



**Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor,  
Cllr Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Public  
Participation Stakeholder engagement with People living with  
Disabilities and the Elderly held in Sedibeng, on the 10th March  
2011.**

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Programme Director

Our Elderly

Our mothers and guardians of Sedibeng

Setjhaba sa Sedibeng

Our Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

I bring you greetings from the Sedibeng District Municipality. It is as we enter the month of March 2011, the month which defines who we are as Sedibeng District Municipality. The month in which 51 years ago, the community of Sharpeville stood up to say to the entire world: Enough is enough, Africans in particular and South Africans in general can no longer stand the separation of brother from brother.

This led to the massacre of our people which heralded the Sharpeville Massacre. This act of selflessness has bestowed on us the honour of being the Cradle of Human Rights Struggles as well as the Constitutional home of South Africa.

It is my intention here today to provide the feedback to you as our important stakeholder as to what happened to your inputs you all made last year in October. Through the various IDP Public Participation process last year, we listened as you told us that which you wanted. We heard and recorded everything you wanted to be done by your Municipality.

A lot of our communities still have to be convinced that these stakeholder engagements work. I am here today to provide an answer so that all of you present here today may provide independent proof. We as Sedibeng District Municipality value your inputs. We are only as good as the quality of inputs we receive from you.

Last year in October, you our elderly raised the issue of providing schools and other facilities especially in Midvaal. I can tell now that the Municipality has brought this matter to the attention of the Department of Education. I believe with the rising numbers in the area, they will attend to this need soon.

The elderly also raises the need for CCTV cameras to be spread throughout other parts of the District. I know that this was raised because the elderly have seen the effect these have on the reduction of crime in the Region.

I can safely say that with the Optic Fibre network having had been replaced with wireless Transmission, it is possible to extend this service to other areas in the District. In the main, it is still our intention to ensure that Sedibeng is entirely covered.

I also wish to inform you that both Thorometsane and Sekwati Streets in Zone 7 were handed to the community on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January this year during the commemoration of the Nangalembe Massacre. Access and exit to Zone 7 is no longer affected by the rains like it was the case in the past years. In fact, traffic is redirecting itself through these new streets just to enjoy the ease with which they travel through our area.

The youth and people living with disabilities raised a very critical issue which affects the way they interacted with their own environment. You raised the issue of sewer works which were blocked and caused spillages of raw sewerages into our streets.

I am happy to announce that the matter is receiving attention from all spheres of government. The national, provincial as well as the

Municipality, finance has been secured to build new Regional Sewer works in Sedibeng. We will notice that since Sedibeng built more low cost housing than any other area in the entire country, our sewer infrastructure did not enjoy similar growth.

I am happy to inform that with the new sewer works being commissioned, Sedibeng will be best placed to increase the building of new human settlements going forward. These will be catered for by the investment into the new Regional Sewer works going forward.

The spillages of raw sewerage into our streets will become a thing of the past.

As part of our 100 Days Service Delivery Programme, we have ensured that the majority of people employed in the street paving projects were young people, both men and women. The completion of the Phelindaba Cemetery could not have been possible without the sub-contracting of work to a company which is owned by a contractor living with disability.

As the highest office, we have been involved in the burial of the 104 year old Nkgono Annah in Boitshepiville extension 04.

Suffice it to mention that together with the many other issues you raised last year, on the 03<sup>rd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> of February last week, a Strategic session

was held in Sedibeng to develop plans to deal with these matters. All the outstanding matters will receive our attention and will find expression in our planning.

In conclusion, I wish to inform that this current IDP 2011/2012, is a bridging IDP. This is unlike the other five year IDP's, is only for the next financial year. This is made so with a view to allow the new political leadership which will be elected in May, the space to develop their own priorities with you.

It is my hope and wish that you will be there to walk the long road with the Council which will be elected then. I have no doubt in my mind that you have indeed registered to vote and I know for sure that you are going to vote. Your presence here today is greatly appreciated.

I Thank You.