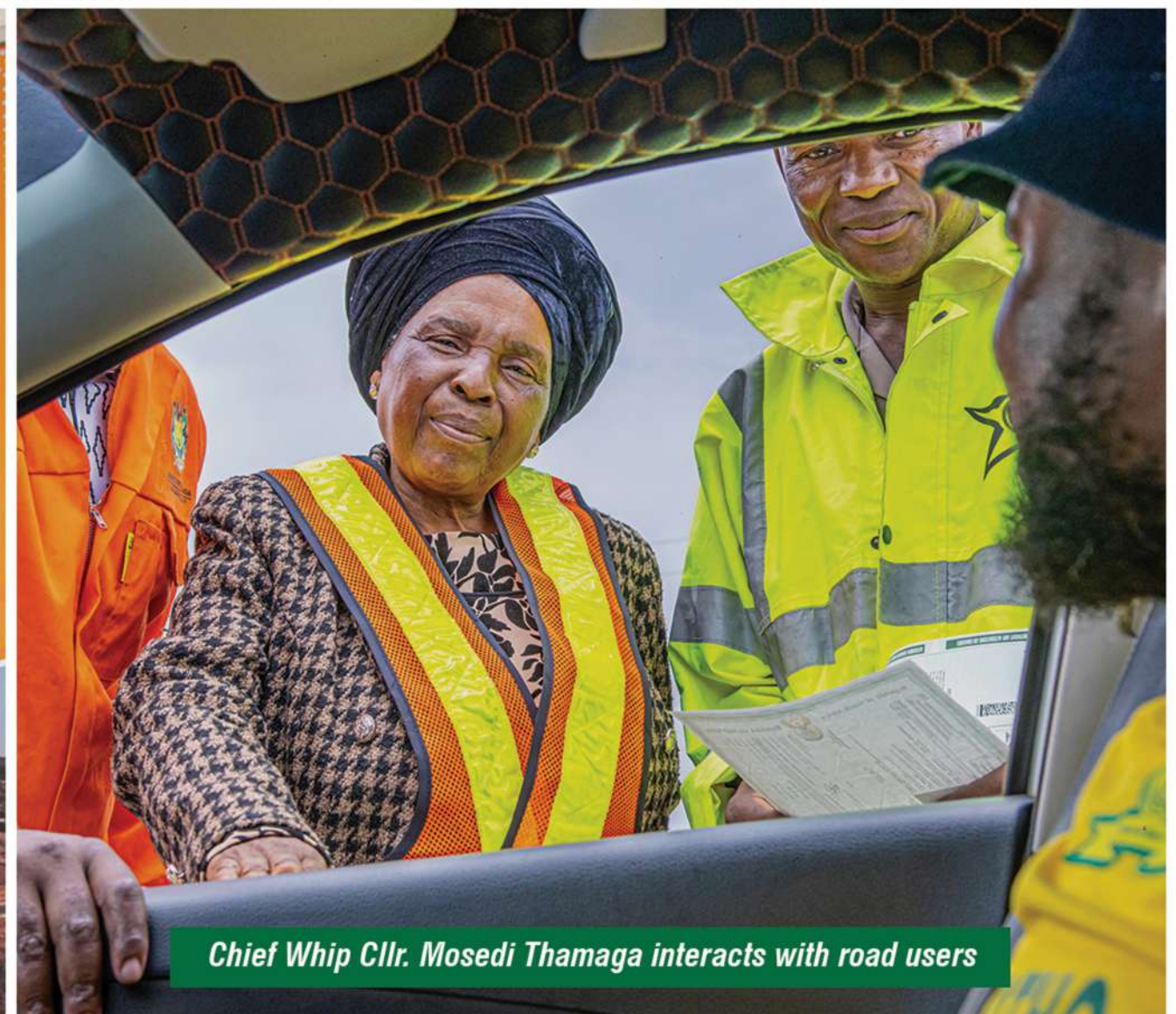
Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase monitors the K78 traffic system, alongside police officers



Traffic Officer Mr. PJ Maganyela directs traffic flow



Head of Community Services Cllr. Tabane Peter Rankoe



Chief Whip Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga interacts with road users



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase conveys a road safety message to motorists

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA'S DIKGEREKGERE INITIATIVE GRADES JANE FURSE INTERNAL ROADS AS PART OF MOBILITY IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase addressing maintenance teams alongside Head of Infrastructure Development Cllr. Sam Malaka & Deputy Head of Infrastructure Development Cllr. Makanyoge Morwamakoti



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, is monitoring road grading



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase and EXCO members are leading a clean-up operation alongside councillors and community members



Municipal EPWP and general workers are joining the Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase and EXCO members with a clean-up operation



Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), under the leadership of Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, launched the Dikgerekgere Tuesday Initiative and Clean-up Campaign on 4 December 2024, to enhance the condition of internal gravel roads and to promote environmental protection by reducing waste in Wards 18 & 19 within the Jane Furse Cluster.

The Municipality's Infrastructure Development (ID) department worked on restoring Dichoeung and Vergelegen B internal gravel roads through grading methods. The Madibong area is also receiving attention.

The Municipality is dedicated to restoring roads and infrastructure affected by recent severe rainfall and hail. Maintenance workers and yellow fleet operators are working tirelessly to ensure the continued accessibility of municipal roads.

Mayor Mahlase was joined by the Head of Infrastructure Development (ID), Cllr. Sam Malaka, Deputy Head of ID, Cllr. Makanyoge Morwamakoti, several other councillors, and community members who actively participated in the Clean-up Campaign to ensure the environment remains clean.

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATES EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AT EMPLOYEE AWARDS CEREMONY



BEST PERFORMING DEPARTMENTS 2023-2024

FROM LEFT: Senior Manager for Community Services Ms. Audry Mashao, Municipal Manager Mr. Ronald Moganedi, Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase, Head of Corporate Services Cllr. Moses Matjomane, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Kole Mothapo, Senior Manager for Economic Development and Planning Ms. Kutullo Tong



Mayor Cllr. Merah Mahlase addressing delivering keynote address during Municipal Employee Performance Awards

Municipal Manager (MM) of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, **Mr. Ronald Moganedi**, recognized the best-performing employees and departments at the annual Employee Wellness and Mid-Year Performance Awards Ceremony, held on Friday, 10 December 2024, at the Jane Furse Artificial Pitch.

These performance awards celebrate outstanding institutional and individual achievements in implementing the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP).

The Municipality achieved an **impressive 96%** of its total planned service delivery and operational targets in the first quarter of 2024-2025. This event occurred shortly after the Municipality received the Auditor General of South Africa's (AGSA) report for 2023-2024, which confirmed that Makhuduthamaga retained an **Unqualified Audit opinion** with only a few matters.

Mr. Moganedi emphasized the Municipality's close proximity to achieving a clean audit for the 2024-2025 period and expressed his commitment to making that goal a reality. During the awards ceremony, the MM, Mr. Moganedi honored



the following individuals and departments for their outstanding performance during the 2023-2024 financial year:

INDIVIDUALS – Presented by the Municipal Manager, Ronald Moganedi (1) Best Employee of the Year – **Mr. Mothapo KT**, Chief Financial Officer, (2) Best Performing Employee: Budget and Treasury Office (BTO) – **Ms. Maja MM**, Manager Revenue (3) Best Performing Employee: Economic Development and Planning (EDP), Performance Management – **Ms. Make MM**, Manager PMS, (4) Best Performing Employee: Office of the



Municipal Manager, Communications and Marketing – **Mr. Mashabela TJ**, Communications Officer, (5) Best Performing Employee: Office of the Mayor – **Mr. Bjalane TM**, Admin Assistant, (6) Best Performing Employee: Infrastructure Development – **Mr. Tladi J**, (7) Best Performing Employee: Community Services – Mr. Moela SJ, General Worker, (8) MM's Special Award for Good Audit Results in Supply Chain Management – **Mr. Mothapo KJ**, Manager Supply Chain. **DEPARTMENTS** – Presented by the Head of Corporate Services Department,

Cllr. Namudi Matjomane: (1) Best Responsive Department on Performance Management System – **Economic Development and Planning (EDP)**, (2) Best Responsive Department on Risk Management Activities – **Economic Development and Planning (EDP)**, (3) Best Responsive Department on Records Management Activities – **Budget and Treasury Office (BTO)**, (4) Best Responsive Department on Internal Audit Matters – **Community Services**, (5) Best Responsive Department in PMDS – **Office of the Municipal Manager**.

MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY'S PMT AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS RECONFIGURED



Cllr. Judy Nkgadima
SPEAKER
ANC



Cllr. Masekwele Merah Mahlase
MAYOR
ANC



Cllr. Mosedi Thamaga
CHIEF WHIP
ANC



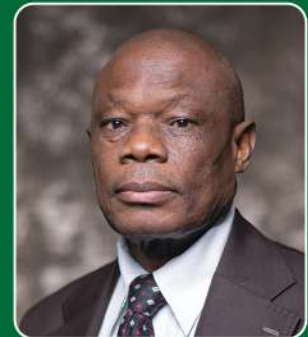
Cllr. Mogobe Sam Malaka
Head of Infrastructure Dev.
ANC



Cllr. Namudi Moses Matjomane
Head of Corporate Services
ANC



Cllr. Malebo Phala
Head of Budget and Treasury
ANC



Cllr. Tabane Peter Rankoe
Head of Community Services
ANC



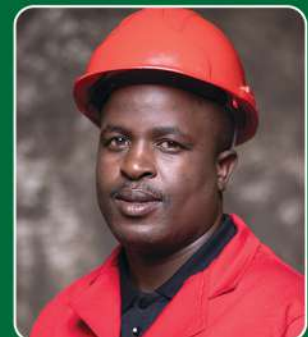
Cllr. Eric Makatishe Mosoane
Head of EDP and Planning
ANC



Cllr. Makanyoge Morwamakoti
Deputy Head of Infrastructure
ANC



Cllr. Gift Machaba
Deputy Head of EDP and Planning
EFF



Cllr. Pontsho Moretsele
Deputy Head of Corporate Services
EFF



VISION

- + A catalyst of integrated community-driven service delivery.

MISSION

- + To strive towards service excellence.
- + To enhance robust community based planning.
- + To ensure efficient and effective consultation and communication with all municipal stakeholders.



Cllr. Elizabeth Mahlase
Deputy Head of Budget and Treasury
EFF