



RAYMOND
MHLABA
MUNICIPALITY
.....
UMANYANO KUPHHLISO

MAYOR: CLLR NOMHLE SANGO

STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS

MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS, ALICE

11 SEPTEMBER 2025

Honourable Speaker, Cllr Thozama Ngaye

Mfundisi obekekileyo, Rev Nyoni

linkosi zelizwe lakowethu

linkokheli ezisuka kumbutho We Sizwe, iAfrican National Congress

USodolophu wesithili sase Amathole ,Cllr Anele Ntsangani

Oogxa bama abango Sodolophu abaphuma kwabanye oomasipala

Honourable Chief Whip, Cllr Nonkazimlo Mlamla

Members of the Executive Committee

Chairperson of Municipal Public Accounts Committee, Cllr Zikhona Tyali

Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees

Honourable Councillors

linkokheli zemibutho yezo Politiko ezikunye nathi eBhungeni

Amaqhawe kunye namaqgala omzabalazo

**Umphathi ka Masipala uNkosazana u Unathi Malinzi ephahlwe yi Senior Management
yakhe**

Leaders of our academic institutions (University of Fort Hare, Lovedale College and Fort Cox
Agricultural Institute)

Leaders from all government institutions and entities

Leaders from the business fraternal

Representatives from civic and fraternal organisations

Representatives from the taxi industry

Distinguished Guest

Amalungu efamily yam

Ndibulise kuluntu jikelele olusuka mbombo zone zalapha eRaymond Mhlaba Municipality

Somlomo We Bhunga

Ndivumele ukuba ndithathe eli thuba lokuba ndibulele wonke umntu ozinike ithuba lokuzimasa lo mhlangotho wethu ubaluleke kangaka. Le mini yanamhlanje yenye yemini ezikhethekileyo kwi political calendar yethu kuba siyibekele bucala ukuba sikwazi ukudakanca iState of the Municipality Address.

Therefore, it is my honour and privilege to present before you the 2025/2026 State of the Municipality Address.

Thina bantu baphuma ku mbutho We Sizwe, sinenkolo yokuba, yi privelege ukhokela abantu kuba enyanisweni kona, into yokukhokela abantu yona is not an automatic right. Ngabantwana begazi kuphela abantu abane birthright yokukhokela kodwa ke thina bantu banyulwa bangabantu, it will always remains a privelege to lead people hence our loyalty to the people must be sacrosanct.

1.Our Core Mandate

This is our 3rd State of the Municipal Address as this Council and we are at the tail end of our term of office since our deployment in 2021. Our collective leadership was given a clear mandate **ngumbutho We Sizwe ukuba masizise iinkonzo ebantwini ingakumbi impula zikalujaca.** Therefore, **thina zinkokheli zalapha eRaymond Mhlaba Municipality**, we have been intentional in implementing our political mandate which is mainly centred on the maintaining **unity and cohesion.**

1.1 Unity and Cohesion

- Throughout our term of office, we have successfully managed to sustain a stable political environment hence we can confirm that we have stability in our Council
- **Eyona nto isenza ukuba sibe firm and steadfast kulo mcimbi** we unity and cohesion as the political leadership **kukuba xa ipolitical leadership iunited**, it is able to succeed in providing oversight **kwi adminsistration**
- **Masiyenze ingxelo etshoyo kuni bantu bakuthi ukuba thina apha eRaymond Mhlaba Municipality, sikwazile ukuba siqinise ubudlelwane phakathi kwe administrative arm kunye ne political arm , lento kuthiwa yi political dichotomy** because in many parts of the country, **oyena nobangela wokusilela kwenkonzo** arises of out of the gaps between the political and administrative arm

- **Siyakwazi ke ukuzingca sisesikhokelo salo rhulumente kuba xa sisonke apha eBhungeni siyaqhubeka nokubonakalisa** icommitment to change and improve the physical, infrastructural and material outlook of our municipality **ukuze kutshintshe impilo zabant bakuthi**
- **Kungethamsanqa ke ukuba thina apha kulo Masipala ukhokelwa ngu Mbutho WeSizwe, asikabinazo iepisodes ze** disunity which at times lead to chaos and anarchy
- **Masiyibethelele into yokuba** we have no luxury of time except to provide services because our own people demand services and they demand them now and not tomorrow.
- It is within this context that we want to assure the public that as this Council, our priority and commitment is to provide quality services to our own communities **kuba ubukho bethu apha kweli Bhunga, kukuzisa inkonzo kubantu bakuthi, QHA QWABA**

2. Milestones and Achievements

Somlomo, mandithathe elithuba lokuba ndenze ireflections nge overall performance yethu singu Masipala siphinde kwakhona sinike ingqwalesela nentlonipho kwabo baqhubeka nokuphakamisa igama le Raymond Mhlaba Municipality kumabakala ngamabakala.

- **UMasipala wethu ungomnye bomasipala abambalwa apha ephondweni nabathathwa njengokuba ba stable ngokwe characterisation ka COGTA kuba saphuma kudala kula characterisation yo Masipala aba dysfunctional.**
- We continue to develop and maintain a credible IDP for the past five years
- We have maintained a solid competency in tabling a funded budget for the past consecutive years and this demonstrate an improved progress and strength of our financial management system
- **Kwakhona ukuzama ukubonisa ukuba ngokwenene,** our financial management system has significantly improved, **sigqithe ifinancial years ezimbini ezilandelanayo sizenzela ngokwethu iAnnual Financial Statements,** a great leap of improvement from our administration
- As a way of affirming **ukuba** indeed, we have a functional and efficient administration, **kwicandelo le EPWP, uMasipala wethu unqekqeza phambili apha eAmathole ngokuba une** best practices and performances of the EPWP **kwaye sikwi ndawo yesithathu apha ePhondweni**
- **Masikhumbuzane ukuba sine tyala elikhulu lika ESKOM hence** we applied for a Debt Relief Programme and was approved by the National Treasury.

Masiyitsho into yokuba siyazama ke ukuba sibe ngabantu aba compliant kwi guidlenies ze Debt Relief Programme ka ESKOM

- **Ukubonakalisa ukuba** we have been compliant with the Debt Relief guidelines, ESKOM approved 1/3 (amounting to R 99 million written off) of the debt and receive grant in kind for the installation of smart meters for electricity.
- In line with our commitment to maintain and preserve waste management, we adopted an Integrated Waste Management Plan which is a blueprint for safeguarding the environmental outlook and consecutively, the municipality has won the greenest award in the Amathole District Municipality
- **Siyazidla kakhulu nge performance yethu kwi grants kuba kule minyaka iliqela ingaphambili**, we have been consistent in spending 100% of our infrastructural grant allocation in the form of both MIG and INEP and therefore, throughout the years, our projects are completed within the defined timelines.
- **Nangona sinengxaki yokushokexeka kwezimali, kodwa ke siyazama ukuba kubekhona** iacceleration in the upgrading of critical roads, electrification of households, building of community halls and provision of housing services across the municipality
- We must also emphasize that we have established a functional IGR platform wherein government and its entities are able to seat to strengthen collaboration so as to improve functionality and coordination
- To elaborate further on the narrative that our IGR is functional, we have not only reviewed our MoU with the University of Fort Hare but operationalised it because we have solidified our strategic partnership and collaborative efforts **kunye no Nokheleji**
- In line with our commitment to improve stakeholders management , we entered into a tripartite MoU with Service SETA and Lovedale FET College signifying the completion of the newly-constructed state of the art Alice Skills Development Centre **lena siyivulayo namhlanje**
- Through the partnership with DSRAC , we launched and celebrated the renaming of Fort Beaufort town to KwaMaqoma, Fort Beaufort Museum and Library to KwaMaqoma Museum and Library respectively

2.1. Education

- The Amathole West District continues to improve its performance considering the 4% improvement pass rate from the 2024 academic year and we have confidence that the Amathole West District will increase the overall pass rate for the 2025 academic year
- **Kule minyaka ingaphambili**, we had schools that have achieved 100 % pass rate consecutively, **kodwa ke le Matric class ka 2024 sibe ne** increased number of schools achieving 100% from 3 in 2023 to 8 ku 2024 (Tamsanqa SSS, Dilizintaba SSS, Kubusie Combined, Winterberg Agricultural School, Gushiphela SS, Dalubuhle SSS, Lonwabo SSS, and Mpambani Mzimba High School)
- Our jubilation **ngezi 100% pass rate results kwi Matric class ka 2024** is that majority of the schools are located in our remote villages with uneasy socio-economic conditions **kodwa ke** against all odds, **abantwana bethu bakwazile ukusenza proud**
- **Sinethembe lokuba, the Matric Class of 2025 WILL DO US PROUD**

2.2. Sport

- **Sisoloko sisithi gqolo ukuba sibe yinxalenye ye Annual Ngumbela Cricket Tournament kwaye le programme yenye ye programme ezibalulekileyo kwi sporting calander sethu hence kula veki yokuqala ka January nyaka-nanyaka.**
- **Masiwenze umbulelo omkhulu kwi family ka tata uNgumbela nge commitment kunye ne dedication ekuqinisekeni ukuba we continue to** maintain and sustain his lasting legacy by ensuring that this tournament remains vibrant.
- **Masiphinde sibulele kwakhona ku tata uSiyabulela Moko ngala tournament yakhe that is drawing thousands of sports lovers kula period ye Easter Weekend. Siyayazi ukuba zintle isporting activites ezenzekayo phaya eMoko Sports Grounds kwaye we** fully appreciate the contribution that Mr Moko continues to do in uplifting **izinga lezemidlalo kule ngingqi yethu**
 - We are also proud **ngegalelo lika Lincoln Mali nongumseki we tumemente ye rugby** apho izikolo zethu bezidlala nezinye zase,Tinarha kunye nase Gqeberha. iThubalethu High School ibethwe kwi finals kulo tournament that received a wide coverage from the TV stations and we are made to believe that 2 of the Thubalethu leaners are already in Germany representing the Mzwandile Mali XV School Rugby
 - On the 7th June 2025, we successfully hosted the Raymond Mhlaba Municipality Mayor's Cup. We are happy with the progress made **kuba kulo nyaka, sikwazile**

ukuba amabhaso alingane kuzo zonke isporting codes ze males and females. Ezi changes were necessitated by our commitment to gender equity and levelling the playing fields. These are strides that we commit to make in changing the outlook of sport

- **Njengokuba siyazi ukuba yonke imidlalo yethu iphantsi kolawulo lwe Raymond Mhlaba Sport Council**, and we will continue to provide adequate support for the common good of the sporting community as we have a responsibility of working together.
- **Kwakhona masilincome igalelo elenziwe yenye ye rugby teams zalapha KwaMaqoma ekuthiwa yi Fort Beaufort United kuba baye banyukela ngasentla** as they are currently playing in the Super League. We are very proud of this great milestone as it repositions our area as designated sporting community.
- **Masiphinde sivuyisane kunye no Sabelo Jobo nongomnye wabantwana bethu othe waphumelela indawo yesithathu kumdlalo Ukhokho nongumdlalo oyi indigenous game.** uSabelo Jobo went on to represent our country in China where these games took place
- It is our desired commitment to ensure that young people continue to be actively involved in sport because sport is one of the viable instruments that we must continue to use ukubakhupha kwindawo ezigwenxa

3. Commitment to the Implementation and realisation of National Performance Areas

Somlomo we Bhunga, kubalulekile ukuba sikhumbuzane ukuba lo Masipala wethu uneminyaka elithoba kuba wakhiwa ngonyaka ka 2016. Therefore, we are committed towards the realisation of the 5 National Performance Areas. **Kubalulekile ukuba sigxininise kwinto yokuba singu masipala** that has developed a culture which embodies a commitment to the implementation of a clean administration, championed by good governance, and this commitment continues to be our driving force.

3.1. Good Governance and Public Administration

- **Besitshilo ekuqaleni ukuba, umasipala wethu unorhulumento oluzinzileyo kuba** we have effective governance structures with functional political and administrative systems

- **Sine Council kunye ne Committees ezi fully functional kuba ziyahlala** as per the guiding legislative frameworks. **Ithi ke loonto iBhunga lethu liyazihlala intlanganiso ukuze sikwazi ukuxoxa sithathe izigqibo ezisekelezwe ekuphuceleni impilo zabantu bakuthi.**
- **Zanga saba nayo ingxaki yokuba kuthiwe intlanganiso zethu azikwazi kuhlala ngenxa yokuba asina quorum, okanye siyalwa singo ceba. Njengabathunywa benu kubalulekile ukuba niyazi ukuba siyazenza into esizithunywe nini phaya eBhungeni.**
- We happy with the performance of the Section 79 and 80 Committees **kuba zonke icommittees** are able to discharge their responsibilities and make reports as dictated by the legislative mandates
- To this end, Auditor General consistently engages with the municipality to perform audit assignments ,and recommendations on findings are followed up and reported to Council.
- Furthermore, we have a functional MPAC which continues to provide adequate and appropriate oversight responsibility on the Executive including reporting to Council.
- We have made a commendable progress in relation to the impact of the public participation **kuba liyakhula izinga lethu xa sithetha ngonxibelelwano lwethu singurhulumente kunye nabahlali kuquka nezinye istakeholders**
- **Umasipala wethu** has a solid imprint and presence kwi social media **kwaye siyavuya kakhulu yi feedback esiyifumanayo kubahlali kuba namhlanje, kula FACEBOOK PAGE yethu sinabalandeli abayi 8100, sinomnqweno wokuba malikhule eli nani** as we have recently activated a Whatsap page as part of our customer care strategy because we want to broaden our meaningful community engagement
- We are definitely happy **kuba zonke iWards zethu ziyibiza iWard Committee meetings kwaye sifuna ukugxininisa ukuba ukuhlala kwe Ward Committee Meetings kubalulekile** for developmental purpose of our Wards.
- **Sinethemba lokuba** as Councillors **sizakuqhubekeka nokuba iWard Committee meetings** will be sustained in order to process development for the benefit of our own communities.
- **Siselapha kwezintlanganiso zokuhlala, ooceba bethu baqalile ukubiza icoomunity meetings and ke lelinye lamalinge ethu asekelezwe ekuphuculeni nokuphuhlisa ubudlelwane phakathi kwethu singu rhulumente kunye nabantu bethu**

- **Kulo nyaka mali upheleleyo, siqale iphulo esilibiza ngokuba yi Civic Education kuba siyakholelwa ekubeni sinoxanduva lokuba singurhulumente masisoloko sifundisana kunye no luntu** about plans, programmes including developments that are taking place both within our country and external. We will continue to implement this programme **kuba sinoxanduva olukhulu** to deepen our democracy.
- **Nanjengokuba sigunyaziswa yimithetho esilawulayo, sikwazile ukuba siyidakance iAnnual Report apho besihamba kunye negqiza le MPAC sinikezela nge report back kwi communities zethu ngendlela esiyichithe ngayo imali karhulumente phofu ke sikwanika ithuba lokuba abahlali bahlomle ukuba ingaba ezi projects sithi zikhona kwi wards zabo zikhona na. Ezi roadshows ze Annual Reports besizibambe ngomhla we 14 ka February 2025.**
- **Moreover, icommunities zethu zisoloko zisiba yinxalenye ekuthatheni inxaxheba ekuvezeni izimvo nasekuncediseni ukuqulunqa umqulu wezimvo zabantu lo sithi yi IDP xa siyibiza. I must affirm that we led a full contingent of councillors and officials during our IDP/Budget consultative process from the 08-11 April 2025 .**
- The beauty about these outreach programmes is that different sectors from our communities **ezifana nabantu abatsha, abantu abaphila nokhubazeko (disability), oosomashishini ngokwahlukana kwabo, iinkosi kunye nezinye istructures esinokuba asizibizanga,** they all participate and their submissions are correctly captured
- As a matter of principle and in line with our scope of operation, we have successfully approved and adopted our IDP and Budget as this Council **ngomhla we 29 ka May 2025**

3.1.1. Relationship with Traditional Leaders

- We are a rural municipality that owes its origin from the contribution made by our forebears through their traditional leaders who fought against the colonial domination. **Imbali yelizwe lakowethu ayinakuze ibaliswe ngaphandle kokuba kuphuhle indima eyadlalwa zinkosi zikhusela ilizwe lethu kwi agenda yokuthathwa komhlaba wethu**
- **Kufuneka siyithethe elubala into yokuba thina ubudlelwane bethu** is supposed to be complementary and not confrontational. We are raising this perspective in order to demonstrate **into yokuba siyazihlonipha iinkosi zethu kwaye apho siphazame khona singurhulumente,** iinkosi zinoxanduva lokuba zibonakalise ubulumko ingakumbi kwimeko requiring us to strengthen collaboration and cooperation for the betterment of

our people **kuba abantu bethu bathembele kuthi ekubeni baxhamle kule Nkululeko nale democracy yethu.**

- **Sizimisele ukuqinisa amatyathanga obudlelwane kunye nenkosi zethu kuba siyayibulela inxaxheba eziyidlalayo ekuqinisweni kolawulo lwentando yesininzi.**

4. Basic Service Delivery

4.1. Infrastructure Development

- **Masiyibethelele into yokuba** our infrastructure is inadequate and ageing, **le imeko ye infrastructure yethu** remains an obstacle towards us achieving our full economic growth
- **Asiyompazamo into kuba sibe intentional kwi efforts zethu** towards the development of our infrastructure **kuba sine** commitment to unlock economic growth and better the general development of our communities
- **Siyayazi ingxaki yethu ye infrastructure** hence we have made significant progress in ensuring that our commitment to upgrade our infrastructure is a realised reality.
- **Xa ujonga ukuqala kwethu singulo Masipala wase Raymond Mhlaba ngonyaka ka 2016**, we have engaged in a rapid rolled out of infrastructure through the financial injection of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant and INEP, Human Settlement Interventions and Disaster Grants
- **Masitsho ukuba kule minyaka ilithoba singu Masipala walapha eRaymond Mhlaba**, we have seen an acceleration in the upgrading of critical roads, electrification of households, building of community halls, edu-care centres and provision of housing services across the municipality

4.1.1. Basic Service Reduction Backlog

- **Singu Masipala walapha eRaymond Mhlaba sanikwa uxanduva yi Department of Human Settlement ukuba sibe yi** Implementing Agent and we entered into a Service Level Agreement to implement the following projects
 - 1. Upgrading of Informal Settlement Programme (UISP), ngokwe scope lena iprogramme has 11 informal settlement kwezi dolophu zilandelayo, Bedford, Adelaide, KwaMaqoma kunye nase Seymour with a total of 3037 beneficiraies**
 - 2. Human Settlement Development Grant (HSDG), ngokwe scope yona le** project entails rectification and construction of new units kwezi dolophu zilandelayo, Alice Ext

1-5, Bedford Nyarha, Bedford Goodwin Park and Bedford Zink with a total of 279 beneficiaries

- **Masiyithethe into yokuba**, there is a considerable amount of value created on both programmes despite progress being compromised with work suspension due to budget constraints challenges and therefore the projects duration has exceeded.

4.1.2. Tar Patching

- Our road infrastructure is ageing and requires an overhaul, and it is expensive to maintain hence we continue to maintain our streets through regular patching of potholes and refurbishment of critical streets which are central to economic activities.

4.1.3. Paving of internal streets

- We have made significant strides in upgrading the road network in our townships and urban centers by paving our roads.
- **Masiyithethe into yokuba mkhulu umthamo esiwenzileyo kwezi ndawo sihlala kuzo ukuzama uku paver indlela zethu, nangona kunjalo siyayazi ukuba icommunities zethu zilindele ukuba uninzi lwendlela zethu mazifumane ipaving kway eke yi commitment esinayo nathi leyo.**

4.1.4. Upgrading and regraveling of access roads in villages

- **Enye yezinto elizinyo eliqaqambayo kuthi kukuba** most of our access roads leading to our villages are not in a desirable state and majority of them belong to the provincial government.
- **Le meko imaxongo yendlela zethu iphinda ithwaxwe kakhulu zi** effects of global warming and climate change **kuba ziyamoshakala kakhulu iindlela zethu ngenxa yemo yezulu** this has worsened an already fragile road network
- **Kulo nyaka mali uphelileyo, besinayo iprogramme yoku maintainer indlela zethu through blading kwaye le programme siyenzile ezilalini kunye nasezilokishini.**
- **Uninzi lwel lali zethu lukwazile ukuxhamla kwezi programmes kodwa ke siyayiqonda ukuba inkulu indima ekufuneka siyenzile ukuzama ukuphucula le meko yendlela zethu ezilalini**
- **Siyayazi ukuba abantu bakuthi ingakumbi kula mandla wase Xesi nase Debe, banesimbonono kumcimbi wendlela ezimbi kodwa ke kuba sisebenzisana ne Department of Transport, siyazama ukukhawulelana nalo mcimbi wokulungiswa kwe Ndlela zabo.**

- **Furthermore, masiyibethelele into yokuba le** grader that was donated ngu MEC Nqatha **iyasinceda kakhulu** in terms of ensuring that we continue to provide road maintenance plan for our roads

4.1.5. Electricity Performance

- Our electricity infrastructure is aging and in a dilapidated state and the situation is seriously compounded by frequent vandalism which compromises our capacity to provide reliable electricity supply
- **Kubalulekile ukuba sigxininise kulengxaki ye** vandalism **yentambo zombane kuba yenye ingxaki esijamelene nayo kuba** it literally paralyze our capacity to render services to our communities **kuba ubukhulu becala abantu** that are usually affected by these vandalism **ngabantu bethu**
- **Nangona sinezi challenges ze vandalism kwi infrastructure yethu**, we are addressing these challenges by gradually upgrading the infrastructure and implementing preventative maintenance measures to ensure continuity and improve reliability of electricity supply
- **At an operational level, our day to day includes, the** maintenance and repairs of the electricity infrastructure, the maintenance of highmast and streetlights, provision of electricity supply to new customers, maintaining replacing faulty meters as well as attending to cable/line faults remains our fundamental priority in areas such as Bedford, Adelaide and KwaMazama

4.2. Fight Against Crime

- The reports from our SAPS colleagues points a depressing picture **yokuba le ndawo yethu ngokwenene igutyungele lulwaphulo mthetho kunye nobundlobongela with CONTACT CRIME AS A REFERRAL POINT, kuba iContact Crime ngunozala wezi crime elements zilandelayo**, robbery aggravated, rape, attempted rape, sexual assault and assault GBH.
- **Nangona zikhona imeko apho kukho ukwehla kweqondo kwezinye iaspects of the crime elements**, the overwhelming analysing points to situation that is becoming worrisome kuba the pattern and the trends zona **ziyafana** as assault GBH and robbery aggravated crimes have been stable **kuba ekupheleni kosuku**, these incidents culminate into murder.
- Overall, there is a recorded significant increase in violent crime activities , and this has degraded our environment into a crime ridden area.

- Therefore, the dominance of a crime ridden environment defeats our obligations and commitment of creating safer communities for the masses of our people.
- It is against this background that we must continue to prioritize collaboration with law enforcement agencies, civic society, communities and strengthen our resolve to fight crime in every aspect of our lives
- **Masiyiqinise le** integrated approach by strengthening the functionality of Community Policing Forums **ukuze sikwazi ukuba ne** collective approach in combating all crime activities hence our emphasis is that “ let us leave no one behind kuba creating safer communities should be our number one priority.
- **Ndingaba andiyenzanga ijustice ukuba andinakuwancoma amapolisa nge galelo lawo ekuzameni ukukhusela uluntu lwentu.** We understand the challenges that the SAPS has **kodwa** it is important that we give credit where its due because the level of cooperation and collaboration we have received throughout especially on serious depressing issues including the murder of innocent souls, both men and women from the SAPS gave their all and we salute your courage.
- **Siyayingqina ngokwenene into yokuba nina bantu ababizwa ngokuba “MEN IN BLUE”** , you truly represent the badge and your allegiance to the OATH IS REALLY ALIVE

4.2.1. Law Enforcement

- We have a functional law enforcement unit that collaborate with the security cluster on areas of common activities and mutual interests
- **Siyaqhubekeka nokuzenza ijoint operational activities kwakunye** ne enforcement of our by-laws in order to ensure that businesses are operating within the scope of the law.
- We can confirm that during these operations, illegal business operators have been closed and fines issued on instances of gross violations of the by-laws.
- We continue to have operations on regular motor vehicle roadblocks in all the municipal jurisdiction wherein motor vehicles are stopped for inspection, fitness of the drivers is determined, speed traps being executed, warrant of arrests being implemented to the identified transgressors.
- The municipality has three DLTC which deliver services in these areas Adelaide, KwaMaqoma and Alice and the DLTC are responsible for the following services namely:
 1. Application for leaners and drivers' licenses
 2. Renewal of Driving licenses

3. Professional driving permits, applications and Registration as well as licensing of Motor Vehicles

- In the effort to bring services closer communities, the KwaMaqoma Vehicle Testing Station has been open for public use
- The municipality has recruited 10 unemployed youth to join efforts to improve law enforcement and improve the implementation of by laws

4.2.2. Waste Management

- The recently adopted Integrated Waste Management Plan will help us improve the implementation of waste management and refuse collection **kuba sine** commitment yokuba we extend refuse collection and cleaning of our surroundings to towns, suburbs, locations, and villages.
- **Lona uthutho lwenkunkuma silenza kanye ebahlalini, ze kube kabini kosomashishini, ngelinye ixesha kuxhomekeke no mthamo wenkunkuma.**
- **Sizimisele ekuphuculeni nokuphuhlisa ucoceko kuquka** the artistic beauty and image of our towns and surroundings. **Eli futhe sinalo lisekelezwe ekubeni siqhubekeke** to prioritize the implementation of our waste management framework at regular intervals.
- **Yiyo lento sisoloko sithe gqolo ukubamba** comprehensive waste management programme through a rigorous cleaning campaign within the municipality. **Siyaziqhuba ke kakhulu ezi cleaning campaigns kuzo zonke indawo ne dolophu zethu ukuqala eXesi uyokuma nge Nyarha and** we incorporated the EPWP and CWP components in revitalizing and maintaining the cleanliness of our towns.

4.2.3. Disaster Management

- **Kubalulekile ukuba sisoloko siyigxininisa into yokuba,** the function of Disaster Disaster Management is not our function but rather resides with the District Municipality. **Kodwa ke, nangona le function ikwi Competence ye Ditsrict Municipality, ine direct bearing kuthi kuba** we are on the ground and we are dealing with these matters at first hand and daily.
- **Yiyo lento ngalo lonke ixesha thina uxanduva lwethu xa kukho iDisaster lu** directly linked in complementing and supplementing various government entities including the District Municipality. Hence, our responsibility is to mainly coordinate with both the local departments ezifana no SASSA, SAPS, Social Development, Home Affairs and external ones

- **Kubaluekile ukuba siyithethe into yokuba nathi singu Masipala siye sibotshwe izandla xa kufuneke sense uncedo lwamsinya kuba siye singabi nazo iresources at our disposal kuba kufuneke silinde from our sister departments. Ezi frustration ezifunyanwa zi communities zethu ngexesha le disaster, are also frustration that we share kuba ezi bureaucratic process zethu ziye zisichane ngelinye ixesha**
- As of to date, we have a total of 476 identified potential beneficiaries largely due to disaster related incidents. The Department of Human Settlement appointed two contractors to erect Temporary Units and the process to be followed is linked to the applications the municipality made on behalf of the destitute beneficiaries.
- SASSA, Gift of the Givers and Al Imdaad Foundation played a pivotal role in providing a social relief of distress during the June 2025 disaster.

4.2.4. Emergency Services

- We render a 24 hours emergency services currently located in KwaMaqoma and has since been cascaded to satellite bases such as Adelaide, Hogsback and Alice .**Kule financial year igqithileyo, we attended a total of 215 fire service calls eziquka, umlilo wamadlelo, ukutsha kwezindlu, , ingozi zemoto kunye nokutsha kwemoto**

4.2.5. Libraries

- There are four functional libraries in the areas of Bedford, KwaMaqoma, Seymour and Alice and they are all fully functional. We celebrated the National Book day **apha eMakhenkesi Stofile Library saza saphinda senza iLibrary Week phaya eSeymour ilibrary. Ayakhula amanani abantu bethu abasebenzisa ezi facilities zethu**

4.3. Local Economic Development

- We are a rural municipality with deep features of unemployment, poverty and inequality with both unemployment and poverty seating above 60%. This is a troubling and uncomfortable reality to us hence we are on course to operationalize our LED Strategy in order to arrest these troubling challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality
- In line with ipriority commitment yethu **yokuzama ukuphuhlisa nokuphucula** our socio-economic conditions, **akhona amaphulo esinawo ukuzama ukurhwebesha** potential investors **ukuba zisebenisane nathi ingakumbi kweli candela le citrus development.**
- **Kwintlanganiso yethu ebesinayo ngo February 2025 (Strategic Planning), sinike uMunicipal Manager umkhomba ndlela wokuba kulo nyaka mali ka 2025/2026, imandatory focus yethu, ibe kwi LED hence sijonge lukhulu kweli candelo lokuzama**

ukuza nophuhliso ingakumbi kwi citrus industry kuba yenye ye goilde zethu apha kulo mhlaba wethu

- **Kulo nyaka uphelileyo, besitshilo ukuba le project yethu yase Mthonsi besiyenza no DEDEAT kunye ne Amathole was at 95% in terms of completion status. Kodwa ke namhlanje we are able to report that the project completion is 100% and the Practical Completion Certificate has been granted on the 10th July 2025.**
- **Kubalulekile ukuba siyithethe into yokuba uyabonakala umsebenzi esiwenzayo singu rhulumente kuba kungentsuku zatywala xa zonke ezi snags zi outsandings zigqityiwe, the Mthonsi Lodge will be ready for operation. Masiyithethe into yokuba yenye ye catalytic projects zethu kuba yakhe amathuba ayi 45 engqesho**
- **Kwakhona kulo nyaka uphelileyo, we reported ngale project yethu iphaya e Double Drift and Great Fish Nature Reserve, ibe yona iProject incedisana ne community yase Brakfontein. Le project ikwazile ukuveza amathuba emisebenzi kwaye basaxhamla namhlanje abantu bakuthi**
- **Kodwa ke namhlanje, sifuna ukuzisa ingxelo yokuba igqityiwe yona iabbortoir kwaye ikulengele ukuba ingasetyenziswa. Kwakhona, kwakhiwe ne Chalet ezintathu kwaye zontathu have been furnished**
- **Kumalinge ethu okuzama ukuba silwisane nendlala kunye nentswelangqesho siyaqhubekeka nokuba sixhase amalinge agxile kwi women empowerment kuba sinabo okopolotyeni abakhokelwa ngabantu abangomama nesabaqala kunye nabo from the inception stages**
- **Agra Food Farms ephaya KwaMaqoma, kwa Ward 20, ibe keyona inamalungu ayi 6. Le Cooperative igxile kakhulu kwi vegetable and poultry production. Siyaqhubekeka ke nokuyixhasa le cooperative through technical support**
- **Youth-Women Intersection : KCM Poultry Project, elapha eDikeni Kwa Khayaletu (Ward 10) ibe ke inamalungu ayi 6 kuba ngokwangoku baseyi NPO kodwa ke sikwisi gaba sokubancedisa ukuba babhalisele ukuba batshintshe babe yi Cooperative kwaye sele sihambe umgama omkhulu**
- **Katala Fodder and Tobbaco Production yenye ye Cooperative zethu elapha eBalfour, kwa Ward 9 inamalungu ayi 16. Le Cooperative igxile ekubeni izame ukulima icuba. Siyaqhubekeka ukuncedisa nge technical support including mobilizing onke amalinge okuzama ukuphuhlisa lo Kopolotyeni**
- **Importantly, masiyithethe into yokuba imajority ye project ezinziwe zi local SMME'S, umhle kwaye uyancomeka umsebenzi wazo.**

- We are generally happy with the quality of work , commitment displayed, including the speed given to finish the project even though at times **sikhe singakwazi ukubhatala ngethuba kuba imali singekayifumani kurhulumente we Phondo.**
- We have made progress with regards to 60% percent of our procurement proceeds under R200 000 benefiting local SMME's. **Siyakwazi ukutsho ukuba 80%** of our local SMME's continue to benefit from economic activities generated by the municipality meaning **ukuba sigqithile kulamnyinge ka 60% osisimiselo, nto leyo esibonakalisayo ukuba ukhona umahluko esiwenzayo ukuzama ukuphuhlisa oosmashishini bethu abasakhulayo**
- **Kule nyanga yabantu abatsha ngo June,** we convened a Youth Business EXPO nalapho we mobilized young people from the Raymond Mhlaba Municipality wherein they were empowered by various experts within the business community and government. **Ngamaphulo akumila kunje ekufuneka sithi gqolo ukuza nawo ukuza abantu bethu abatsha bakwazi ukuxhamla kuba le program was attended by almost 300 young people balapha.**
- Moreover, we have increased support for the SMME's by ensuring that relevant entities such as the Department of Trade and Industry, ECDC, DEDEAT partner with the municipality in order to assist our SMME's in developing their own business plans including availing existing opportunities and these workshops have proven to be helpful **kuba bancedekele kakhulu oosamashishini bethu nge ezi information sharing sessions.**
- The Dept of Human Settlement also created valuable economic opportunities for the SMME's in uprunning Upgrading of Informal Settlement PROJECTS and we can confirm that our local SMSE's are participating in this programme

4.4. Tourism and Heritage

- Our area has a rich history, heritage coupled by splendid tourist attraction destinations namely, Hogsback, Katberg, Double Drift Game Reserve, Maqoma Heritage including the renowned academic institutions, Healdtown Lovedale and the University of Fort Hare. Siphinde sibe nazo ne Forts ezigcwele kwezi dolophu zethu, **ezibonakalisa indima enkulu edlalwe ngabantu bakuthi ekulweni ukuba ungathathwa umhlaba wethu**
- **Sinayo iprogramme esinayo apha ye Homestays nalapha we creating an environment yokuba kusetyenziswa izindlu as accommodation avenues for people**

requiring accommodation. Zikhona ihomestays esiqhubekayo ukuzinceda apha eDikeni namely: Kwa-Ntibane (Mavuso Location) Kwa-Thembisa (Mavuso Location) Kwa-Amanda (Happy Rest) and Kwa-Dudu (Happy Rest)

5.Report Back on Service Delivery Commitments

Somlomo We Bhunga

Kulo nyaka uphelileyo senze icommitments kuziso lwenkonzo ngokwezicwangciso zethu zikanyaka mali ka 2024/2025. Siyatsho ukuba zonke iProject zethu sizigqibe ngethuba .

- 1.Construction of Quthubeni Community Hall, Ward 13
2. Construction of Jojozi Community Hall, Ward 15
3. Construction of Mfiki Community Hall, Ward 16
4. Paving of Mbewu and Nohashe Main Road, Ward 3 & 19
5. Paving of Red location, Ward 22
6. Paving of Old Seymour Location, Ward 4
7. Paving of Mount Pleasant internal streets, Ward 21
8. Installation of Highmast lights (energizing)

Nanjengokuba siyazi ukuba ilizwe lethu liphantsi koxinezelelo lwemo yezulu (climate change and global warming), le ngingqi yethu ithwaxwa kanobomi zizehlo ze Disaster kwaye indlela zethu ziye zichaphazeleke kakhulu. Kuloko ke urhulumente uye asincedise ukukhawulelana nezi meko. Kulo nyaka mali ka 2024/2025, we implemented the following Disaster Management Projects:

1. Paving of Hutchison Street – 100%
2. Paving of Seven Delaan Street – 100%
3. Paving of Goodwin Park Street – 100%
4. Regravelling of Khulile to Tshayingwe – 100%
5. Regravelling of Saki B Streets – 100%
6. Regravelling of Dinedine-Edikeni Streets – 100%
7. Regravelling of Qomdobowa Streets (Additional works) – 100%
8. Regravelling of Msobomvu Street – 100%

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)

- Over the past four years, the municipality continues to excellently lead in the Amathole District as a top performing institution
- The total allocation of beneficiaries for the last financial year was 638 and the distribution per category is as follows
 1. A total of 449 beneficiaries allocated for Environmental programme
 2. A total of 139 beneficiaries allocated for Infrastructure programme
 3. A total 50 beneficiaries allocated for Social Sector programme

Somlomo We Bhunga and Fellow Cllrs

As you would know ukuba kwi Council yethu ka May 2025, siyipasisile ibudget yethu equka kunye ne IDP after a consultative process with communities.

6. BUDGET BY CFO

7. APPROVED MIG PROJECT LIST FOR 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

1. Regravelling of Dikidikana Streets, Ward 13
2. Paving of Ntselamanzi internal streets, Ward 2
3. Painting, fencing and construction of ablution facilities for Qhomfo Day Care, Ward 13
4. Paving of Old Seymour Internal Streets, Ward 4
5. Paving of Mount Pleasant Internal Streets, Ward 21
6. Regravelling of Ward 9 Internal Streets, Ward 9
7. Paving of Jacaranda Internal Streets Phase 2, Ward 20
8. Paving of Ward 8 Internal Streets, Ward 8
9. Paving of Temlet Internal Streets, Ward 6
10. Paving of Mbewu/Nohashe Internal Streets Phase 2, Ward 3 & 19

7.1. INEP PROJECT LIST FOR 2025/2026

- Electrification of Jackson Street (81HH) in KwaMaqoma which is a new housing settlement

7.2. DISASTER PROJECTS FOR 2025/2026

- The municipality will receive R27 416 million for 2025/2026 for the rehabilitation of bridges and reconstruction of gravel roads network.

8. Allocated Projects by Sector Departments

8.1. Amathole District Municipality

- Repairs and Refurbishment of Water Infrastructure: Raymond Mhlaba: Fort Beaufort and Alice , with a budget of R 7 268 600.
- Completion of backlog- Raymond area wide sanitation project, with a budget of R29 500 000.
- West Victoria East Water Supply – Phase 4, with a budget of R 14 600 000
- Nxuba - Adelaide and Bedford Bucket Eradication Phase 4: Upgrading of Bedford WWTW, with a budget of R 1 281 500.
- Fort Beaufort Bulk Water Supply Phase 2, with a budget of R 18 000 000
- Nxuba - Adelaide and Bedford Bucket Eradication Phase 6: Upgrading of Bedford, WWTW with a budget of R3 600 000

8.2.ESKOM

- These planned projects to be effected in the following areas: Balfour, Seymour, Alice, Middeldrift and Debenek
- In Debenek, for Pre-Engineering and Extention for 216 planned household connection
- In Balfour, Extention for 276 planned household connections
- In Balfour and Seymour, Pre-Engineeering Services
- In Middeldrift, Pre-Engineering Services

8.3. Human Settlement

- An amount of R52,2 million has been allocated for the Raymond Mhlaba Municipality housing projects
- A total of 92 units earmarked for the following categories, Destitute & Vulnerable, Military , Emergency etc)
- A total of 168 units for full and partial damaged households
- A total 162 units for the rectification projects

8.3. Department of Transport

- Kulo nyaka mali, le department ibeke bucala imali engage R18 393 724.00 kwisicwangciso sayo ekuzameni ukuncedisa ukulungiswa kwendlela zethu
 - Kubekwe bucala imali engage R 4, 7 million, ukwenza iregravelling
 - Kubekwe bucala imali engage R 2, million, ukwenza iresurfacing
 - Kubekwe bucala imali engage R 6, million, for disaster purposes
 - Kubekwe bucala imali engage, R 5, 6 million, for plant hire
- **Eli sebe linalo icandelo lalo le EPWP apho lithe laveza amathuba emisebenzi angaba ayi 776 with a projected budget of R 12 434 million kwaye zonke iward zethu zinabo abasebenzi, ezinye zezi programme ziyaqhuba njengokuba sithetha and others are in the process of implementation.**
- Household Contractors 641, Scholar transport monitors 50, Transport facilitators, Community Development Support 1, Supervisors 35, Road Rangers 34, Taxi Cleaners 5, Walking Bus 6 and SHE Cleaners 4

8.4. Community Safety

- An amount of R58 000 for Social Crime Prevention (Crime Awareness) in Middledrift and Healdtown
- Unannounced visits wherein an assessment of service delivery at the Clients Service Centres, (Hogsback, Bedford, Kolomane, Alice, Chungwa and Middledrift)
- Support the municipality with the functionality of Community Safety Forum
- Assess compliance to Domestic Violence Act by SAPS (Adelaide, Balfour and Bedford)
- Police Accountability Engagement (Imbizo focusing on service delivery of the police) in Doringkloof and Alice budget for this programme is R58 000

8.5. Department of Agriculture

- An amount of R 2, million allocated for Renovation of dip tank at Ncera Skweyiya Village & construction of Gaga shearing shed at Mgquba Villa
- An amount of R 1, million allocated to supply production inputs
- An amount of R 1, million for irrigation for the University of Fort Hare and Middledrift Dairy
- An amount of R 175, 000 for supply production inputs (feedlots in Alice)
- Provision of support to livestock enterprises with production inputs or genetic breeding material
- Provide Support with Technical advice or Tangible material to small holders

8.6. Department of Social Development

- An amount of R 13 787 277 has been set aside for the following programmes
- Care , Support and Protection Services to Older Persons, R 5,9 million
- Care and Support , Service to people living with disability, R 2, 5 million
- Care and Support to people living with HIV/AIDS, R 648 000,00
- Children and Families Programme, R3, 5 million
- Victim Empowerment Programme, R 1 million

Honourable Councillors and fellow compatriots

9. Revenue Management

Xa ndifika kwesi sigaba kuyabaluleka ukuba ndiveze nje izinto ezimbalwa

- **Masiphinde sigxininise ekubeni irevenue yethu yona isacotha nangona nje kubonakala ukuba siyazama ukuqokelela kodwa ke ayikafiki kule ndawo siyifuna kuyo**
- **Our debt book is over R900 million, yimali yethu esebantwini lena, kuquka amasebe karhulumente, oosomashishini kunye nabahlali ngokubanzi. Ngowona mceli mngeni wethu ke lena into ye debt book kuba ininzi kakhulu le mali ingekho kwi coffers zethu isebantwini and you can imagine the difference it would make kwi balance sheet yethu xa besinokuncedisana.**
- **Siyasebenzisana ne consumers zethu hence sibabongoza abantu abasityalayo ukuba beze ngaphambili babhatale.and siyakhwazi ukuthethana sibe ne arrangement ye payment plan xa iconsumder ibethakala kuba the plan is for us to ensure that the debt is being serviced.**
- **Kwabo ke basafuna ukuncedwa okanye bacaciselwe malunga ne accounts zabo sicebisa ukuba baze kwi office zethu ze Revenue Department and we are open about engaging on debt payment plan including zonke iaccount related queries**
- **Siyazama ukuphucula indlela zokubhatala kuba namhlanje abantu bayakhwazi ukuthenga umbane besebenzisa BANK APP zabo. In fact, this is a commitment ebesiyenzile kulo nyaka uphelileyo that we will devise innovations to ease paying for our services. Kwakhona, siyabacela ke abantu bakuthi ukuba abo bakwi areas ezi fana no Alice, Seymour, Adelaide and Bedford, mabacele uncedo kwi Unit Managers zethu ezikhoyo kwi satellite offices zethu ngalo lonke ixesha xa bene ngxaki ne accounts zabo ingakumbi xa besokola ukuncedakala.**

10 Free Basic Services

- Njengokuba siyazi ukuba thina singurhulumente okhathalayo kuba ukhona umbane wesiphiwo esiwunika abantu abangathathi ntweni ingakumbi abo baphila ngomhlala phantsi kunye nabantu abangaphangeliyo. Yiyo loonto sisenza umpomposho wokuba wonke ubani onengeniso engaphezulu kabini kwi sibonelelo se pension ekhutshwa ngurhulumente ukuba aze ngaphambili azo kubhalisa
- Amagosa ayaqhubeka nokukuhamba hamba kwezi ngingqi zethu ukukhuthaza ukuba abantu bakuthi beze ngaphambili ukuze babhalisele ifree basic services
- Aba bona sele be bhalisile babe be xhamla kodwa be phantsi kwezi categories, disable, old age, akunyanzeleki babhalise kuba our system renews them automatically
- Abo ke bona ba indigent kuba bengaphangeli, siyabacela kwaye sibakhuthaza ukuba baze ngaphambili babhalise

Honourable Speaker

- Let me conclude by saying, we are well aware of the impatience of our communities and understand their socio-economic realities **kwaye sizimisele ukusebenzisana nani ukutshintsha ezi meko sikuzo**
- **Siyaphinda kwakhona, siyanicela abantu bakuthi ukuba siphathisane ekulawuleni lo rhulumente wethu ukuze sikwazi ukulwa nazo zonke izinto ezigwenxa ezifana, ne corruption, ubusela nobuqhetseba, ,** wastage of municipal resources, crime, vandalism of state properties, gender based violence, substance and drug abuse as well as all societal ills that we have not mention
- Moreover, a municipality is often defined by collaboration and cooperation of three legs: the communities, the administration and political leadership. Therefore, should any one of these legs fail to play its role, this municipality will collapse, I commit this political leadership and councillors, as well as this administration to play their role
- **Okukokwethu, kuphinda sinibongoze ukuba sisebenzisane ukuze sikwazi ukuphucula uziso lwenkonzo kubantu bakuthi kuba ngoyena ndoqo wethu esibekelwe wona thina apha kweli Bhunga**

ENKOSI

