

UMZIMVUBU FIVE YEAR SERVICE DELIVERY IMBIZO MAYOR'S REPORT BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR COUNCILLOR SK MNUKWA HELD ON THE 13TH AND 15TH OCTOBER 2021 IN KWABHACA AND EMAXESIBENI.

Let me greet uluntu lonke olusemakhaya lwaseMzimvubu kwiindawo ngeendawo abaphulaphule bekuzo, abamameli nabasasazi be Alfred Nzo, Voice of Matat FM, Inkonjane community radio stations and the Informer Online News Viewers on Social Media egameni lo **Mzimvubu Service Delivery noJesu Krestu**, Amen.

Let me further take this opportunity and thank all the stakeholders which were involved in preparation for this afforded opportunity for me to come and present the report ngomgama nomqela esithe sawuhamba **in the past 5 years** ephela nge 31st October 2021. Let me remind you that we remained cognisant of our mandate to regularly communicate and provide feedback to our communities **for transparency and accountability** purposes.

The last 5 years have been characterised by unmatched dedication on the part of various administrations of Umzimvubu Local Municipality. This has seen radical transformation in the lives of ordinary people, particularly those based in rural settlements who have historically been hurled at the margins of existence.

The exponential growth in our population size demonstrates that Umzimvubu ought to provide more basic services whilst accelerating job employment opportunities and adequate infrastructure developments to further curb the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and crime.

This growth is a source, both, of challenge and of opportunity. Above all, it is a stamp of approval on the work that has been done over the last 5 years – work that is geared towards building a local economy that grows in the hands of the people through sustainable

investments and strategic partnerships with the private sector and civil society.

Programme Director, Let me urge our communities from all Umzimvubu wards to comment and engage on the report that I am about to present as we will better understand the severity of Service Delivery in our locality.

The views of the people are much appreciated as they play a critical role in assisting us to come up with informed and people centred approach when implementing municipal programmes.

Please be advised that due to time and other logistics, I will summarize the 5 year service delivery report. However, before you, there's a detailed report that highlights all milestones and project based achievements for the past 5 years.

5 YEAR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

2016/17 FY Projects

Community Halls

1 x Community hall constructed in 2016/17 FY, at an amount of R1.7 million. The number of people employed were 12.

New Access Roads

43.83 km's of New Access Roads were constructed amounting to R20.7 million. The number of local people employed were 107.

Access Road Maintenance

39.44 km's of Access Roads Maintenance amounting to R11.7 million were maintained. The number of people employed were 54.

Construction of Bridges

Bridges constructed amounting to R9.3 million. The number of local people employed were 73.

Design and Construction of KwaBhaca Car Wash:

Construction of KwaBhaca Car Wash amounted to R1.16 million. The number of local people employed were 18.

Upgrading of Bridge complete Green Street and Beautification:

The project cost was R3.4 million, whilst 37 people were employed.

Electrification:

1 252 households were energised, the total project costs was R30.8 Million.

2017/18 FY

Community Halls:

2 x Community hall constructed in 2017/18 FY, at an amount of R3.4 million. The number of people were employed were 23.

New Access Road:

20.1 km's of New Access Road were constructed amounting to R27.7 million. The number of local people employed is 119.

Access Road Maintenance:

36.2 km's of Access Road Maintenance amounting to R8 499 551.96 were maintained, number of people employed were 43.

Construction of Bridges:

Bridges constructed amounting to R11 616 656.67, number of local people employed were 82.

Surfacing of Streets:

Surfacing of streets Phase 6 were done amounting to R26 727 178.55, number of local people employed were 86.

Phuti Eco Hub Phase 3:

The project cost was R1 500 000.00, No of people employed were 09.

Upgrading of Emaxesibeni and KwaBhaca Landfill Sites:

2 x land fill sites were upgraded at an amount of R8 728 771.90. 48 local people were employed.

Electrification:

1 880 households were energised, the total project costs were R46 060 000.00.

2018/19 FY

New Access Road:

21.4 km's of New Access Road were constructed amounting to R15 236 744.52, number of local people employed were 96.

Access Road Maintenance:

96.6 km's of Access Road Maintenance amounting to R22 478 471.76 were maintained, number of people employed were 81.

Upgrading of Badibanise Stadium Phase 2:

Badibanise stadium constructed at an amount of R7 567 879.29, local people employed were 19.

Electrification:

1 208 households were energised, the total project costs were R28 388 000.00.

2019/20 FY

Community Halls:

4 x Community hall constructed in 2019/20 FY, at an amount of R7 525 730.04. No of people employed were 46

New Access Road and Bridges

16 km's of New Access Road and bridges were constructed amounting to R36 402 647.04, number of local people employed were 94.

Access Road Maintenance:

83.6 km's of Access Road Maintenance amounting to R15 729 031.88 were maintained, number of people employed were 69.

Construction of Lubhacweni Brick Paving:

Brick Paving constructed amounting to R7 868 416.12, number of local people employed were 26.

2020/21 FY

Community Halls:

4 x Community hall constructed in 2020/21 FY, at an amount of R7 818 795.61. No of people employed were 27.

New Access Road:

14 km's of New Access Road were constructed amounting to R3 788 442.14, number of local people employed were 31.

Access Road Maintenance:

88.5 km's of Access Road Maintenance amounting to R18 101 502.68 were maintained, number of people employed were 96.

Construction of Bridges:

Bridges constructed amounting to R9 698 273.32, number of local people employed were 43.

Surfacing of Streets:

Surfacing of streets Phase 7 still under construction, and the project costs is R17 000 000.00, 36 people employed to date.

Phepeni Sport Facility:

The sport field constructed amounting to R8 900 000.00, 54 local people were employed.

Multi Purpose Centre Phase 3:

Phase 3 of Multi-Purpose Centre constructed amounting to R3 457 827.59, 12 people were employed.

Upgrading of EmaXesibeni Street lights:

78 streets lights were installed, amounting to R6 897 664.32, 49 people were employed.

Upgrading of EmaXesibeni Cemetery road:

The upgrading of cemetery road constructed, amounting to R9 800 000.00, 48 people were employed.

Upgrade of EmaXesibeni Streets along the CBD:

Project still under construction, the project costs is R19 390 202.32, 41 people including SMME's employed to date.

Electrification:

1 882 households were energised, the total project costs were R50 358 000.00

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIO ECONOMIC

The following economic development programmes were undertaken during the 5 past years:

Uthe umasipala wakwazi ukulima umbona kwiiward zomZimvubu ziphela, nalapho kuthe kwavulwa amathuba emisebenzi ukuze kuxhamle abahlali.

- **Mechanisation of maize fields – There is more than 2250 Hectors of land, where the municipality** ploughed maize fields and supplied production of inputs in all 27 wards and an amount of more than **R 25 million rands** was spent to implement the project.

On the Farmer’s Mentorship Programme

- We have mentored 120 farmers from within Umzimvubu LM at an invested amount of **R1.4 million** and they are the beneficiaries of this programme, they got to be trained in different aspects of agricultural methods (plant and/or animal production).

COVID-19 Support to Local SMMEs

- The Municipality further spent an additional amount of R50 000 for the purchasing of hawker stall equipment to all SMMEs that were heavily affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Aloe Value Addition Project

- The project is an aloe value-addition that processes aloe into aloe products, such as aloe tissue oils and aloe body lotions. Seven (7) beneficiaries were trained and provided with project equipment to run the project at an invested amount of R R93,800.00.

JOB CREATION

Madam Speaker; In understanding the need to revive the economy of the municipality, the job creation through EPWP Infrastructure sector, Environmental and Social sector, a number of work opportunities were maintained. An amount of **R 37 500 000** was

spent for the EPWP programme and a number of 1616 people were employed in the past 5 years.

The Food for Waste programme has over the past few years been implemented – one in informal settlement around nine peri-urban areas. The beneficiaries rehabilitate illegal dumping spots, clear invasive alien vegetation and sometimes convert illegal dump site into a productive food tyre garden, and the continues cleaning and maintenance of public open green spaces.

Fellow residents, there were funds set aside to respond to the needs of the vulnerable groups such as women, youth, children, elderly and people living with disabilities. Under Special Programmes a sum of **R800 000** was utilised implementing identified programmes and projects for the special groups and as such the programmes such as back to school uniform programme were implemented.

Projects such as Phepheni Disability Cooperative in ward 01 were supported with equipment for their sustainability and to be fully functional. We have also lobbied other sector departments such as SEDA and DEDEA to assist our special groups' cooperatives.

We were continuously setting aside a budget for the following programmes/projects for our special groups:-

- Back to School Programme
- Mayoral Cup for the Youth
- Youth mentorship programme (Music Talent Search)
- Support of Elderly and People living with disability projects etc

as identified by the special groups through their forums where all their interests and needs are advocated.

MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOLS LIBRARIES

The municipality with the budgeted amount of **R633 436.38** constructed and completed the upgrade and maintenance of Colana SP library. This project has been completed and was recently handed over to the community by myself and the municipal

leadership accompanied by the Department of Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture.

Umzimvubu Local Municipality has two libraries in KwaBhaca and eMaXesibeni Towns, four modular libraries with the following beneficiaries: Colana SPS, Dutyini Primary School, Ngwekazi SSS and Mabhobho A/A.

The Annual Readership is from 19000 – 20000 in these libraries.

Maintenance of Libraries

Fencing of KwaBhaca Library costed R111 300, 00.

Maintenance of Colana SPS Library costed R633 436, 00.

Maintenance of Dutyini Library costed R169 000, 00.

Grants received for libraries

Imali esithe sayifumana kule minyaka yokuphucula ezi libraries ithe yaxabisa ngolu hlobo:-

2017/18 - R300 000

2018/19 - R350 000

2019/20 - R650 000

2020/21 - R750 000

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Programme Director; It's pleasing to note that during this council term, Umzimvubu Local Municipality has been affirmed as the 3rd Greenest Local Municipality in South Africa. This announcement was made by the Department of Environmental Affairs, Fisheries and Forestry. The Municipality was awarded R2.5 Million for contributing a 60% support system towards the National GMC criteria used for the following categories:

- Clean and Green initiatives
- Budgetary support and equipment'

- Climate change & Energy recovery
- Awareness and Education
- Monitoring and enforcement mechanics

The Cleanest Town Competition (CTC) was initiated in 2001 with a primary focus in implementing the National Waste Management Strategy. The key elements were reducing, recycling and reusing waste materials.

Although the Cleanest Town Competition was fairly successful in achieving its primary objectives, developments within the greening movement require the modifications of the concept to embody other elements which are outside the waste management category.

This is an ongoing programme that is aimed at encouraging green initiatives from Local Municipalities in South Africa.

Ladies and Gentlemen; it is pleasing to note that, Umzimvubu Local Municipality has been recognized as the Greenest Local Municipality in the Eastern Province and was also recognized as the greenest local Municipality in the Alfred Nzo District. Indeed our efforts have not gone unnoticed and we continue to applaud the Municipalities green team for this historic achievement.

Fellow residents; In an effort to preserve a natural environment and claim a natural ecosystem, Umzimvubu Local Municipality reserved and established a 1.8 km Botanical Garden at EmaXesibeni. The initiative is aimed at addressing the issues of restoring ecosystems and widely contribute towards horticulture, biodiversity inventory, conservation biology, restoration ecology and ethnobotany.

The botanical garden will also collectively serve as a Local and District Municipality repository for documented plant material with at least one-third of all flowering plants maintained in living collections or seed banks. The total amount invested on the project is R1.5 million.

We have noted a significant improvement in terms of our waste collection strategy since its adoption in the 2020/2021 Financial Year. More than 2600 households were serviced yearly at a total amount of R10.8 million for the past five years. This includes but not limited to the purchasing of 550 240L wheelie bins in KwaBhaca and EmaXesibeni.

INDIGENT SUPPORT

Fellow residents, in understanding the financial situation of our people in our communities, for those who cannot afford, we once again urge indigent people to apply and register for the indigent assistance programme. A total amount of **R 20 million** was utilised for **Indigent Support during past 5 years** in all wards. A number of 14 890 indigent households for Electricity benefited, 9 135 beneficiaries for solar benefitted and 12 000 beneficiaries for Paraffin benefitted during this term of council.

SCHOOLS ICT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

During the past 5 years we awarded the top 10 best performing schools with a total of ten (10) computers each school, 3g card and a printer, as part of IT our annual Schools development program in recognizing excellence.

Bahlali abahloniphekileyo balo masipala, sithe safakela iWIFI yamahala kwiidolophu zombini zalomasipala, nalapho sithe safakela kwiindawo ezithi zisetyenziwe kakhulu ngabantu such as ii renki , iiholo, ngase ziibhankini and public libraries. ICT has also installed optic fiber at EmaXesibeni and KwaBhaca. This was followed by the installation of CCTV Cameras in eMaXesibeni and KwaBhaca in order to curb criminal activities in the area.

ICT has also enabled Umzimvubu community to access internet, WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook which has enabled the community to communicate more with the institution on Umzimvubu Face book page. This project was conducted at an amount of R 4,3 Million.

Furthermore, the municipality through its Experiential Trainee and Interns programme employed more than 25 trainees and ten (30) interns (youth) with the aim of reducing unemployment rate, and assisting them in obtaining a formal qualification.

The Municipality has further invested on **69 learners** through the Municipal Bursary programme. A pleasing number of **14 learners** have graduated from the programme, while **5 learners** have already been employed. An invested amount of **R 3.2 million** was set aside for this ongoing programme.

Fellow Councillors; allow me to encourage communities to participate fully in the decision making processes of the municipality and to contribute to the entire programs of the municipality.

As this administration, we owe a great debt to our municipal administration, who have supported and contributed to our work since we assumed office. It is their commitment to the principles of good governance, people centered service delivery and the maximisation of the democratic dividend that has carried us to this point.

We are immensely grateful for the rigorous support that we receive from Council in our collective bid to fulfil our respective mandates.

Madam Speaker; as we approach the end of the five year term of local government, let us ensure that we embark on a campaign to vote. Young people in particular, we urge you to vote on the 1st of November 2021. This is the only opportunity to vote in the important elections that will determine the future and wellbeing of our communities.

Programme Director; please allow me to express my sincere gratitude towards our Traditional Councils and Authorities with whom we have been working to ensure that ours is a Municipality that prioritises the livelihoods of all men and women – a Municipality that is deeply invested in building a responsive and modern public service

that fosters change towards building a better Umzimvubu. Their selfless dedication to the people of Umzimvubu is immeasurable.

I would like to also extend my sincere gratitude to the Ratepayers Association for their continuous support and devotion to all Municipal programmes. You have kept us on our toes and indeed we have come thus far because of the critical inputs that you shared towards building a progressive Municipality that we are today.

I'd further like to thank all CDWs, Civil Society Organisations, NPOs, NGOs, Council of Churches, Special Programmes Forums and Government Departments, without you, none of these achievements tabled here today would have been possible.

In conclusion, we have been honest about our challenges and humble about our achievements, for we recognise that they were made possible not only through our efforts alone, but because we stand on the shoulders of giants.

May God bless and protect the people of Umzimvubu and the rest of the country.

I THANK YOU!!!!