



**LOCAL MUNICIPALITY  
IKAMVA ELIQAQAMBILEYO**

**STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS &  
TABLING OF BUDGET SPEECH 2023-2024**

**WARD 11 TINANA J.S.S -31 MAY 2023**

*Presented by: her Worship the Mayor MPS Leteba*

**Madam Speaker**

**Honourable Councillors**

**Traditional Leaders serving in the council**

**Leadership of the African National Congress – the Ruling Party**

**Leadership of all political parties represented in the council**

**Representatives of Sector Departments**

**Municipal Manager, Directors and all officials of the municipality**

**CDWs and ward committee members**

**Distinguished guests**

**The people of Ward 11 and the entire community of Elundini**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

We are gathered here today at a time when crime in our country has reached alarming proportions. Every day we wake up to the news of people having been shot at or children missing, only for their bodies to be found later with some parts missing. The current unbelievable story of the escape from the prison of Thabo Bester and the smuggling of a corpse into the prison cell as a cover-up have really portrayed a bad picture of our country internationally.

**Madam Speaker.** We need to ask ourselves “kwenzekani ngexesha lokukhokhela neloku thandaza kwethu. Kutheni ixabiso lobomi bomntu lento lehle kangaka’

The recent torrential rains which, at first, we thought were bringing relief to the shortage of water in most parts of the country have unfortunately brought despair to both the government and the people of this country. Road infrastructure has been damaged and houses have been washed away or demolished. The community of Elundini have been the hardest hit due to the fact that we remain with high unemployment and social grant

dependency. Our people will never be able to repair the damaged houses on their own and as government, we must make means to emancipate them from the unbearable conditions they find themselves in.

**Madam Speaker.** This council declared a disaster after noticing the extent of damages caused by the rains. Data in relation to damaged roads and bridges had been submitted to the provincial government and we are still waiting for assistance as a National Disaster was declared paving way for assistance to be channelled to affected communities. Ward councillors have submitted and are continuing to submit data in relation to households that have been affected by the disaster.

**Honourable Councillors.** To enhance our democracy, it is vital that we always work with our communities in whatever we are doing. The reviewed IDP that I will be tabling before this council is a product of our intense consultation with our communities. In February 2022 as this council, we visited all the wards requesting our communities and stakeholders to make inputs to the IDP. Again this year in April we visited all wards wherein we tabled the draft IDP and Budget which has taken into account the views of the communities. Unfortunately, Elundini Local Municipality is a rural municipality with a tiny revenue base characterised by non-payment of services by our communities. We are a grant-dependent municipality and over the years there has been a reduction in the grants that we get from the Treasury. As this council, we have to try and make means we the little that we have.

**Madam Speaker.** During our engagements with the communities in the wards, people have consistently been asking for ward budgets. I want to explain to everybody here that due to limited financial resources, it remains impossible that Elundini Local Municipality can have ward budget. Prioritisation of projects is based on the availability of budget and the cost of the intended project as well as its impact in the community.

**Madam Speaker.** I must, however, thank the people of Elundini for their participation in the affairs of the government and the municipality in particular. The overwhelming support displayed through the attendance at the recent IDP Roadshows show that our communities remain eager to support their development. I must, however, state Honourable Councillors that there are still people who attend community meetings to push their hidden agendas and try to disrupt meetings. While the Constitution guarantees freedom of opinion and no one

should force other people to take his or her opinion. This means if in your opinion a community meeting is not assisting you then don't disrupt the meeting because in other people's opinion, the meeting is helpful. There is a growing tendency of people residing in other provinces who come and cause unrest in our area when they are on holiday.

Most of the projects that we promised our communities when I delivered the State of The municipality Address in Ngxaza JSS in Ward 5 last year have been completed.

The council was able to electrify 540 households at Kuebong, Nkobongo and Tabase villages.

The construction of 10 kms of link line that connected Nkobongo village and upgrading of 7 electrical networks;

Construction of 10,15 kms of access roads at Nqanqarhu, Nkululekweni, Castle Rocks and Sithana;

Construction of Phumulong ECDC, Lower Tsitsa ECDC, Ugie Public Toilets;

Maintenance of 174.9 kms of access roads and 100% of urban roads;

Maintenance of 100% of stormwater drainage;

Collection of refuse from commercial and residential properties on a weekly basis;

Support to 12 SMMEs in construction;

Support to 10 youth-owned enterprises and 5 women-owned enterprises;

Creation of 518 job opportunities through the CWP and EPWP programs are some of the projects that we managed to implement in the previous year.

**Madam Speaker.** I must indicate that for the year 2021/2022 which is the last audited financial year, as a municipality we achieved 50% of the overall targets that we set ourselves. We have also regressed in the audit outcomes as we received an unqualified opinion with findings.

**Honourable Councillors.** This could be attributed to the fact that during this period most of our Senior Managers had their contracts coming to an end and our administration had vacancies in critical positions we are all geared up to change the situation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen.** From our consultations with all the communities in the various wards of the municipality and having considered our expected income for the coming year, here are planned projects for the year 2023/2024:

- Surfacing of 2 kms of Tlokoeng Urban Roads and storm water drainage in ward 9 at a cost of R10,6 million.
- Construction of Sportsfield (phase 2) in ward 14 at a cost of R10,3 million.
- Planning and designs of 2,5 km of Ephainette Mbeki Access Road in ward 9 at a cost of R450 thousand.
- Planning and designs of 2,5 kms of Access road from R56 to Khalankomo in ward 9 at a cost of R500 thousand
- Planning and designs of 2 kms of Xaxazana Special School Access road in ward 11 at a cost of R593 thousand
- Planning and designs of 6 kms of West Hoek Access Road in ward 10 at a cost of R500 thousand
- Planning and designs of 6,71 kms of Katlehong and Ilisolomzi township streets in ward 9 at a cost of R3 million.
- Planning and designs of 1,7 kms of Thutsing Access road in ward 14 at a cost of R500 thousand.
- Planning and designs of 2 kms of Seqhobong Access road in ward 13 at a cost of R476 thousand
- Surfacing of 3,23 kms of Ugie Park Streets and storm water drainage in ward 2 at a cost of R7,2 million
- Surfacing of 5,84 kms of Greenfields streets and storm water drainage in ward 17 at a cost of R10,8 million
- Upgrading of Hopedale Sportsfields (phase 1 & 2) in ward 6 at a cost of R4,6 million

- Planning and designs of 4,48 kms of Delibango via Maweni Access road in ward 1 at a cost of R500 thousand

Madam Speaker. This council is still committed to providing electricity to all households. During the year 2023/2024 the following connections will be made:

- 178 connections and associated MV&LV infrastructure in Top Blocks in ward 4 at a cost of R3,5 million
- 86 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Xaxazana Zone 14 in ward 10 at a cost of R1,2 million
- 80 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Skote Village in ward 10 at a cost of R1,1 million
- 59 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Esilindini village in ward 10 at a cost of R1,4 million
- Construction of link line connecting Esilindini village in ward 10 at a cost of R1,2 million
- 71 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Mahemeng village (Iketleng) in ward 10 at a cost of R1,7 million
- 67 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Westhoek village in ward 10 at a cost of R1,6 million
- Construction of 5 km link line connecting Westhoek in ward 10 at a cost of R1, 8 million

Ladies and Gentlemen. There are households that have been established after we had already provided electricity in some villages. In the next coming financial year, the municipality will make connections to the following extensions:

- 40 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Mbidlana village in ward 17 at a cost of R720 thousand
- 38 connections and Associated MV&LV infrastructure in Gqaqhala village in ward 15 at a cost of R684 thousand

This makes the total budget for electricity connections for next year to be R17,1 million

Madam Speaker. Our roads continue to be damaged by heavy-loaded trucks driving across our towns. The council has also noted with concern the increase in road carnage caused by unattended livestock roaming our roads. The council has also noted the challenge faced by our people who have to go to places like Mthatha and Elliot to have their vehicles tested for roadworthy and to get tested for driver's licences themselves. To address these, the council will in the 2023/2024 financial year implement the following projects:

- Construction of a weighbridge in Ugie at a cost of R1,5 million
- Construction of landfill site in Ugie at a cost of R2,1 million
- Upgrading of DLTC in Nqanqarhu at a cost of R800 thousand
- Construction of pound facility in Ugie at a cost of R8 million
- The provision parks in Tlokoeng at a cost of R5 million

Ladies and Gentlemen. As I have indicated before, the heavy rains that we have experienced in the past months have damaged our roads. The council will continue with its road maintenance program to keep our roads in a usable state. In the 2023/24 financial year road maintenance will be implemented as follows:

- 26 kms of road maintenance in ward 13 in Seqhobong, Ntoko, Gqwathi. Mangoloaneng, Mncetyana, Kuebong, Sethathi-Mashata, Lower Nxotshana, Mohoabatsane and maluti
- 29 kms in ward 12 in Popopo, Lehlakaneng, Makgaditseng, Thabatlala, Setaka, Moleko, Ntabayikhonjwa, Ngoliloe, Mahanyaneng
- 26 kms in ward 11 in Tinana-Gobho, Thambekeni-Ntatyani, Dengwane, Mvumane, Fletcherville, Special school, Mafusini, Tabase
- 22 kms in ward 10 in Mahemeng, Braki, Mpharane, Mathafeni-Dzingwa, Xaxazana-Sondaba SPS, Tsolobeng SPS, Mbambangwe-Zwelitsha, Zingonyameni

- 37 kms in ward 15 in Tsekong, Makguleng, Kgalatsu, Tsolobeng-lower Tokoana, Road through Lehana, Nkululekweni, Koyloanong, Liphakoeng, Liphofung
- 39 kms in ward 14 in Upper Tokoana, Gxwaleni, Bethania, Diketong, Thabakhobelu, Vuvu, Zindawo, Phirintsu, Kwaxabadiya, Gasethi, Sithabathaba, Liphokong, Phuting, Zanyeni

Madam Speaker. This council is committed to assisting young people, people with disabilities and women to develop themselves. To achieve this, we have budgeted R1 million for youth development. R603 thousand has been budgeted for empowering women. R200 thousand has been budgeted for empowering people with disabilities. R363 thousand has been budgeted for the Mayors Social Investment which also includes the bursary fund.

The council will again continue to assist in the Local Economic Development so as to see our people realising their dreams. To achieve this, a total of R3,7 million has been budgeted for SMME training, support to informal hawkers, support to masonry project, certification of communal farmers shearing sheds for international standards, implementation of Rock Art Development etc.

Madam Speaker. Once again, I want to reiterate that Elundini Local Municipality is a rural municipality with a very tiny revenue base. We depend on grant funding and the service delivery requirements keep on growing. We urge our communities and stakeholders to close ranks at the village level with the municipality in terms of information sharing, planning and monitoring. In recent weeks, our offices have been inundated with petitions for a lot of issues. Some of these issues should be debated and addressed at the village meeting level or at the ward committee meeting level. I therefore urge all of you here today to ensure that the platforms created for you to participate in governance are in actual fact used to the maximum.

**Madam Speaker.** We should remove our hats in salute to our employee, Mr Tebello Poni, an Electrical Artisan who passed on 19 April 2023. To him, we say **Rest in Peace**

**Madam Speaker, Honourable Councillors and Traditional Leaders, Ladies and Gentlemen**



I therefore present the attached:

- Final IDP for the year 2023/2024
- Final budget for the year 2023/2024 and the two outer years
- Budget Related Policies
- Proposed Organogram

For adoption by this council

I Thank You