



IDP REVIEW (INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN)

2014/15

THULAMELA MUNICIPALITY

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABET- Adult Basic Education and Training

ART- Anti Retroviral Treatment

CBD- Central Business District

CIIP- Comprehensive Infrastructure Investment Plan

CO- Carbon Monoxide

COGHSTA- Department of Corporative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs

CPF's- Community Policing Forums

DBSA- Development Bank of Southern African

DWAF- Department of Water Affairs

FBE- Free Basic Electricity

FBW- Free Basic Water

ICT- Information and Communication Technology

IDP- Integrated Development Plan

ITP- Integrated Transport

LED- Local Economic Development

LGTAS- Local Government Turnaround Strategy

LSEN- Learners with Special Needs

MGP- Municipal Growth Points

MH4- Methane

MRM- Moral Regeneration Movement

NGO- Non- Governmental Organisations

NOX- Nitrogen Oxides

OHS- Occupational Assistance Programme

PR- Political Representative

RDP- Redistribution Development Programme

SALGA- South African Local Government Association

SAPS- South African Police Services

SDBIP- Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan

SONA- State of the Nation Address

SOPA- State of the Provincial Address

VDM- Vhembe District Municipality

VOC- Volatile Organic Compounds

MAYOR'S FOREWORD

Once again we present the Thulamela Municipality`s annual report to our communities. The report before us addresses initiatives taken by the municipality to execute its duties, the responsibility and mandate to provide to you information about extensive work we have done, executed in pursuit of the mandate given by you the citizens of Thulamela.

In line with the national government `s call, the municipality adopted its integrated development plan and Budget allocation to respond to key priorities of government.

Regarding service delivery the following has been achieved: Housing allocations for 2012/13 financial year is 2113 and an additional 50 emergency houses were granted. In electricity an added commitment has been made with other financial institutions regarding electricity connections, Thulamela municipality assures its communities that Universal Electricity Access will be achieved by the year 2014. In roads 43.9km roads were gravelled and 816.92 maintained of which 14, 6 km covers new roads constructed in 2012/2013 financial year. In local Economic development 789q job opportunities were also created.

The municipality adopted strategic priorities during 2012/2013 financial year that were geared to ensure service delivery and institutional transformation, local economic development, municipal development and institutional transformation, good governance and public participation.

These strategic priorities have specific priorities to realise the vision and mission of the municipality. Through our revised vision, we aim at achieving a city status by the year 2030, to promote urban regeneration and comprehensive rural development whilst encouraging local economic development to improve the quality of lives of our people. The extensive engagement with our communities in various forums flowing from stakeholders meetings such as traditional leaders `s forum, mayoral public participation, public participation outreach program as part of the IDP process assisted in the successful delivery of services for the period under review.

We will continue with our vision to ensure that our strategic priorities in partnership with other stakeholders are achieved. We will further continue to uphold our strategic partnership with the department of energy on electrification projects in order to achieve universal access to electricity.

In conclusion, the reflection of journey travelled in 2012/2013 is satisfactory, although we admit that had it not been the challenge of budget constraints we could have done more.

Thulamela Vision

We, the people of Thulamela would like our Municipality to Achieve a city status by 2030, to promote urban regeneration and comprehensive rural development whilst encouraging Local economic Development to improve the quality of lives of our People.

Thulamela Mission

We build prosperity, eradicate poverty and promote social, political and economic empowerment of all our people through delivery of quality services, community participation, local economic development and smart administration

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S OVERVIEW

Reported in this report are activities and/or programmes undertaken by the municipality, in its attempts to attend to service delivery challenges affecting its communities over the time under review. This is done on the basis of and relative to the programmes or plans developed and adopted by council after a thorough process of community consultation process during the IDP outreach program and the imbizo's held in respect of the period under consideration

We continue to stand header and shoulder above many municipalities of our size and generation because of the creativity we infuse in executing our responsibilities. Our participation in the CESA Competition through our unique traffic circle of the neighbourhood project is a case in point, amongst many projects. Communities even beyond our municipal boundaries reap the benefits from our efforts. An example of this is the Greater Tubatse that used our approach in electricity to get fending from national treasury. We were unformed last year by the former Minister of Energy that Cabinet has adopted what is called the Vhembe model in its attempts to fast track electrification of communities and this model is Thulamela' s approach. Right from the outset we need to indicate that we still have many challenges that from defences us. Amongst those are the Thononda issue and the demand for a municipality in Malamulele.

In the area a Thononda where there is 24 hours supply of water (H₂O) but still have people who are prevented to enjoy this basic right on account of them not paying dues to the community based structures. Several attempt bore no fruit. We continue to such possible solutions in consultation with the SAPS as this matter falls outside the ambit of service delivery. It is more of law enforcement than service delivery. Municipal vehicle was damaged by some of these community base structures as our functionaries were trying to provide a solution to this unfortunate development.

In respect of a demand for a separate municipality what should be liaison is that the municipality has nothing to do with the demarcation and or re-demarcation or vest any area with the authority of power to be a separate municipality. It is the responsibility of the municipal Demarcation Board. The longer the challenge remained unresolved, the long the subsistence of the challenges incidental to it. The direct effect it had is that the affected communities became despondent and reluctant to pay for services.

We reported last year that the neighborhood projects in Malamulele were stopped because of court challenges. It is pleasing and feels good to report that the court found in our favor and the service providers went back on site to proceed with their work. This is in spite of the part that we will still have to deal with the problem of stoppage time payments.

The Sibasa taxi rank also present a serious challenge in that the joint venture partners ended up get to court for resolution of a squabble between them. The municipality could release the entire site to the contractors. This present a serious technical and logical problem because we could no Pure the service provide on the basis of win performance as

they would claim that had the site been 100% released to them they would have delivered. This project contributed to our under spending on this project.

In the area of financial sustainability, the municipality still has to do more. We had hoped that the issue of electricity license would be finalized by now. The minutes of Energy had committed herself to working with us to hasten the pace of resolving this matter. We did all that was possible to that end. SALGA Limpopo took over the process and ordered that the municipality and local Eskom had to agree on the areas that should be licenced. A meeting of the municipality and Eskom was organised. We agreed on all the R2 townships. When we were hoping that the major stumbling block was out of our way Eskom delayed it further by not going back to the SALGA process. We seem to be relying on Eskom's pace.

We proposed that we should put pressure on SALGA for them to fast track this process.

The Audit Committee is shared with VDM. The chairperson resigned in the second quarter of the year and that cast a dark cloud on the committee as it was not clear what was going to happen particularly because the person who was chosen to replace him also resigned after about three months. We struggled for some time before the committee could be stabilized. It was only in fourth quarter that the position was filled. By the close of the financial year the committee was well on course.

The delays in the implementation of the Malamulele part of the neighbourhood meant that treasury had to take a decision to withdrawn funding to that project of this is not changed, it will mean that some of the activities earmarked to be part of the project will suffer. As an attempt to get the matter addressed several meetings were held but not avail. The matter has been escalated to the presidency in the office of Minister OC Chavani. An official response is get to be received.

Our indigent policy continued to be our tool through which households that hard pressed for resources are assisted. The challenge though is the sizeable number of our people did not submit completed forms. Also the annual submission of their completed forms is proving to be a serious challenge. It is on his bans that there are proposals that it be biannually to save on situational and also to do away with the annually completion of the forms.

ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Our organogram is reviewed annually with the view to make necessary adjustment to give effect to the adopted IDP and its focus. It has become common course now that the municipality's growth and development need to be assisted with a sharper instrument if we have to keep this momentum. It was hinted in the recent past arrival report that the position of the CFO and that of the union will need to be given more capacity by appointing respective deputy managers.

This has not been possible because of financial constraints. We remain convinced that will be route to go, resources permitting.

GOVERNANCE

Mandatory community and stakeholder consultation proved all our IDPs. This approach assists community stakeholders to be to input into the programs that get developed and adopted by the municipality. What remains a challenge is the failure by the sector departments to honour our invitations. Imbizo are also another avenue through which communities are afforded an opportunity to interact with and engaged the municipality.

We have been able to effect some changes in the PMS by getting it to be facilitated from the corporate services department. All indications are that it is better organised and properly manned. We seem however to be in need of additional personnel to give it life necessary to match challenges faced.

We share Fraud and Corruption toll free line with the VDM. By the end of the term under consideration we had not received any report. It could be because of the fact that the number is still unknown to many community members.

The municipality has been affected by bad publicity resulting from one middle manager who got arrested for fraud and corruption in the area of the issuing driver's licences and flouting established procedures in do so. The affected official has been charged and was still undergoing disciplinary hearing process by the close of the financial year.

Contrary to misguided perceptions by some people, the official has been charged solely on account of his own deeds. It would have been wrong and improper for any person to use state resources and authority to pursue their own selfish end. We are called upon by the laws of this country to take the route taken in this matter once there are signs or developments similar to those of the cited manager. This must be done without fear or favour. We should call upon any person with evidence suggesting that it is witch hunting.

It is worth clarify that the burden or..... of proof demand in a criminal case is different from that in a disciplinary process. In a criminal case it must be proven beyond reasonable doubt whereas in a dc and or civil case is the

preponderance of probability. This critical to assist the public and all of us to know that the fact that a person is not convicted in the court of law is in material for purposes of the internal hearing.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND WEBSITE.

As attended to above we have had a number of meetings in which communities were informed about our programmes and reports on challenges faced in the implementation of venue. Our website is now up and up and running and the number of people using it is increasing steadily. Our weakness has been the fact that the position of manager IT remained vacant for a period longer than we had expected, necessitate by the fact that it is one of the rare skill especially at middle management level.

The position has since been advertised and it is dropped that it will be filled in the not so distant future.

Our newsletter was adversely affected by the capacity of the service provided who was Unable in certain instances to get it produced timeously with the result that it got some of the information made available later that would have been performed.

This challenge result from how the service provider are awarded. The practice of late has been to put more emphasis on the lowest price. We are fully aware of the fact that this is derived from statutes, but if this is allowed to have a dominant

inference on who gets to be recommended the result become too ghastly. Similar example are the securing of a lift in the old municipal building, the calendars and diaries for this calendar year.

Those involved in the process need to be rigorous in the implementation of this policy. If not it will have a lot of unintended consequences.

Councillors

Our municipality has 80 councillors, composed by 40 ward councillors and the remaining 40 being proportional. The ANC has the highest representation in council with only one ward controlled by the PAC. Traditional leaders also have their fair share of representation. A significant number of councillors from the ANC had to resign in line with the party's policy to avoid duality. That also had an impact as fresh elections had to be reorganized to fill the void left by those who hearkened their party.