



Makhado Local Municipality
State of the Municipality and
Budget Speech 2019/2020



MY FREEDOM SOUTH AFRICA
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1994 - 2019
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY



#My Freedom

His Worship Mayor
Cllr N.S. Manyai

07 June 2019 | 11h00 | Makhado Show Ground | Ward 09

Madam Speaker of Makhado Municipality- Cllr L.B Mogale

Chief Whip of Makhado Municipality- Cllr M.D Mboyi

Misanda na bo Ndavezitha vahina

The Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Honorable Mavhungu Lerule Ramakhanya.

Members of the Legislature present

MEC for COGHSTA

Members of the Executive Committee of Makhado Municipality

Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality- Cllr Dowelani Nenguda,

The Mayor of Musina Municipality

The Mayor of Thulamela Municipality

The Mayor of Collins Chabane Municipality

EXCO and Mayoral Committee members, Chief Whips and Speakers from sister municipalities

Chairperson and Members of MPAC

The Commanding Officer and Senior Managers from the Makhado Airforce Base

Our Station Commanders from the SAPS

Members of the Audit and Risk Committee present

Ward and PR Councillors

Municipal Manager, Mr Freddy Tshivhengwa, and his team of Directors of Makhado Municipality

Senior Managers and Officials from Municipalities and Sector Departments

Guests from the University of Venda and TVET Colleges present

Leaders of Business, Faith-Based Organizations and Community Organizations

Comrades and Leadership of the ANC, SACP, COSATU and other political

Organizations Leaders of the ANC Youth League and the ANC Women's League

Stalwarts and Veterans of our struggle

Ward Committee members, and leaders of Special Programs Committees and Forums

Our Ambassador Against HIV and AIDS Vho Fhatalushaka Ramasala

Members of the media;

Last but not least, all residents of Makhado Municipality

Friends, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

AVUXENI- NDI MATSHELONI- GOOD MORNING, GOEIE MORE!

Madame Speaker,

On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Council of Makhado Municipality, I rise to deliver the State of the Municipality and to present the Budget for 2019/2020 financial year.

Madame Speaker,

Our nation is celebrating its 25th anniversary of constitutional democracy- this is a historical moment where we must reflect on the journey we have undertaken as a people.

We also gather today, a few weeks after our people expressed their undivided determination and collective will to protect their hard worn democracy by voting in the national and provincial elections held on the 8th of May 2019.

Our people voted in their numbers to reaffirm their commitment to democracy, human rights and national prosperity underpinned by the call to grow South Africa together.

On the 25th of May 2019, the President of the Republic of South Africa, **Comrade Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa**, took an oath of office and recommitted the 6th political administration to deepen and advance the interests and aspirations of the people of South Africa.

Let me use this opportunity to congratulate the ANC for the victorious and overwhelming performance during the provincial and national elections. I also wish to congratulate our recently elected Members of Parliament and the Legislatures.

We congratulate **Premier Stan Chupu Mathabatha** on his re-election as Premier of our Province, and we trust that he will continue with his vision of making Limpopo Province the preferred centre of socio economic development.

Let me express my congratulations to one of our own, the former Mayor of Makhado Municipality, **Comrade Mavhungu Leruli Ramakhanya** for being elected the Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature.

Madame Speaker,

During his inaugural address, the President reminded us that in our magnificent diversity, and despite our many differences, the people of this country answered the call of *Thuma Mina- the call to serve our people*.

He stated that in their multitudes, South Africans asked not what can be done for them, but what they could do for their country.

Today, as we reflect on the year that has passed and plan for our shared future, we must ask ourselves as the Council, management, employees and as residents of Makhado Municipality, as to what have we done for our municipality to make it a great place to live, work and do business.

Madame Speaker,

We have an obligation as Council, management and staff of Makhado Municipality to ensure that our Municipality becomes a place where families, children, business, elders, women, youth, our farmers, our traditional leaders, and everyone who lives in our municipal area, enjoy better living conditions.

This we can achieve by allowing ourselves to be subjected to public scrutiny and restoring the confidence of all stakeholders in local government and public service in general.

It is therefore imperative on our part as Council that we maximize planning, decision making and implementation efficiency to embrace the principle of value for money, accountability and service excellence.

Madame Speaker,

According to StatsSA, our municipality has an estimated population of **416 728**, and an estimated **116 731** households comprising of **38** wards.

Our population is dominated by young people and this has implications for service delivery.

As a municipality, we are committing to build more libraries, community halls, sports, arts and recreational facilities so that our youth are active and focused on self-growth and empowerment.

We will also work closely with sector departments and state agencies like **LEDA, SEDA and SEFA**.

We will support youth owned SMME's and Cooperatives so that young people can be champions of their own destinies.

Madame Speaker,

June month is Youth month. We join the rest of the nation to remember and honour the role played by youth in challenging and defeating the brutal and inhumane apartheid regime.

Madame Speaker,

Our Council is ahead with its partnership with the University of Venda to establish a Satellite Campus in our Municipality. My office established a multi-stakeholder task team to develop the terms of reference and scope of the project.

I am happy to announce that the draft designs of the proposed satellite campus are completed and will include offices, lecture rooms, seminar and conference rooms, parking area, student and staff accommodation.

Council will review the resolution on land donated to the University so that it covers the proposed and future development of the Campus in our town.

Before the end of July 2019, together with the Vice Chancellor of Univen, we shall sign the MOU to officially launch the planned development of the Campus in our town.

Madame Speaker,

Our Municipality continues to participate in the Musina/Makhado Special Economic Zone with the determination that the SEZ will create the much needed job opportunities for our people, especially the youth.

Our Municipal Manager represents the Municipality in the Provincial Board of the SEZ and we believe that the SEZ will yield the desired benefit for the investors and the local business community alike.

Madame Speaker,

The recent statistics from the Department of Health is that Makhado Municipality has an estimated 22 636 of people living with HIV and AIDS and an estimated 257 cases of TB.

This rate of HIV/AIDS and TB must be reduced and that requires all stakeholders to work in partnership and take action by getting tested, receive medical care, counselling and support.

We are concerned about the poor attendance and reporting by sector departments and other civil society organisations in the Technical and Local AIDS Council.

We are called upon by the President, in the spirit of **Thuma Mina** to serve our people and restore their human dignity.

Madame Speaker,

Our municipality is currently servicing a total of 17 267 households with refuse removal, this represents 15% of the municipal total households.

Therefore it means a total of 99 104 households are not receiving refuse removal services.

In order to increase coverage rate, the municipality procured 35 skip bins that are located throughout the municipality and we provided additional 25 skip bins to reduce refuse removal backlog in the rural areas.

Municipality operate one major land-fill site situated in Town and is fully serviced.

Madame Speaker,

The municipality has a total of 33 formalised parks that are used for recreational activities.

The municipality procured a Cemetery Management System which will enhance service delivery and provide useful information management of our users in the whole municipality.

The municipality is working with Tribal Councils in maintenance of grave yards including provision of fencing. In the 2018/19 financial year the 3 grave yards (Tshakhuma/Muhovhoya, Gogobole and Mailula) were fenced.

As at the end of May 2019 we had a total of **4239** indigents on the Municipal Indigents Register and **1803** on the ESKOM indigents register. Our indigents receive subsidy on free basic electricity.

Our roads network consists of surfaced and gravel roads, of which majority is gravel road.

The municipality has road maintenance team that deal with potholes repairs and maintenance of drainage structures.

With regards to gravel roads, the municipality has developed grading/blading program that focuses of main gravel roads in rural areas.

The program has been running well even though challenges are being experienced due to the aging of yellow machines.

Madame Speaker,

A total number of **80 748** households has access to portable water in line with RDP standard, which represent 69% coverage of the municipality.

Access to adequate sanitation has been provided to **81 161** households, which also represents 69% coverage, meaning backlog for water and sanitation in MLM is sitting at 31% of the total households.

This function is now being performed fully by the district municipality. However it should be noted that Makhado Town is still experiencing water shortages as a result of delay in completing bulk pipeline from Nandoni Dam.

The town has waste water treatment works and all other R293 Towns use ponds maturation systems, while majority of rural areas use ventilated pit latrines.

Madame Speaker,

We recently hosted a Sports Indaba involving sports federations in Makhado Municipality.

The Indaba resolved on the need for a comprehensive approach to dealing with funding and support of sports federations, construction of sports infra-structure, institutional arrangement of the sports unit in the municipality.

We will work closely with all sports stakeholders to develop sports in our municipality so that our children and youth play and live an active and healthy lifestyle, break social barriers and enhance social justice.

The Municipality continues to support the construction of the Mbulaheni Mulaudzi Sports Complex in Muduluni village as a legacy project.

We received commitment from the Kutama Traditional Council expressing their intent to donate the land and the project to the Makhado Municipality to ensure effective sustenance of the of the sports facility.

We applaud the role played by Mavu Sports Development and the Kutama Traditional Council and all local stakeholders since the beginning of the project.

Our Council is committed to the project and will resolve to provide additional funding, operations, maintenance and management to ensure sustainability of the project.

Madame Speaker,

I recently visited the upgrading of the Makhado Crossing Mall, and I was impressed by the progress made to date by the Masingita Group of Companies.

The mall will become a Regional Mall with the potential and capacity for an estimated 700 permanent jobs created on completion.

We are committed as the Municipality to densify the town. We want to bring as many people closer to town and the Regional Mall so that local businesses can prosper and flourish.

As Council, we have passed a resolution that all land parcels for residential and industrial development will be disposed to enhance growth through residential and business development to propel the local economy.

Madame Speaker,

As promised during the budget speech of last year, the Municipality is continuing to support our traditional leaders by demarcating residential sites.

We have demarcated 468 sites at Kutama Tshikwarani, 432 at Zamenkomste, 138 at Lufuko and busy with the finalisation of 300 sites at Mashamba area.

We therefore request other Traditional Leaders not to demarcate sites by themselves but to submit request to the Municipality for proper demarcation.

Proper demarcation of sites means that we will be able to provide services to our people and people will not live on floodlines and disaster prone areas.

To speed up the timeframe, the Municipality is finalising the process for the appointment of panel of Professional Town Planners and Surveyors who will be attached to the Municipality for a period of thirty six (36) months.

The Municipality will also be reviewing its Spatial Development Framework and Land Use Scheme during the next financial year.

Madame Speaker,

Our town is well located on the N1 road and this places vast opportunities for local economic development.

Our town planners must think creatively on the growth of our town, especially unlocking the development of new residential and industrial development nodes in our municipal area.

Our Council must decide wisely on the spatial development strategy to ensure that our town becomes a preferred investment destination and industrial hub in the Province as outlined in the Limpopo Development Plan.

Our pillars of growth are in agriculture, tourism, mining and manufacturing.

Madame Speaker,

During 2018/2019 and 2020 financial year, a total of 30 beneficiaries have and will continue to receive financial assistance through the Makhado Mayoral Bursary Fund.

Madame Speaker,

I am happy to announce that as Makhado, during 2018/2019 we hosted **210** youth in various learnerships and **hosted 71** graduates in internship programs.

In the coming year 2019/2020, we plan to host **175** interns and **230** learners.

The municipality in partnership with the Department of Public Works, through the EPWP program has created **260** work opportunities during 2018/2019 financial year.

The Department of Public works will also create additional **247** work opportunities focusing on road maintenance and bush clearing in our municipality.

Further 40 similar work opportunities are in the implementation phase with PUBLIC WORKS and another 30 for land-scaping are being implemented in all regions.

With the support from National COGTA, our municipality has **688** community members who are enrolled in the Community Works Program.

The program is being piloted in 12 wards and its main aim is to alleviate poverty and unemployment while engaging the beneficiaries in useful community work like cleaning graveyards, schools, clinics and minor roadwork repairs.

Madame Speaker,

During 2018/2019, our Municipality was allocated R87, 7 million through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG).

I am proud to announce that our municipality received an award from SALGA for 100% MIG spending.

MIG Expenditure by end of May 2019 is **R 76 million** which is **87.2%** of the total allocation.

The Municipal Manager and his team must ensure that we achieve the 100 % by the end of June 2019.

Madame Speaker, When we start a project, we must finish it on time and within budget.

Madam Speaker and Councillors,

Since I took office in December 2018, most of my energy has been focused on accelerated service delivery.

For a simple but very important reason, it is only through better services that the ANC -led administration can make a difference in the lives of the people of Makhado Municipality.

Water, electricity, roads, housing, sanitation and stormwater infrastructure backlogs, lack of jobs and poverty remain the biggest and most common challenges.

Madam Speaker, I can assure you that most of these issues have been incorporated as projects and programmes in the 2019/2020- IDP adopted in May 2019.

I want to appeal to community stakeholders to hold us accountable for all projects listed and budgeted for in the IDP for 2019/2020. This will make sure that Council and its management are accountable for service delivery.

Madame Speaker,

In 2018/2019, our Municipality managed to move from adverse audit opinion and received a qualified audit opinion.

We are happy because the MM and his team are working tirelessly to ensure that we address issues raised by the Auditor General.

Our goal is to achieve an unqualified audit opinion, because we need to re-assure our communities that our finances are in good hands and that as Council and staff we collectively committed to service delivery and nothing else.

I want to applaud our Municipal Manager and his team, the Audit and Risk Committees and the Internal Audit staff, for such determination to turn things around.

According to Section 34 of the Municipal Systems Act read with the Municipal Finance Management Act, we have adopted the 2019/2020 IDP and Budget.

We have performed with task in consultation with our communities.

During the 2019/2020 financial year, the following tariff increase shall apply:

- Electricity is proposed at 13,07% as guided by NERSA
- Property Rates is proposed at 5,20%
- Other services will be charged at 5,20%

The total budget estimates for bulk purchases of electricity is **R281 million rands**.

The general expenses including other expenditure, contracted services and other materials has been budgeted at **R251 million** in 2019/2020 financial year.

The salaries and wage bill is budgeted at an incremental rate, which is based on the bargaining council agreement effective from 01 July 2018 to 30 June 2021.

The total salary bill for 2019/2020 is an estimated **R284 million rands** and that includes the budgeted positions in the organisational structure.

This cost represents 30% of the total operational budget of the Municipality.

A total of 20 budget related policies were adopted by the Council to ensure compliance with legislation and treasury regulations.

The policies will also go a long way in reducing the rate and levels of fraud and corruption, entrench fiscal discipline based on effective financial governance framework.

Madame Speaker,

Based on the above financial outlook projected for the next financial year, I present, the 2019 annual budget with both income and expenditure projections.

The Municipality's final operational revenue budget for the year 2019/2020 is estimated at **R960 million rands**.

The estimated operational expenditure budget for the year 2019/2020 is estimated at **R958 million rands**.

The operational expenditure budget includes the non-cash item amounting to **R100 million rands** for depreciation. The final Capital budget is estimated at **R203 million rands** for 2019/2020.

Madame Speaker,

The total grants to be received by our Municipality in 2019/2020 are the following:

- Equitable Share from National Treasury of **R357 528 million rands**
- Municipal Infrastructure Grant of **R89 577 million rands**
- Financial Management Grant (FMG) of **R1,7 million rands**.
- Expanded Public Works Program (EPWP) of **R1,8 million rands**
- Integrated National Electricity Program (INEP) of **R20 million rands**

Madame Speaker, under the MIG and RAL allocations the Municipality will be able to undertake the following capital projects during the next financial year.

We are engaging with RAL to conclude a Memorandum of Agreement for the construction and upgrading of our roads from gravel to tar.

- 1) Piesanghoek to Khunda Road Phase 4 at an amount **R4,9 million**
- 2) Tshedza to Vuvha Access Road Phase 3 at an amount of **R15,7 million rands**
- 3) Gombiti, Tshivhuyuni to Mamphaga Road Phase 3 at an amount of **R15, 7 million**
- 4) Valdezia Xitachini to Jiweni Access Road Phase 2 at an amount of **R8, 1 million rands**
- 5) Chavani to Bungeni Road Phase 2 with an amount of **R3,2 million rands**.
- 6) Tshikwarani to Zamenkomste Road Phase 3 with an amount of **R25 million rands** and the Municipality will top-up with an additional **R1,9 million rands**.
- 7) Waterval Sport facility Phase 2 with an estimated **R10,1 million** for both phases.
- 8) Fencing of Makhado Municipal cemetery at an estimated **R1,1 million rands**.

Madame Speaker,

In order to enhance forward planning of our capital projects, we have budgeted for the designs of the following capital projects:

- Mingard to Mbhokota entrance = **R700 000**
- Luvhalani to Dzananwa Access road= **R700 000**
- Makatu to Tshikota access road= **R700 000**
- Rivoni to Xihobyeni Access Road= **R700 000**
- Tsianda (Marundu to Military Base) = **R700 000**
- Waterval Region Refuse Transfer Station = **R700 000**
- Natalie to Sane Bridge = **R800 000**
- Waterval Stormwater= **R700 000**

Madame Speaker, the Mudimeli Bridge and Access Road Phase 3 is will be implemented and has an allocated budget of **R7 million rands**

From our own income, we will be able to undertake electricity upgrades in the Levubu 2 Line, Shefeera, Levubu East and the Mara Line at an estimated **R3,5 million rands.**

We will upgrade the Urban Substations with an estimated **R3 million rands.**

We will upgrade the bulk supply at Tshituni 2.5MVA with an estimated **R3 million rands** and also upgrade the bulk supply at Sinthumule Kutama at an amount of **R4 million rands.**

We have budgeted **R5 million rands** for the Incomer Intake Point at Eskom Substation and the Ring Main Unit is budgeted an amount of **R3, million.**

We will provide a New Ring Feedline and upgrade the Mountain Line with a budget of **R3,5 million rands.**

Our municipality during the 2019/2020 financial will top-up the INEP grant with an amount of **R4 million rands.**

This we shall do to ensure that many of our households, in rural areas have electricity and thus improve the quality of life.

Post connections in the municipal area have been budgeted for with an amount of **R5 million rands.**

Madame Speaker,

A total of 1163 households will be electrified in the next financial year through the INEP grant at an estimated cost of **R20 million rands**. The following villages will benefit from the electrification project:

INEP ALLOCATIONS 2019/2020			
No	Project Name	Connections	Budget
1	MUANANZHELE PHASE2	122	2,098,400.00
2	SMOKEY & KHOMELE SECTIONS	134	2,304,800.00
3	RAMANTSHA & RIVERSIDE	163	2,803,600.00
4	KHUNDA & MATSHAVHAWE	81	1,393,200.00
5	MANAVHELA VILLAGE	15	258,000.00
6	DOLI-DOLI/NDOUVHADA	15	258,000.00
7	MADODONGA VILLAGE	75	1,290,000.00
8	MARANIKWE VILLAGE	35	602,000.00
9	MUDILMELI VILLAGE PH2	55	946,000.00
10	SANE/NATALIE VILLAGES	55	946,000.00
11	TSHIKODOBO VILLAGE	15	258,000.00
12	ZAMEKOMSTE VILLAGE	25	430,000.00
13	TSHIKOTA LOCATION	10	172,000.00
14	MAGAU VILLAGE	66	1,135,200.00
15	MAKHITHA VILLAGE	64	1,100,800.00
16	MAKUSHU VILLAGE	55	946,000.00
17	MAMBURU	25	430,000.00
18	MASHAU/TSHILAPHALA Phase2	25	430,000.00
19	PFUMEMBE	58	997,600.00
20	MAANGANI	70	1,200,400.00
	TOTAL	1163	20,000,000.00

Madame Speaker,

A total of 486 households will be connected by Eskom during 2019/2020 financial year.

Project Name	Number of Connections
Mphadzha/Mpofu	19
Tshedza	20
Tshino	199
Kwaaidraai	38
Vhutuwangadzebu	210

Madame Speaker,

We have budgeted **R2,5 million rands** for High Mast Lights in rural villages.

The designs for electrification programme in rural villages has been allocated an amount of **R3,5 million rands** during 2019/2020.

Madame Speaker,

It should be noted that the existing infrastructure that is not maintained creates new backlogs and stalls service delivery.

Illegal connection of electricity and water poses a serious risk to both the municipality and the community, pipe bursts and leaks, including sewer leaks in our town and townships are also a cause for concern.

Those pipes from the Albasini Dam and in the reticulation system have outlived their expected lifespan and they are sometimes failing to cope with the pressure of rapid reticulation and growing demand of water in our town and outlying areas.

Too many, frequent leaks and bursts, illegal connections and delays and non-payment of municipal services by users affect our cost recovery mechanisms for revenue collection.

We do not only loose water and electricity to leaks and illegal connections, but we also loose money that should be used for service delivery.

We will continue to work closely with the Vhembe District Municipality, as the Water Service Authority, to ensure minimal disruption of water supply to our local businesses and residents.

Madame Speaker, our core business as the Municipality is service delivery.

In summary MLM has positive and negative story to tell with regards to service delivery.

Our communities need their internal streets to be graded and properly maintained. Over the past few months since I assumed office, we have been able to purchase new yellow machines and this includes:

- 2 Brand New graders
- TLB
- And 19 brand new sedans and bakkies

In the 2019/2020 financial year, we will procure additional yellow machines and vehicles: This includes:

- 3 x Brand new graders and 1 chain Dozer
- 1 x tipper truck, skip loader and refuse trucks
- Additional 22 pool vehicles including sedans, double cabs, LDV, half trucks, tow trucks, and vans

These vehicles are intended to accelerate service delivery. Roads in the villages will be graded and sports grounds will also be graded. Makhado Municipality will never be the same again.

In the same spirit of Thuma Mina, we must strive for service delivery excellence.

Madame Speaker,

To enhance local economic development, some of the strategic projects earmarked for implementation include:

- The construction of Dzanani Market with an estimated **R1 million rand**
- The construction of the Tshakhuma Fruit Market at an estimated **R5 million rands**
- The construction of the N1 Tourism Park at an estimated **R1,5 million rands**

- Construction of the Incubation Centre at Ha Rathidili at an estimated **R1,5 million rands**
- The design and construction of Erf 210 Burget Street for Market Stalls at an estimated **R2 million rands**
- Refurbishment of the Information Centre and Lappa at an estimated **R1 million rands**
- Arts and Craft Centre designs for an estimated **R500 000 rands**

In the next financial year, the municipality will start with the designs of an upgraded municipality civic centre buildings.

Madame Speaker, during 2018/ 2019 financial year, our municipality constructed the second waste disposal cell.

Through **Nakisani Vhupo Hashu Programme** , our municipality has appointed 250 EPWP project workers which implies that we have created job opportunities to 250 beneficiaries.

The Municipality is recycling waste in all our waste disposal facilities; the program has created 64 employment opportunities to local communities.

The need to relocate some of the licensing functions from civic centre to testing ground was identified to minimise the congestion. The process to establish temporarily mobile offices is in progress.

In the past year, the municipality established a fully functional and resourced Satellite library was at the Musekwa Thusong service centre.

Moving further, **Madame Speaker**,

Our system of local government is built on the need for sustainable and active participation of stakeholders in all governance matters and processes. It is of cardinal significance that our Ward Councillors are accessible to the communities they serve.

The spirit of Thuma Mina requires our ward Committees to be fully functional and must be a watchdog of service delivery on behalf of communities they represent.

Public participation meetings, dzikhoro, community meetings must be convened to allow our communities to receive feedback and progress report including challenges that we are facing in providing services.

Madame Speaker and Councillors, we must work closely with our traditional leaders, civic structures to ensure effective and inclusive participation of stakeholders in municipal affairs.

During 2018/2019 we hosted 4 successful Imbizos and Feedback sessions to report on service delivery while also creating platforms for dialogue and interaction with our communities.

Madame Speaker,

Our Special Programs Forums and Committees are fully functional and we will continue to support them so that they champion the needs and aspirations of our vulnerable sectors of our community.

As the Municipality, we shall continue to support our employees through life skills training and awareness and appropriate human resource development activities through our comprehensive Employee Assistance Program.

Madame Speaker,

In the spirit of collective leadership, I have met the leadership of SAMWU and IMATU and we visited all Regional Offices to meet municipal employees, we have agreed to work together to ensure that service delivery is the core business of the municipality.

Madame Speaker,

The Municipal Manager is at an advanced stage in terms of finalising the organisational structure with the support from COGHSTA and we trust that the adopted organisational structure will be achieving the service delivery targets as expressed in our IDP .

The position of CFO has been filled and we welcome our talented and humble CFO- Mr Kent Nemaname.

We will ensure that vacant positions are filled with the right and competent officials that we do not compromise service delivery.

Madame Speaker,

I want to thank our staff and management led by Municipal Manager- Mr Freddy Tshivhengwa. Under his capable stewardship, our Municipality is destined to achieve its core mandate, which is to render quality, affordable and sustainable services.

Madame Speaker,

Tomorrow, on the 08th of June 2019, our town will be hosting more than 1200 cyclists from all over the country and internationally. The Kremetart Cycling Race has become the highlight in the sports calendar of our Municipality.

The Kremetart is a major tourism event that attract visitors and boosts our town with revenue estimated at **R20 million rands**.

I will officially start the race tomorrow at **6h00am** in the morning. You are all invited to support the cyclists on all routes during the race.

Madame Speaker,

Let me take this opportunity again to join the rest of our nation in celebrating and congratulating a young girl, who hails from our village of Shirley in the Waterval Region.

This girl and through her music has become the indomitable creative genius and beacon of creative excellence.

Through her music she has touched and inspired many young and old in our society and beyond.

Her name is Sho Madjozi. She is the recipient of two awards Best Newcomer and Best Female Awards, conferred during SAMA awards held last week at Sun City.

In conclusion,

I want to thank the African National Congress for continuing to provide the needed political guidance to our Committees and Council as a whole.

I also want to thank leaders of Opposition Parties for the valued participation in our Council and its Committees.

I want to thank the Speaker of our Council, for the selfless determination on ensuring that our Council carries out its legislative mandate without failure.

Let me extend my sincere appreciation to the Chief Whip of Council, for her unmatched wisdom to guide Caucus.

I want to thank the leadership of SAMWU and IMATU for their mature and focused leadership that helps both Council and management to deliver services to our people.

I want to thank all employees of Makhado Municipality; your commitment to serve the people of Makhado is highly appreciated.

I want to thank all the women and men who serve in Council as Ward and PR Councillors, my Executive Committee, our Ward Committees, your determination to serve and be agents of change and service delivery is recognised.

I want to pay homage to our traditional leaders for their wisdom and counsel. Your involvement in municipal governance will ensure that our people are given quality services.

I also want to thank my family for their support since my appointment as the Mayor of Makhado Municipality.

In conclusion, I want to remind each one of us what was envisioned in the book of Peter 2:9-10: **“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellences of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.**

Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

Thank you and may God Bless the people of Makhado Municipality.

(Handing over of keys to the Municipal Manager)

**Office of the Mayor
Cllr N.S Munyai
Makhado Municipality**