

WELCOMING SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR COUNCILLOR SOBANE MNUKWA TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING AND RENAMING OF X-MARY THERESA (TO THOBILE BAM OFFICE PARK) IN KWABHACA ON THE 13 AUGUST 2021.

The Honourable Eastern Cape Premier, Oscar Mabuyane

The Acting Alfred Nzo District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Polelo Mohale

All Councillors present today

Traditional Leaders present

Municipal officials and all Government officials

Present Media Houses

Fellow Residents

Ladies and Gentlemen

Ndiyanibulisa ngegama le ntuthukho kunye negama leNkosi yethu uYesu Krestu, Amen.

Ladies and Gentlemen; On behalf of Umzimvubu Local Municipality and the people of this beautiful area, allow me to welcome our Honourable Premier and his provincial team.

We view this colossal work as an important element that strengthens the endeavours of Local Government as we work hard to create and accelerate a better life for all our people.

This visit comes at a time when our country is reeling in its efforts to improve the grim economic state. It also places us in a position to reflect on the state of our Municipality and critical areas where we need to focus on in creating a noticeable difference at the coalface of service delivery.

Honourable Premier; when we honour our fallen heroes, we are not only preserving content for our local heritage but we are further aligning our struggle stalwarts to noble symbols of peace and unity. The late Thobile Bam still resonates well within our space. We see him through the good coalface of local

government that will be unveiled here today. We further appreciate the efforts conducted by this department to mitigate the high rate of unemployment in our region.

Fellow Councillors; Thobile Bam was a custodian of human development and a prudent example of a skills orientated person. He dedicated most of his remaining life imparting knowledge across the ANC structures through the Eastern Cape through with ANC's multi skilled team of trainers.

The outcomes were policy development and improved systems to drive the programs of the ANC which in turn influenced government. Umzimvubu is honoured and privileged to host such a colossal structure named after him in our area.

The Thobile Bam Office Park is amongst many others that were launched in the province during this week and we can only be grateful for the much needed recognition.

With those few words, I welcome you.

THANK YOU.