

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR CLLR S.K MNUKWA AT THE 100 DAYS IN OFFICE: MEDIA BREAKFAST HELD AT EMAXESIBENI ON THE 25TH JULY 2019.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

SPEAKER OF COUNCIL

EXCO MEMBERS

CHIEF WHIP & WHIPPERY

MUNICIPAL MANAGER & ALL SENIOR MANAGERS

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA PRESENT

Good Morning, Molweni, Dumelang,

On the 27th of March 2019, the municipal council entrusted and elected me as the Mayor of Umzimvubu Local Municipality, given a short period to bring about change and to continue with the implementation of municipal developmental programmes and projects. We remain cognisant of the mandate of the electorate, and under no illusion about the complexity of the task ahead.

The complexity extends to the overall makeup of this local municipality. It's worth noting that my hundred days in office materializes during the Mandela month. We embrace Madiba's values and honour his legacy through humanitarian acts and initiatives that acknowledge his never-ending quest to change the world for the better. Let me also take this moment and bid farewell to our South African Music Icon; Johnny Clegg and Veteran Actress; Nomhle Nkonyeni. Thank you for your positive contributions to our entertainment industry.

As the newly elected Mayor of Umzimvubu Local Municipality I've made it our mandate to improve the status quo of the municipality in terms of eradicating the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and crime.

With that said, all of our communities have been included into our vision to avoid alienation as we go about our task of creating a municipality that ensures constant dialogue between its residents and relevant stakeholders. The time has now come for me to narrate a positive report since taking office on the 27th of March 2019.

Over the last financial year, we have begun to rebuild a durable social compact for fundamental social and economic transformation with key stakeholders. As social partners, we are restoring the bonds of trust, dialogue and cooperation. We are reaching out to those parts of our society that have become disaffected, disinterested or marginalised through various forms of dialogue and engagement.

During my first 100 days in office, I've robustly engaged Umzimvubu churches during the moral regeneration roadshow in aid of the gospel extravaganza. I further chaired the ratepayer's association meeting and facilitated the Exco IDP outreach programme in Betshwana. Our efforts may have been uneven, and we still have much work to do, but we have demonstrated over the last financial year our shared determination to work together to confront our common challenges.

In order to provide equal opportunities for everyone, there must be an environment where businesses want to invest, where entrepreneurship can thrive and where government is supportive and enabling. This council is committed to creating a sound business environment where there is freedom to innovate. With this said we've managed to workshop and review our municipal policies during a three day session held at the Sophia Park in KwaBhaca (formerly known as Mount Frere).

The White Paper recognises explicitly that teaching and learning, are all integral parts of a capable institution, and that knowledge production must increase if the municipal developmental goals are to be achieved. These goals are clearly articulated in municipal policies, which all identify knowledge production as an important facet for development.

We are focusing our attention, our policies and our programmes on the key parts of the economy that are labour intensive. These include agriculture and tourism.

Local Economic Development and Environmental Management

In relation to the advancement of local economic development, the municipality has issued over 66 local businesses with operating licenses during the 2018/20 financial year. Moreover the establishment of the farmer mentorship programme aided 20 farmers from Umzimvubu who were selected for both livestock and vegetable production.

The municipality remains mindful of the country's ailing economy and continues to explore for new sustainable opportunities in the agricultural sector that will benefit all local residents. The **Yellow Maize Ploughing Programme** has benefitted over 900 local residents with a number of 15 hectares per ward being planted with yellow maize. The total cost of the project is 6.8 million. The council is pleased to note that the project is complete and that communities are now currently harvesting the produce in their fields. We are fortunate to have an agricultural sector that is well-developed, resilient and diversified. We intend to use it as a solid foundation to help develop agriculture in our municipality for the benefit of all.

Through an accelerated programme of land reform, we will work to expand our agricultural output and promote economic inclusion. An **auction site** was identified near Badibanise (ward 18) in KwaBhaca. The intentions to develop an auction site by the municipality is to create a platform for local farmers to trade their livestock before it ages or loses weight during drought season. It's also pleasing to note that a service provider was appointed to design the auction site on the 15th June 2019. This is an ongoing municipal project and will be closely monitored until completion.

In relation to **vegetable production**, the municipality has identified and assisted 5 municipal wards whereby more than 200 people benefitted from the programme. The total cost of this initiative was Eight hundred thousand.

On a slightly different note, According to the National Treasury Research on SMMEs (2014) South Africa has an estimated 2.8million **small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs)** which contribute 52%-57% of GDP. SMMEs also provide about 60% of jobs, and contribute more than 40% of the country's total remuneration.

This means that SMME's in South Africa employ more people than private sector and government combined. Umzimvubu Local Municipality therefore has a duty to ensure that local SMME's are well supported in terms of knowledge capacity and other areas of support. The municipality has identified 4 exhibition opportunities for local SMME's to showcase their trade. These are namely: The Tourism Indaba Exhibition, The Royal Show, The Grahamstown National Arts Festival and Umzimvubu Tourism and Heritage Exhibition.

Infrastructure and Development Planning

All communities should have access to at least a minimum level of services. This is not a goal, but a constitutional obligation. The many imbalances that still exist regarding equal access to services will be addressed through the development of new infrastructure and the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing infrastructure.

In this regard the municipality aims to ensure that residents have adequate access to municipal services and infrastructure with ease. It's with this reason that the municipality has embarked on the following infrastructure related projects:

PROJECT	WARD	PROJECT AMOUNT	PROJECT STATUS	AMOUNT INVESTED ON LABOUR	NO. OF JOBS CREATED	NUMBER BENEFICIARIES (WOMEN/DISABILITY/YOUTH)
Construction of Marwaqa AR and Bridge	05	R6 460 000.00	The contractor has bent the steel for foundations and poured the blinding layer in preparation for bridge footings	Project under construction	6	Women - 0, Youth - 6
Construction of Silindini AR and Bridge	06	R8 361 150.30	Project under construction. Roadbed preparation is complete, tipping @80%, Processing @40%, On the bridge the steel for all the columns had been delivered and assembled, and excavations for	R 23 500.00	7	Women – 1, Youth - 4

			both abutments are done and blind layer done.			
Surfacing of Mt Ayliff Internal Streets - Phase 6	07	R9 431 392.80	Project practically complete	R115 920	21	Women - 2, Youth - 14
Surfacing of Mt Frere Internal Streets - Phase 6	18	R17 295 785.75	The project is 91% complete with kerbing to complete and installation of road signs and road marking. 2.7km has already been surfaced with asphalt.	R154 560	13	Women – 5, Youth - 7
Upgrading of Mt Frere Landfill site	18	R4 546 301.64	Project is 95% complete. Road works are complete. Leachate pond is at 100% complete. Sub-contractor to start the works for the weighbridge.	R13 040	3	Youth - 3
Mthonjeni to KwaDuma Access Road	22	R2 640 000	Project practically complete	R66 240	8	3 – Women; 6 – Youth
Mafusini AR	25	R1 300 000	Project is practically complete	R75 600	20	3 - Women 16 – Youth

Mpungutyana via Luvalweni AR	13	R2 416 023.40	Project practically complete.	R12 680	9	4 – Women 4 - Youth
Completion of Tyinirha bridge.	13	R3 920 000.00	The contractor has cut the piers to the correct level of the deck. The steel has been ordered and is being shaped according to the designs at the manufacturers. The scaffolding has been erected.	R8 280	3	2 – Women 1 - Youth
Magaitini to Kwavala AR Maintenance - 5.00km	01	R1 234 693.48	Project Complete	R50 600	13	Women - 3, Youth - 7
Nqabeni AR Maintenance - 5.00km	02	R1 148 304.57	Project Complete	R15 320	8	Women - 1, Youth - 6
Ntlavini to Jojo AR – 3.50km	03	R1 400 000	Project practically complete	R58 080	11	Women -1 , Youth -7
Sigidini AR Maintenance - 5.00km	04	R1 153 529.06	Project Complete	R25 420	14	Women -2, Youth -8
Qadu AR Maintenance -	05	R1 223 813.61	Project Complete, with snags being finalized.	R30 180	5	Women -1, Youth -2
Ndakeni, Mbumbazi AR Maintenance - 5.00km	06	R 1 173 162.12	Project Complete	R12 930	3	Women -0, Youth -2
Mqhokweni AR maintenance - 6.00km	06	R1 152 997.26	Project Complete	R37 950	5	Women -1,

						Youth -3
Siphundu AR Maintenance – 8.9km	09	R 1,186,217.38	Project Complete	R22 860	6	Women - 2, Youth -4
Gqala AR / Siphingeni AR Maintenance – 7.00km	10	R1,165,533.38	The contractor has established to 100% has done road formation to 100%, is now busy with tipping 100% and processing is at 100%. Contractor busy with the construction of a concrete slab.	R41 580	6	Women - 1, Youth - 4
Mzinto to Nyosini AR Maintenance 4.6 Km	11	R 987 912.50	Project Complete	R44 180	6	Women - 0, Youth -5
Mgungundlovu AR Maintenance - 7.00km	12	R1,200,000.00	Project Complete	R30 060	6	Women - 1, Youth - 5
Ngcozana AR Maintenance – 11.75km	13	R1 308,183.98	Project Complete	R54 880	17	Women -1, Youth -14
Bhekani AR Maintenance – 7.00km	14	R 872,792.59	Project Complete	R62 120	11	Women -1, Youth -8
Dzikweni AR Maintenance - 7.00km	15	R 1,197,743.73	Project Complete	R38 920	6	Women - 1, Youth -5
Ext 7, Moyeni & Papanana Internal roads - 6.00km	16	R1 200 000	Project Complete	R47 720	12	Women - 0, Youth – 9
Mtshazi - Qumra via laduma village AR – 4.50km	19	R1 300 000	Project Complete	R39 440	4	Women - 1,

						Youth – 2
Ngxabaxa AR Maintenance - 6.00km	20	R1 800 000	Project Complete	R42 720	4	Women – 1, Youth – 2
Bislan - Mfundeni AR – 2.1km	21	R780 000	Project Complete	R30 180	3	Women – 1 Youth – 2
Nkalweni to waka Bityi AR – 6.8km	23	R1 948 000	Project practically complete	R60 720	11	Women – 5 Youth – 8
Zigadini AR Maintenance - 5.00km	24	R1 350 000	Project Complete	R28 680	6	Women – 3 Youth – 3
Nyantungo - Nyuswa Mandela AR Maintenance – 3.50km	26	R1 306 057.35	Project @9% complete. Establishment 100%, rip and re-compact 100%, tipping and processing @100%, installation of storm water pipes. Contractor busy with construction of concrete slab and head walls and stone pitching.	R43 370	9	Women - 2, Youth – 6
Mbondleni AR Maintenance – 5.30km	27	R1 250 000	Project Complete	R18 480	4	Women - 2, Youth – 3
Zibokwana Bridge refurbishment	19	R519 872.83	Project Complete	R28 660	6	Women - 2, Youth – 6

The construction of the facilities in the local municipality has had its pros and cons however we continue to strive and live up to the expectations of our people. Facilities are constructed under public participation guidelines which seek to create space for residents and leaders to exchange development dialogue. The following facilities have been constructed:

Mount Ayliff Multi-Purpose Centre - Sport Precinct	07	R23 981 944.57	The overall progress on site is at 87% complete. Mansory works (Brickwork) at 100% complete. Plastering and Screeding at 97% complete. Plumbing and drainage at 85% complete. Sewer line is 100% complete. Electrical works at 87% complete on ground floor. Paving and parking at 100% complete. Painting at 73% complete. Casting of mezzanine complete. Landscaping in progress. Contractor busy with the roof structure.	R51 800	13	Women - 3, Youth - 7
Upgrading of Badibanise stadium Phase 3	18	R7 567 879.29	Contractor has a grandstand manufactured, awaiting the construction of footings for the grand stand to be delivered. The sub-contractor is busy with the kerbing for preparation of the asphalt to be installed and rubber for the running track and combo courts. Contractor has renovated the change rooms.	R23 450	5	2 – Women 3 - Youth

Fellow Councillors; the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) is one of government's key programmes aimed at providing poverty and income relief through temporary work for the unemployed. The EPWP is a nationwide programme covering all spheres of government and SOEs.

The programme provides an important avenue for labour absorption and income transfers to poor households, in the short to medium-term. These projects employ workers on a temporary or ongoing basis with government, contractors, or other non-governmental organisations under the Ministerial Conditions of Employment for the EPWP or learnership employment conditions.

During my 100 days in office, coincidentally 100 beneficiaries were employed for waste collection and litter picking. Another extended EPWP programme looking at town beautification and street cleaning employed 46 people which brings the total number to 146 at an invested amount of R3.4 million combined.

Speaker of Council; allow me to highlight a few projects that have benefited over 300 local residents:

Project Name	Ward	No of Beneficiaries	Amount Invested in Labour	Total Budget	Status of the Project and Additional Comments
2019/20 Umzimvubu trainees	03, 09, 17, 19, 21	8	R304,128	R350 000	08 beneficiaries were employed to do different office support service
2018/19 Auxiliary services	03, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 20, 25,26,27	21	R790,336	R850 000	21 participants were employed to do office support services
2018/19 Traffic trainees	05, 23, 24, 26, 27	6	R228,096	R300 000	06 beneficiaries were employed for law enforcement in both municipal towns
2018/19 Traffic wardens	02, 03, 18, 20, 26	11	R418,176	R450 000	11 beneficiaries were employed to patrol road parking
2018/19 Supervisors	19,25,07	4	R152,064	R250 000	04 beneficiaries we employed to guide, lead and monitor the beautification of street and its cleanliness
2018/19 Cleaning of municipal offices	03, 04, 08, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27	14	R426,888	R550 600	14 beneficiaries were employed to clean the municipal offices as well as the municipal amenities
2018/19 Environmental educators	02, 03, 06, 08, 09, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27	17	R646,272	R700 480	17 beneficiaries were employed for environmental education in Umzimvubu areas
2018/19 General horticultural maintenance	01,02,03,04,05,06, 07,08,09,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17,18, 19,20,21,22,23,24, 25,26,27	63	R1,920,996	R2 150 000	63 beneficiaries were employed for parks beautification, tree planting and grass cutting
2018/19 Sigidini and Betshwana GA	04,07	36	R922,752	R1 100 000	36 beneficiaries were employed to clean the Landfill sites
2018/19 Rangers	01,03,04,09,18,20, 22,24,25,26	10	R304,920	R350 000	10 beneficiaries were employed to patrol the road and remove animals from the road
Fencing of Mount Frere Library	18	4	R60 000	R500 000	Mount Frere Library was fenced to tighten the security, to beautify and to safe guard all municipality properties there
New Gym Equipment	18			R500 000	Sophia Recreational park is currently under revamp and new gym equipment was bought to enhance and attract more community members as this will also increase revenue.
Upgrade of Review upgrade of ULM Integrated Waste Management Plan	All wards			R206 879.25	The upgrade of 2010 Intergrated Waste Management Plan was done on the

Ladies and Gentlemen; our society is anchored in the roots of tolerance and co-existence, and we stand firm, resolute and united against all and everything that seeks to divide us or destroy our hard-won gains. It was the eternal optimism of the human spirit that kept hopes alive during our darkest time. It is this optimism that will carry us forward as we face a brave new future.

This is a municipality whose people have vision, drive and ambition; making it a hub of innovation, entrepreneurship and enterprise. It is a municipality that acknowledges the problems of the past, but looks firmly to the future. It is a municipality whose leaders are bold and courageous, leaders who remain servants of the people – and for whom fulfilling their duty is the highest, and the only, reward. Above all, it is a municipality of which we are all proud, of what we have achieved and of where we hope to be.

This task – of building a better municipality - is our collective task as residents, business, council of churches and as the people of Umzimvubu.

Let me remind you that as local government leaders we need to build a new future and a direction relevant to the needs of our communities we serve. This we believe is a crucial lever that will open up an opportunity that provides people with a chance to improve their lives. I would like to conclude by encouraging the youth in our community to make their mark and play a major part in what will be the future of Umzimvubu Local Municipality.

“Together moving towards limitless possibilities”.

I THANK YOU

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