

STATE OF THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS**“PUSHING EMAKHAZENI FORWARD THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TO END POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT AND INEQUALITY”**

**HONORABLE SPEAKER
EXECUTIVE MAYORS FROM OTHER MUNICIPALITIES
HONORABLE CHIEF WHIP
HONORABLE COUNCILORS
MY FAMILY
PASTORS
CLUSTER COMMANDER AND ALL POLICE OFFICIALS
SOCIAL PARTNERS
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND EDUCATORS
WARD COMMITTEES
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

A VERY GOOD MORNING AND A HAPPY MANDELA MONTH.

Hon. Speaker the state of the municipal address is delivered on a very important month, the Mandela month a day before a Mandela Day. Hon Speaker this year we will be celebrating Mandela Day without Mandela a hero, fighter and a revolutionary thinker.

Nelson Mandela had a political and moral project and system of ideas and values for which he fought for and give his life for Nelson Mandela was born in the struggle and baptised in the revolutionary flames of the African National Congress and the entire congress movement in South Africa, which his blaze continue to rage to this day in promotion of Global peace, non racialism, none sexism, human dignity and prosperity for all.

Hon. Speaker this month every year South Africans across the length and breadth of the Republic and the world celebrate the life and

times of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. In celebrating his life we are called to do good for humanity.

Our father is no more but his legacy will live forever.

As we pay tribute and celebrate President Mandela's legacy lets respond to the call of doing good for humanity.

Hon. Speaker in the challenges we face today as a municipality we are motivated by the values and principles that our stalwart stood for in difficult and challenging epoch of our National Democratic Revolution.

Hon. Speaker we must emulate Nelson Mandela for his selfless contribution and dedication to the struggle for peace, democracy, national building and unity.

Ladies and Gentlemen I want to dedicate this year's budget speech to our stalwart, the hero Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, our budget for 2014/2015 must be people centred and people driven.

We are aiming at implementing our entire project with the speed of a lightning. We have put a plan to accelerate the implementation of our project.

Hon. Speaker before we talk with our new plans and priorities let me first start by giving an account on what we said we were going to do for 203/2014.

Hon. Speaker the period 2013/2014 was not an easy one but we stayed focused on our goals we didn't allow winds of doubt to lead us astray. We kept our eyes on the ball.

Ladies and Gentlemen during the difficult times I remembered a story that I read in a book titled Work in Progress written by Buti

Mnyakeni. The story is of a man who often felt insulted by people. He went to a very wise man and told him about his problem, he said “I am easily insulted by people and it really hurts me when people say bad things to me”

The wise man smiled and said, so what seems to be the problem? The man repeated I am offended by these people who always insult me these things they say to me hurt really bad.

The wise man asked “if someone gives you a gift and you don’t accept the gift, who does the gift belong too?”

The wise man said that’s the answer so if someone insults you and you not accept the insult who does it belong to?

We learned not to accept offence. No one can offend us without us accepting.

We remain focus to our mandate. Our mandate is not to entertain our detractors but to provide services to our people.

Hon. Speaker we must not look at life, its storms and advertise from the human point of view as that is a trap from the devil. Our trouble becomes easier to handle when we know that it will not last long. We know that it takes faith to achieve victory.

Ladies and Gentlemen let me start with a good story we have achieved through faith in 2013/2014.

In his book titled season and glories Pastor Christopher Ka Nkosi said “when God gives you vision there will always be opposition to the mission”

Hon. Speaker with all the challenges we had to go through we also have a good story to tell.

On Finance

The municipality still struggle to accelerate its service delivery programme because of very limited resources, the socio economic factors in the municipal area make our consumers to prioritise other needs over the municipal services.

The municipality continues to receive equitable share which is not equitable for the circumstances of Emakhazeni.

Ladies and Gentlemen some consumers continue to sabotage the growth of the municipality by stealing electricity, cable and diesel.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen's despite the above challenges the community still expect uninterrupted services.

The provision of services is a constitutional matter and as a municipality we are obliged to provide services without failure.

It is very much important to note that it is through a strong revenue base that can help the municipality to accelerate its service delivery programme, and we must thank everyone who continues to honour their municipal accounts.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentleman the municipality resolved on a special purpose vehicle as a way of beefing up our revenue base.

We started a process of establishing a municipal development entity, but the bearocracy involve in the establishing the agency is delaying the municipality from achieving its goal of a strong revenue base.

We have been looking on various options to build our revenue base for service delivery purposes.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentleman

Since 2011 to date we have made sure that MIG is used as per the condition. It is a well known secret that in the past we used to use MIG wrongly which led to service delivery backlog.

On 2013/2014 financial year our MIG was R 13 322 000.00 and our spending is 100% and we will continue to do that as it is the right thing to do. We have also received R 1 million for EPWP and our spending there is also 100%.

Equitable share was R 38 535 000.00 and our spending also is 100%.

We projected to R 192 399.818.00(Income) after adjustment and by the end of financial year we were at R 184 170 998.27. Like we said earlier our revenue base is very weak.

We projected R235 945 907.00 (expenditure) after adjustment budget and by the end of financial year we were at R137 344 568.68.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentleman

It is tough to provide services to the satisfactory of our communities with such a limited budget. We needed to cut our trouser to our size. The municipality is no longer spending on none service delivery items. We have since cut catering for committee meeting and thanks to the Hon. Councillors and officials for understanding.

We evaluate each and every invitation we receive before confirming attendance.

Hon. Speaker Working together with our stakeholders we will continue to look on solution for the self sustainability of the municipality.

Hon. Speaker and Hon. Councillors as per our commitment for the last financial year with the limited resources we were able to meet our mandate.

On Governance

Hon. Speaker we were able to submit our 2012/2013 Annual Financial Statement on time to Auditor General on the 31st of August 2013.

- Section 71 reports were submitted on monthly bases by the 10th of each month.
- Section 72 reports were submitted on time in 2014 to National and Provincial Treasury.

Salaries and deduction are paid every month on the 25th or before, if the 25th is on weekend or public holiday.

Hon. Speaker the only challenge we had was the implementation of Grap 17 which resulted to Emakhazeni Local Municipality regress on Audit opinion.

We are happy Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentleman that we have filled the post of the Municipal Manager and the Chief Financial Officer respectively and we have planned to fill the Technical Manager and Corporate Department Manager at the end of the month.

Hon. Speaker we must also report that our Speaker has been redeployed and is now the Executive Mayor of Nkangala District Municipality. We must thank him for his support and contribution in Emakhazeni Local Municipality and also wish him all the best in his new deployment.

Public Participation

- Hon. Speaker we had planned to have all 80 Ward Committees members attending ward committee meetings but we only had 60% of the 80 Ward Committee Members attending which indicate some challenges which the office of the Speaker is attending to them.
- We have also planned to have about 600 community members attending Council Sittings but only 288 attended which is a cause for concern. Hon. Speaker if we want to give meaning to the clause in the freedom charter that says “people shall govern” people must take lead in their own development.
- Ladies and Gentlemen the office of the Speaker has put in place strategies to close the gap on Public Participation. We had planned to have 800 community members attending our IDP meeting and we exceeded our target and thanks to everyone who made our IDP meetings a success. Without IDP there is no development, so IDP is everything.
- Our sms system is also playing a critical role in keeping our public informed. We have send 149 224 sms’s to the public informing them of their own development.
- Hon. Speaker our LED is still leaping we have appointed a Deputy Manager but we still don’t have a strategy. We have also revived development forums and we must soon launch LED Forum and develop strategy. Ladies and Gentlemen we are also planning for a Local Economic Summit which will lead to a development of a strategy.
- Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen issues of unemployment, poverty and inequality can never be dealt without a strong LED

Strategy. We need to look on the Economy of Emakhazeni and transform it to be buyers to locals.

- Hon. Speaker our deliberate move to develop contractors has yielded good results. We have companies that benefited in our 2013/2014 budget. 29 companies benefited from the programme.
- We need to lobby private sector to adopt the municipal programme of developing our SMME's. We must develop our SMME's to be entrepreneurs not tenderpreneurs.

On Youth Development

Reminded of the quote by President Mandela

“Young people are the valued possession of our country and a country that does not value its youth has no future”

- Hon. Councilors responding to the resolution of the Youth Summit, the office of the Youth Manager which is run by one person had planned the following programmes:
- To hold one Career Expo per annum and one Career Expo was held in March at Belfast Academy
- To register 40 Learners to the institution of higher learning. We registered 21 learners and 35 were awarded full bursary. All in all we assisted 56 learners in 2014, Honorable Members we have also provided skills training for 17 learners who are trained through MRTT and Internally we have trained 31 officials through various institution of higher learning.
- To motivate matriculates in the eight school within the municipality.

- Hon. Speaker all the eight high school learners were motivated through breakfast meetings.
- To have 4 sporting events per annum. We have not done well here because only 2 we held.
- To develop 4 Youth SMME's and we have developed 3 one in printing services, the second one in Internet Cafe and the last one in Car Wash.
- To conduct 2 substance and drug abuse awareness campaigns. Hon. Speaker two awareness campaigns were conducted in Sakhelwe and Emthonjeni.
- To create a conducive environment to create at least 200 job opportunities. We have created only 168 jobs for young people.
- Out of 28 post filled 23 of them were filled with young people.

On Transversal

- We have planned to establish Aids Council by June. So far Hon. Speaker we have establish 4 Sub-Aids Council and we need to move with speed to attend to this very critical task as it is a matter that threaten our future.
- To have 4 HIV/AIDS Awareness campaigns. Hon. Speaker we had 5 awareness campaigns.
- To hold Moral Regeneration Events annually, we are happy to report that we held one Moral Regeneration Event in Sakhelwe in December 2013.
- To promote Women Empowerment. Ladies and Gentlemen one Woman Seminar was held in Machardo- Bella vista.

- To establish men forum in each unit. So far only a task team is established.
- To ensure quality of life to integrated services for people living with disability. Hon. Speaker we facilitated the attendance of people living with disability the disability summit in Nkangala District Municipality.
- We also supported Vera Stimulation Centre with food parcels and learning materials. We also supported Epilepsy Centre in Dullstroom with food parcels.
- We also supported the renovation of Belfast Children Home. We have also supported the financial support of Vulingondo by Nkomati Mine.
- To ensure quality of life through integrated services for elderly person. Hon. Speaker we in the year 2013/2014 distributed 224 food parcel and 1000 blankets to the elderly.
- To have 4 visits to ECD Centres and we were able to fulfil that.

On Planning and Development

- Hon. Speaker our plan was to formalise Enkanini in Emthonjeni, we have achieve that 100% Enkanini is now called Empumelelweni as per the suggestion from resident there.
- To facilitate Greenfield development 300 stands in Gugulethu. We have received approvals from land use and DEDET and lay-out plans have been developed and pegging is concluded.

- To facilitate the sub-division of various parcel of land to provide for development. Hon. Speaker we have successfully sub-divided 6 parcel of land.
- To establish Agrivillage in Wonderfontein. Ladies and Gentlemen approvals have been received and we are waiting for the lay-out plans from Surveyor General.
- To facilitate and monitor the implementation of the PPP Agreement on EURP by WB Noka Development Consortium.
- Hon. Speaker on this project we must indicate that we are still experiencing the very same challenges as explained last year. As the municipality we have done everything we were expected to do, we have received authorisation from National Treasury. The clearance issue is still an obstacle in the project. Hon. Speaker as the municipality we have invoke a clause in our agreement that put WB Noka on terms and they must respond to the municipality by the 20th of July 2014 failure which the municipality will institute legal processes as per the agreement.
- Ladies and Gentlemen we committed the facilitation of land claims. Regrettably no land claim were finalized for this period however we have asked the department to move with speed with the finalization of land claims.
- To appoint 69 EPWP Beneficiaries. Ladies and Gentlemen we are happy to report that 80 EPWP Beneficiaries were appointed, which is above our target.
- To train EPWP Beneficiaries Hon. Speaker we have failed to deliver on this commitment and the reason is that we relied on the Department for training but we have since resolved to prioritize it in the current financial year.

On Core Service Delivery

We had planned to remove refuse from communities and business sector. We have not met our target because of the unprotected strike and other technical challenges.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen let me take this opportunity and formally apologize to the public for the disruption of services they experienced in the month of April and May. We also want to express our appreciation and thanks to all the volunteers and workers who availed themselves during the dark cloud. May God Bless you all and may your dreams come true.

Hon. Speaker we had planned to rehabilitate 14 illegal dumping sites. We must report that only 7 dumping sites were rehabilitated.

To maintain Landfill sites. We have appointed 4 service providers to maintain our landfill sites.

To collect 624 sewage and water samples. It must be reported that we were able to collect 617 samples which 98% of our target

Mega Projects

Hon. Speaker 6 Mega Projects has been done by the municipality and other sector departments during the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 financial year:

Boarding School in Entokozweni (Machadodorp) is currently at 94% completion

Emthonjeni Family Units Phase two at Entokozweni (Machadodorp)
Hon. Speaker as we have reported in our last financial year the phase two of the Family units is now at 96% completion with the budget of R 230 375 684.77

Breaking new ground project ext 6 and 8 at Siyathuthuka Location Hon. Speaker this project includes paving of roads which is 60% complete, water and sanitation which is at 95%, electricity which is 100% complete and 321 houses which are 100% complete and 100 houses which are still under construction at the budget of R 76 481 083.82

Hon. Speaker we have build a crèche and a community hall in Siyathuthuka Location and we are pleased to say that the project is 100% complete at the budget of R 9 490 352.68. The municipality have placed an advert calling for members of the public to apply for the management of the crèche

High Altitude Training Centre which is situated at Emakhazeni (Siyathuthuka Location) the project is under design stage by the Department of Public Works Roads and Transport and DEDET.

MIG Project 2013/2014 financial year

Hon. Speaker the municipality has done the following projects for the 2013/2014 financial year:

- Replacement of Corroded Elevated Tank in Emakhazeni and the project is 100% complete and the budget spent is R 369 562.92
- Paving of Roads in Siyathuthuka Location the project is 100% complete the budget spent is R 5 466 799.70
- Paving of Roads in Sakhelwe Location the project is 100% complete and the budget spent is R 3 588 905.86

- Upgrading of the raising main phase 2 in Emthonjeni Location the project is 100% complete and the budget spent is R 187 349.82
- Rehabilitation of waste in Emakhazeni Phase 1 Hon. Speaker we have submitted a Licence application at DEDET and still awaiting for the respond and the budget allocated for the project is R 43 231.70 and we have spend R 8 298.13 for consultants.
- Water Supply in Rural Areas Phase 5 the project is 100% complete and the budget is R 3 million.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen the projects done within the municipality has created jobs for the community members within the jurisdiction of Emakhazeni, the jobs created are as follows:

Total number of sub-contractors:	29
Total number of females	: 236
Total number of males	: 403

Hon. Speaker the overall total of people employed in the projects is 668.

Hon. Speaker projects which we said we are going to implement with our social partners progress is as follows:

- ❖ We planned to construct a road and sewer upgrade in Emgwenya with the support of Nkomati Mine, I must report that projects are currently under implementation and are planned to be concluded by August this year.
- ❖ We prioritised the upgrading of Fly Fishing Park in Entokozweni for tourism purposes.

Honourable Speaker we have built two challets with the help of Assmang Chrome.

- ❖ We committed to build 21 houses for indigents household in Emakhazeni with the support of Exxaro. Honorable Speaker the houses are 95% complete and we must report that the mine is doing everything to conclude the project.

Hon. Speaker moving Emakhazeni Forward Council has approved an increase of 7.39% for Electricity and 6% for water, sewer, cleansing and other.

We have approved a budget of R 250 590 874 for the year 2014/2015.

Hon. Speaker sources for our revenue are as follows:

- ❖ MIG for 2014/2015 is R 17 232 000.00
- ❖ Equitable Share 2014/2015 is R 46 402 333.00
- ❖ Nkangala District is R 15 231 506.00
- ❖ Internal Funding is R 897 000.00

Hon. Councilors on capital project to be implemented through MIG are as follows:

- ❖ Provision of waterborne sanitation phase 1 Enkanini R 987 482.39
- ❖ Water reticulation in Enkanini for 500 stands R 1 280 000.00
- ❖ Provision of water to 500 stand in Madala at R 3 216 457.71
- ❖ Supply water in rural areas at R 3 000 000.00
- ❖ Provision of waterborne sanitation in Madala at R 2 270 435.28
- ❖ Replacement of corroded elevated water tank in Belfast at R 616 024.62
- ❖ Paving of road in Emakhazeni Phase 2, Siyathuthuka R 1 000 000.00

- ❖ Paving of roads in Emgwenya Phase 3 at R 2 000 000.00
- ❖ Paving of roads in Dullstroom Sakhelwe Phase 5 at R 2 000 000.00

Hon. Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen with the allocation from the District we have prioritise the following project.

- ❖ We will subdivide various parcel of land in all wards and the budget is R 262 000.00
- ❖ We will install engineering services in Dullstroom at R 1 000 000.00
- ❖ We are going to upgrade Phola Park (Fly Fish Park) at R 500 000.00
- ❖ We are going to develop poultry farm in Dullstroom at R 1 000 000.00
- ❖ Establishment of brick Manufacturing Plant in Emgwenya at R 1 000 000.00
- ❖ We are going to construct a Fire House in Emthonjeni at R 1 188 881.00
- ❖ We will Hon. Speaker be implementing the rising Dullstroom Dam Wall Phase 1 at R 1 782 625.00
- ❖ We are going to upgrade electricity voltage network in Emakhazeni and Siyathuthuka Phase 3 at R 2 048 000.00
- ❖ We will continue with the rehabilitation of Bhekumuzi Masango Drive at R 3 000 000.00

Ladies and Gentlemen we are going to upgrade water treatment plant and apply for licence budget allocation is R 3 700 000.00

Hon. Speaker we going to support the vegetable garden in Emakhazeni at R 250 000.00

Hon. Speaker through Provincial support we are building a Library in Emthonjeni Location at the value of R 8 000 000.00

Entokozweni Family Units will be completed this financial year

We are also continuing with the BNG Project Phase 2

Hon. Speaker we are intensifying our lobbying programme to our social partners to continue supporting us on infrastructure development. Through lobbying we have entered into partnership with Global Pact for the BNG Project in Madala. And we have also entered into another partnership with Lehumo Consulting for housing development in Entokozweni

Ladies and Gentlemen we are making a clarion call to every household not declared indigent to honour their accounts as it is the right thing to do. Our community must know our development can only be accelerated if they prioritise payment of services.

Hon. Councilors we may not be able to control our circumstances but we can control our attitude. We must not allow the vicissitudes of life to dictate our direction. We are elected to lead transformation agenda, so ours is to provide leadership even in difficult times.

Working together, let's press forward for better tomorrow.

Hon. Councilors, Ladies and Gentlemen what you see and hear about Emakhazeni is a sum total of every single member contribution.

As the community of Emakhazeni we must know that Emakhazeni will be what we made of it, so the rise and the fall of Emakhazeni depends on its people.

Let's have positive attitude and join hand in the fight against Poverty, Unemployment and Inequalities.

Conclusion

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen I on behalf of Emakhazeni Council present this budget to you as a policy for 2014/2015.

I THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

