

Lephalale Municipality

Building a vibrant city to be the energy hub of Africa

Road reconstruction project gets a boost

Exxaro Grootegeeluk coal and Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) awarded a tender to design the Ga-Seleka roads to Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd on Thursday 21 January.

This is a significant milestone in the multi-million rand project which will see the reconstruction of 47.6 kilometres of road to service 13 villages who struggle with transportation due to the derelict road conditions in the Lephalale area. The villages that will benefit from the upgraded Rietfontein Road ((D3102 and D3114) are Sefithlogo, Morwe, Botshabelo, Moong, Segale, Botsalanag, Kopanong, Kgobagodimo and Letlora. Ugrading of Road D3109 will benefit residents from Kiti, Motsweding, Dipompopong and Mokuruanyane.

Delivering the keynote address at the signing ceremony, Mayor of Lephalale Local Municipality, Councillor Jack Maeko thanked RAL and Exxaro for their contribution to infrastructure development. "The government needs the private sector to act in the best interest of the community. Everything is possible as long as we work together. This road project will create many employment opportunities and alleviate poverty," said Mayor Maeko. He commended the project team for engaging stakeholders throughout the process, he further urged the councillors and community leaders present at the ceremony to communicate the progress to their constituencies.

Exxaro Group Manager for Community Development, Ramesh Chhagan said this is a demonstration of how Exxaro is powering possibilities. The road will allow free movement of people and lead to the creation of various economic opportunities. We remain committed to making a meaningful contribution to the Lephalale community to ensure that we leave this place in a much better condition than we found it."

RAL CEO, Petros Matji commended the project team for expediting the process to ensure there's notable progress on the project.

To ensure skills transfer and local SMME empowerment, Aurecon will work closely with Exxaro, Roads Agency Limpopo and Lephalale Local Municipality during the design phase.

In addition, labour intensive methods will be utilised during construction and this will benefit the large number of unemployed community members, mainly youth from the 13 villages.



LLM hosts Matric awards ceremony



Lephalale Municipality hosted the annual Matric awards ceremony at the Mogol club on Friday, 15 January where top performing schools, teachers and learners were awarded for their commitment towards excellence in education.

Top performing Schools in the Lephalale area were Ellisras High school with a pass rate of 91.73% and Tielelo High School with a pass rate of 88.41%. Schools who achieved a pass rate above 70% were Motlhajwa (79.17%), Seoketseng (77.50%), Morakolo (71.67%)

The school that showed the most improvement was Motlhjwa High School who managed to attain an average of 79.17% compared to 41.18% in 2014.

The learner who performed the best in the Ellisras Circuit was Alize Hoepfner (87.6%). In Palala North, it was Thapelo Motlokwa (in picture) who attained an average of 80.1%. In Palalala South, Baloyi Toki David came out tops with an average of 73.29%.

The top five learners in the Cluster were Alize Hoepfner (87.6%), Sarel Haasbroek (87.3%), Kyla Strydom (85.9%), Maricia van Deventer (83.7%) and Thapelo Motlokwa (80.1%).

LLM meets new Medupi Project Manager

Lephalale Local Municipality (LLM) hosted the newly appointed Medupi project manager, Phillip Dukashe on Monday, 25 January 2016 in order to make formal introductions and share some of Council's concerns and praises for the Medupi project.

The Mayor of Lephalale, Cllr MJ Maeko welcomed Mr Dukashe and pledged the Municipality's support for the project. The Mayor said that LLM is delighted to work with Mr. Dukashe who they believe understands the economic transformation agenda. He urged the new project manager to escalate Eskom's commitment towards community development, skills development as well as transformation in organisational structures.

Mr Dukashe said in his address that the Medupi team fully supports the Municipality's mission in terms of rural development. "We want to leave a lasting legacy and we look forward to working with local government to achieve our goals of building the largest power station in Africa. We also share in the Municipality's vision of building a vibrant city that will become the energy hub of Africa."

Eskom's appointment of Mr Phillip Dukashe follows the resignation of Mr Roman Crookes earlier this year. Mr Dukashe, a civil engineer by profession, has been working for Eskom for 22 years at various managerial levels. From 2010 until now, he was General Manager for Generation Coal Projects, which included the major refurbishment of coal fired power stations such as return to service of the Komati, Camden and Grootvlei power stations; and the recovery of the Majuba silo and Duvha unit 3 projects. Between 2001 and 2005 he was a power station manager for Tutuka power station.



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New information Centre opened in Marapong



As part of back to basics campaign, Lephale Mayor, Jack Maeko, officially opened an information centre in Marapong last week. The centre will assist amongst other things community members who used to travel long distances to submit their CV's at the municipality for capturing on the municipal data base. The municipality has taken the responsibility of ensuring that in all the economic developments around the area, local communities are prioritised when it comes to employment. Mayor Maeko urged companies to use the municipality as an entry point for recruitment..

During the launch, community members were given an opportunity to interact with the Mayor and representatives from Medupi Power station and various issues were raised. The Mayor urged Eskom to use the information centre, local papers and radio station to inform communities about job opportunities. Two community liaison officers were appointed at the information centre. Maeko spoke strongly against corruption and appealed to job seekers to report any one who is found to be demanding money for jobs.

The Back to Basics programme was launched by President Jacob Zuma in September 2014 and is aimed at strengthening the local sphere of government, improving service delivery and promoting economic growth and development at local level. Key to the programme is the effective functioning of municipalities to better serve communities by getting the balance right in terms of the five pillars of Back to Basics. The pillars are: Putting People First (Batho Pele), Delivering Basic Services, Good Governance, Sound Financial Management and Building Capabilities.

RDP houses for families in need

As part of delivering services to needy communities, Lephalale Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, together with Chief P.D Seleka attended a sod turning ceremony for the construction of a RDP house for the Otsweleng family in Seleka on Friday, 29 January 2016. The Otsweleng family is one of three families identified for housing intervention by Communication Minister Faith Muthambi during the launch of the Imbizo Focus week in December 2015. Government imbizos are aimed at promoting public participation on government programmes with the intention of continuously improving people's lives. Throughout the launch week, Cabinet Ministers and government officials visited communities to assess their needs, interact with people, respond to their questions on government related issue and inspected government-funded projects set up as part of efforts to combat poverty in the country. Lephalale Mayor Cllr Jack Maeko told the community that the sod turning ceremony was to symbolise the commencement of the construction of RDP Houses for the Otsweleng, Ngoepe and Madibana families. The Mayor appealed to the contractor to complete the houses urgently as the identified families are in dire need. He further encouraged contractors to employ locally when construction commences. The Mayor added that this is neither the first nor the last project. He recently introduced five contractors (photo bottom right) to the community who have started with the construction of 438 RDP houses in 10 villages including those which were destroyed by heavy winds and those which were built along the flood line area in Thabo-Mbeki. The project is expected to be completed before end of April 2016.



Back to Basics:

Good news for the community of Ditlounge



The Mayor of Lephalale Cllr MJ Maeko and the electrical division of LLM, visited Ditlounge village on Friday 29 January to introduce contractors to the community. These contractors have been appointed for the electrification of Ditlounge village.

Switch on at Marapong



LLM in conjunction with electrical company Afrimet switched on two highmast lights in Marapong section 4 on Thursday, 28 January.



In-house housekeeping campaign a great success

The safety Officer would like to thank everyone who participated in the House keeping campaign during the month of January. The Safety division would also like to encourage all divisions to practice good housekeeping at all times. Monthly programmes can be established to sustain good housekeeping, making the workplace safer for all.

Before



&

After



LLM Councillors successfully complete SALGA training



Several of Lephalale local municipality councillors recently received a certificate of competence for completing the Councillor Development Programme (CDP). The programme which is being implemented by SALGA in cooperation with SAIL and the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA), is aimed at achieving SALGA's strategic goal of developing an empowered workforce and leadership. The training is provided over five days and covers the following areas: understanding of the legislative framework; municipal service delivery improvement; leadership and management; local economic development; municipal finance; programme management; community development; supply chain management; as well as public and media engagement

Celebrating their birthday in February:

02 Feb MP Seanego; FM Masola; RA Mosima; KS Mokone; ML Shiko; GM Montshiwa

04 Feb DM Shiko; T Ledwaba

05 Feb ME Thutlwa

06 Feb LJ Mosima; RL Mokwena

07 Feb OF Radipabe

08 Feb LJD Seleka

09 Feb TBO Mabale; MO Mokobane

10 Feb RG Gabara; SJ Pelotona; TE Baloi

11 Feb SM Moloto

12 Feb J Sehowa; NC Lekaka; TP Moloatse; LR Madibana; ME Maisela

14 Feb KA Montshiwa

15 Feb LP Mojela

16 Feb NJ Chimole

17 Feb DC Majadibodu

19 Feb W Lefawane

20 Feb MJ Manaka

22 Feb SM Mothone; MP Mapaya; MP Kgang; MH Keetse

24 Feb NH Moshidi; MR Makata

25 Feb MM Madube

26 Feb RG Moroka

27 Feb MF Mabotja; T Maphutha