



**Opening and Welcome Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality,
Executive Mayor Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the
Sedibeng Investment Conference Gala Dinner held at the Riverside
Hotel in Vanderbijlpark, Sedibeng, on the 07th April 2011.**

Programme Director: Mr Siphon Nwenya;

Honourable Premier Nomvula Mokonyane;

Executive Mayors Present;

Council Speakers Present;

Councillors;

Our Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Our Esteemed Partner: Gauteng Economic Development Agency

I bring you greetings from Sedibeng District Municipality. The entire communities of Emfuleni Local Municipality as well as Lesedi Local Municipality, sends their regards. Earlier today, we earlier today had the opportunity to showcase the opportunities which Sedibeng offered to the

potential investors. I know for a fact that most of them are keen to take up the opportunities which were later presented.

The manner in which the National Treasury and the Gauteng Economic Development Agency is driving this initiatives, lends itself to serious influx of investments in Sedibeng, coupled with the development the likes of which has never been seen in the entire country for an area s unique as Sedibeng.

Sedibeng District Municipality had to break the mold in the development of the plans which has seen the keen interest from the National Treasury as well as the support and commitment of the Gauteng legislature under the sterling leadership of our Premier, Honourable Nomvula Mokonyane. We cannot fail, we dare not fail, we will succeed. Your support guarantees our success. Our communities are looking forward to this success.

What we have in Sedibeng, demands from us to provide and develop a growth path that is best suited to our unique environment. We have already shared with all that we have in Sedibeng that everybody else does not have.

To take advantage of these unique features in Sedibeng, a vehicle of a special type had to be developed. If you are to travel into the rugged mountains of Ukhahlamba, the Drakensburg for those of us who are initiated, it will not help you to drive in a family sedan.

You will need a vehicle which will take on the rugged hills and valleys within its stride. To do all this, Sedibeng had to develop its own special vehicle. This vehicle has the ability to take us through uncharted terrains. It will bring us our destination with success assured.

It is manned by men and women of strength of character, forged hard and tough in the furnace of the ever evolving world in which we live. They bring with them the experience of pioneers and captains who sailed through turbulent seas, men and women who belled the cat and lived to tell the tale.

I have the distinct pleasure and honour to announce to this august event, the Sedibeng Investment Conference and Exhibition, The Sedibeng Mayoral Investment Council. This esteemed body came about after an extensive soul searching and many sleepless nights of planning.

It is after many months of planning and communications, attempts of finding each other in the dark, passing each other like ships in the midst of a storm at night, we were able to find each other, hold hands tight and forge a vision and path for the future of Sedibeng.

It is my pleasure and with great pride that I take this opportunity to thank the leading men and women who constitute the Sedibeng Mayoral Investment Council for the challenging task they so willingly performed. Sedibeng is a

better place today for your efforts, Sedibeng stands at the threshold of a great future because of you.

On behalf of the communities of Sedibeng, from far and wide, from the suburbs and the townships, from the farmlands and the riverbanks, from the hills and the valleys, kindly accept our gratitude and appreciation for the great work you have done and the promise of greater things yet to come from you.

I Thank You