

One year on and the DA-led multiparty administration continues to work hard to rebuild Tshwane

7 September 2017

Release: Immediate

Note to Editor: *These were the remarks made by the Executive Mayor of Tshwane, Solly Msimanga, during a media briefing to mark his first year in office. Msimanga was addressing the National Press Club. #MsimangaOneYearAnniv*

It's a great honour to address the National Press Club for the first time since taking over as the Executive Mayor of the capital city of the Republic of South Africa.

The DA-led multiparty administration has recently marked one year since taking over the running of the City of Tshwane.

During the pre-election campaign, we made a promise to turn the City of Tshwane around; that we would stop corruption, deliver better services and create work opportunities for our people. We also promised to stabilise and revitalise the City and deliver better services to our VIPs, the ordinary residents of Tshwane.

We recommit ourselves to this cause every day and we endeavour to deliver on the promises we made to Tshwane's residents.

We are clear that while there is still so much work to be done on the journey to make Tshwane an inclusive, safe and caring city of opportunity, significant progress has been made.

It is a fact that we have inherited a cash-strapped institution where not enough provision was made to address the service delivery backlog that threatens the dignity of our people who continue to languish in uninhabitable areas.

Understanding all these challenges, it was important that we work smart with the limited resources at our disposal and focus our attention on our priorities, which are informed by the will of the people who elected us to serve.

Our work begun by our passing an adjustments budget that looked to better align our resources to ensure that we would be able to prioritise the delivery of better services to our people in the remainder of the 2016/17 financial year after assuming office.

It is important to note that in addition to inheriting an institution in financial shambles, we also inherited projects and programmes that were started and left unfinished for us to

attend to. Some of these projects were vanity projects and served no meaningful purpose for our people. After being thoroughly reviewed, they were stopped and the resources were directed to efforts that would be to the benefit of our people.

This meant that we had to formulate a strategically viable 2017/18 budget informed by an Integrated Development Plan that supports our efforts to build a City of Tshwane that:

- facilitates economic growth and job creation;
- creates a caring and inclusive city;
- delivers excellent services and protects the environment;
- keeps residents safe;
- pursues an open, honest and responsive administration.

Please allow me to share with you our service delivery achievements of the past 12 months since taking over this administration.

Health

Notable achievements include the following:

The handing over of cheques to 23 non-profit organisations dealing with drugs and substance abuse. These were resources handed to these organisations pursuant to binding service level agreements that ensure all work done is geared towards rehabilitating people, mainly youth, who have fallen into the trap of drug abuse.

We successfully brought stakeholders to the drugs and substance abuse consultative workshop and robustly engaged on the issue of carving a common goal towards fighting the scourge of drugs and substance abuse. We have further collaborated with the University of Pretoria on a community-based rehabilitation programme wherein more than a thousand service users were enrolled.

We also handed over the newly constructed Soshanguve Block JJ Clinic to the Gauteng Department of Health and saw through the completion of Zithobeni Clinic. This is our commitment to ensuring that there is progressive realisation of access to healthcare and we are doing our part one step at a time to ensure that this human right is enjoyed by as many residents as possible.

We have also increased access to health services where services are available from Monday to Friday from 07:30 to 16:00, and extended our services at 13 of the

24 facilities to Saturdays from 08:00 to 13:00. The full primary healthcare (PHC) package is provided at all the clinics, including ART and ARV roll-out.

We have appointed 34 retired nurses on contract to alleviate critical staff shortages in the PHC clinics. The Pharmaceutical Section has continuously managed to ensure that more than 90% of essential medicines are available at facilities at all times.

On the Expanded Immunisation Programme

A successful influenza campaign was held and 92% of high-risk residents were vaccinated against influenza.

Mobile clinics were also prioritised so as to cater for communities in remote areas. This supports the efforts of the ward-based outreach teams who go into communities and conduct house visits. To date we have activated eight mobile clinics in our regions with the exception of Region 4 and 5.

Safety and security

Ensuring the safety and well-being of residents is one of the key priorities of this administration. Residents need to feel safe and be safe in the city they call home.

Our Anti-Drug Unit in the Tshwane Metropolitan Police Department (TMPD) has in the past year made significant achievements. As at 31 August 2017 we have made a fair number of drug-related arrests.

Ongoing joint intelligence-driven operations with SAPS and Crime Intelligence are taking place in all identified hotspots. In addition, complaints received from members of the public, media and social media are also followed up to the best of our ability given the limited resources currently at our disposal.

Further to that, the TMPD conducts educational and awareness sessions on substance abuse in schools throughout Tshwane to address the scourge of drugs and substance abuse.

The Anti-Cable Theft Unit was established to have proactive and reactive interventions at electrical substations, cable trenches, feeders and main feeders. The unit has also targeted operations at second-hand dealers in order to curb the sale of stolen nonferrous metals.

We have deployed 1 000 TMPD members at various municipal properties and strategic installations to do static policing including crime prevention and crime combating, access control, and patrol duties inside and outside perimeter fencing. The City has also contracted 25 service providers to render guarding services and to monitor municipal buildings and assets.

Let me remind you that in the 2017/18 budget, an allocation of R2 billion has been made for metro policing to give effect to our whole crime-fighting agenda.

Emergency services

In March 2017 we launched the Heuweloord Emergency Services Station. This station provides fire and rescue, emergency medical and disaster management services to the community in Region 4. The planning and design phase of the construction of the Mamelodi Emergency Services Station is currently underway.

Our Emergency Services Department was allocated vehicles in July 2017 as follows:

- 16 x rapid intervention vehicles
- 34 x ambulances
- 9 x response vehicles
- 6 x light delivery vehicles

The following full maintenance lease vehicles have been ordered:

- 1 x hazmat (hazardous material) vehicle
- 1 x incident command vehicle
- 4 x grassfire vehicles
- 14 x engine companies (rescue pumpers)
- 2 x rapid intervention vehicles (swift water and rope rescue vehicles)

Altogether 181 community members were trained in Buddy Aid, Basic Firefighting and First Aid Level 1. Awareness training was given to 4 480 community members as part of the Public Information Education and Relations (PIER) Programme.

Economic development

Under the DA-led multiparty administration, the City of Tshwane is committed to developing an economic future that is prosperous and inclusive. To successfully realise this goal requires a strategic approach that identifies the very best growth opportunities.

The following projects were successfully executed under our economic development agenda:

Nellmapius Construction Incubator. The rationale behind this project is to provide business development and support services which are tailor-made for the needs of SMMEs in the construction industry in a controlled environment, thus enhancing the competitive capabilities of SMMEs participating in the programme.

The three-year project is valued at R9,2 million. At least 74 jobs were created.

South African Manufacturing Technology Demonstration Centre. The centre aims to support SMMEs in the manufacturing sector through *inter alia* business and technical training, facilitating market access, operating business infrastructure, technology transfer, and mentorship and coaching. The project is valued at R10 million and 113 direct jobs have been created to date.

The Sector Support and Analysis Division facilitated the creation of 688 job opportunities through the implementation of its capital and operational projects. Of the 688 job opportunities created, 245 are sustainable or long term. These jobs were created through the Tshwane Business Process Outsourcing Park and the Mining Social and Labour Plans projects.

A total of 2 020 youth were trained in various skills programmes in partnership with the private sector. The following sector skills programmes were implemented:

- Tshwane Tooling Academy in partnership with the National Tooling Initiative Programme;
- Tshwane Electronics and Engineering Academy in partnership with Samsung Electronics;
- Construction and building-related qualification in partnership with BPESA;
- Gauteng Automotive Learning Centre in partnership with the Automotive Industry Development Centre;
- Tourism Training Programme in partnership with Ga-Rankuwa Hotel School and Gauteng Youth Tourism Training Programme.

Tourism grading. As part of repositioning Tshwane as a tourist destination of choice, the City has partnered with the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa to star-grade township tourism establishments. A total of 162 tourism establishments were star-graded.

SMME development and support. The City of Tshwane supported 297 SMMEs through various business development support services such as business incubation, enterprise development capacity building and quality assurance. Through these initiatives, a total of 187 jobs were created, of which 74 were temporary and 113 are permanent.

Cooperatives development and support. Support was provided to 262 cooperatives in the form of facilitation of training on business and technical skills, access to funding and markets, non-financial support, and infrastructure and registration as cooperatives.

Investment Portal. In line with the principles and objectives of the smart city vision, the City of Tshwane has modernised its approach to investment attraction, facilitation and aftercare. The City has modernised its approach to attracting investment by launching a dedicated investment portal. At the forefront of this initiative is digital adoption and the employment of the latest information and communication technology to ensure adequate exposure and interaction between the City and the investor or business community.

Other projects in the pipeline are the expansion of the Automotive Supplier Park, Centurion Aerospace Village, Tshwane Agro-Processing Hub, and Tshwane Freight and Logistics Hub.

In the State of the Capital Address, we announced that we want to attract approximately R10,8 billion in investment. I am happy to announce that we have managed to achieve over R2,3 billion of investment from the private sector for the period September 2016 to date.

City planning

In the previous financial year, the City processed 10 250 building plans covering approximately 2 229 460 square metre throughout Tshwane. The aggregate construction value of the approved buildings is estimated at over R18 billion. This is one of the levers for economic growth and development.

For the short to medium term it is important for the City of Tshwane to leverage processes within its power in order to reduce red tape by giving effect to developmental projects such as:

- Speedy rates clearance;

- Speedy approval of building plans;
- Property registration;
- Disposing of prohibitive by-laws and policies.

Agriculture and environmental management

The City refurbished three buy-back centres, namely in Hammanskraal, Stinkwater and Atteridgeville, through a partnership with the Department of Environmental Affairs. Buy-back centres are also being built in Ga-Rankuwa and Mamelodi.

Phase 1 of the Kwaggasrand recycling facility was completed and opened on 9 November 2016. Phase 1 is currently operational and is receiving recyclable waste from Region 3 and 4. Additional work on the centre so as to receive and extract recyclable waste from mixed waste is under construction.

The City is continuing with the standardisation of waste collection bins. Altogether 12 768 bins with a 240-litre capacity have been distributed to households by June 2017. Linked to this was the review of the waste tariff, in terms of which, for the first time, properties with a value of less than R120 000 will not be charged waste management service fees. At the same time the City addressed the historical unfair practice whereby consumers who were serviced by private contractors were not contributing towards the city cleansing levy. Now all property owners will contribute towards the levy.

The new Klip-Kruisfontein Cemetery was launched and has commenced with burials. Data connection allowed the cemetery to be the first in Tshwane that could implement electronic burial records management.

A new air quality monitoring station has been established in Temba, Hammanskraal. Emission reports from industries in the City of Tshwane jurisdiction are being monitored.

Agricultural support in the form of training as well as market and finance access is being provided, benefiting over 100 smallholder farmers.

Utility services

Electricity and energy: Currently, 80,74% of all households in Tshwane have access to an electricity supply.

- During the 2016/17 financial year, new electricity connections were provided to 4 808 customers through the electrification and new connections programme.

- Pretoria West Power Station is currently generating 24 megawatt electricity per month and we are going to push it up to 25 megawatt per month. This effectively means that we pay less money to Eskom, which allows us to provide electricity to more households in Tshwane.
- Rooiwal Power Station is in its final stage of upgrading and will come online in January 2018.
- The upgrading of the Eldoraigue 132/11 kV substation from a capacity of 40 MVA to 80 MVA is 92% complete.
- The Mamelodi 3 132/11 kV substation is being upgraded from the current capacity of 20 MVA to 80 MVA. The project is about 88% complete. Various other substations are currently also being upgraded. This will contribute to the stabilisation and improvement of the energy supply to our customers.

Water and sanitation: In total, 81,98% of all households in Tshwane now have access to potable water in their yards and 79,21% of households now have water-borne sanitation. Furthermore, 690 additional households were provided with a full water meter connection (inter alia Rama City, Mabopane Ext 1, Kopanong, Winterveld, Zithobeni Heights and Zithobeni 8 and 9).

Water-borne sewers were provided to 5 256 additional households (inter alia Rama City, Mabopane Ext 1, Kopanong, Winterveld, Zithobeni Heights and Zithobeni 8 and 9).

Over 12 km of new water network infrastructure has been installed to improve access to potable water.

As a result of the collapsing of the water infrastructure due to age and leaks, the following projects for water network replacement were completed in Tshwane:

- Soshanguve Block AA and Block F – 4 653 metre of pipes;
- Ga-Rankuwa – 1 336 metre of steel pipes installed to replace the asbestos cement pipes; and
- Clubview, Hennopspark – 3 451 metre installed. Water reticulation replacement in Region 4 was critical due to dolomite and the possibility of sinkholes forming when water pipes are leaking in this area.

Housing and human settlements

- Title deeds have been handed over to 2 804 families and they are now formal homeowners.
- The 918 new houses that were completed will be allocated to qualifying beneficiaries in Refilwe Manor, Fort West, Mamelodi, Zithobeni, Kudube and Olievenhoutbosch.
- Altogether 1 155 houses have been allocated to families through happy letters and the process of transfer via title deed is underway.
- Rudimentary sanitation services have been installed in 64 informal settlements.

Community and social development

Indigent Programme

Currently, 75 770 individuals are registered on the City's Indigent Database. The database is under review, as there are major shortcomings with the exit strategy and continuous evaluation of registered individuals.

Community-Based Rehabilitation Programme (CBRP)

- 1 100 service users enrolled in the substance use programme.
- 55% of service users of the substance use programme were retained in the programme after six months.

Newly launched facilities

No new facilities were launched during the period under review. However, practical completion has been achieved at:

- Olievenhoutbosch multipurpose sport facility;
- Lotus Gardens multipurpose sport facility;
- Rethabiseng multipurpose sport facility;
- New Ga-Rankuwa Library (IT connection outstanding);
- Cullinan Library Park.

Roads and transport

The Capital Programme for Design, Construction and Maintenance unfolded according to plan during the 2016/17 financial year. More than 90% of the projects were in the construction phase and many of the projects were completed.

A total of 14 kilometre of storm water drainage and 32 kilometre of road were completed to the required standards.

Bus rapid transport

The Roads and Transport Department has developed an Industry Transition Strategy to serve as a guiding framework for negotiations that have to take place with the affected public transport operators in the implementation of the A Re Yeng system.

Line 1A will be launched in October 2017, with full operations starting from Wonderboom to the Pretoria CBD.

Tshwane Bus Services and A Re Yeng (TRT) have fully implemented an automated fare collection system and have been running a cashless system since June 2017.

The new Tshwane Bus Services timetable and routes were implemented in November 2016 and resulted in a number of benefits, including reduced customer complaints, as over 90% of commuters were able to get buses daily at the scheduled stops and time. Passenger ridership also increased from 270 000 in October 2016 to almost 390 000 in July 2017.

TBS Special Hire Services has made historical trips since its establishment in the previous century. For the first time since the establishment of TBS, about 40 TBS buses were able to transport ZCC members to Moria during the 2017 Easter pilgrimage. For the first time, our buses also crossed the border to Swaziland to transport church members during June 2017.

The Intergovernmental Authorisation Agreement, a service level agreement with the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport, was approved by the Mayoral Committee and signed.

The Comprehensive Integrated Transport Plan 2105 – 2020 was approved by the MEC for Roads and Transport in March 2017. The plan serves as a guiding document or blueprint for transportation planning in Tshwane.

Demand from taxi industry to be allowed to use BRT facilities

Utilisation of BRT lanes and facilities by taxis cannot be allowed at this stage. The BRT line was gazetted to be used exclusively for BRT services. The only exception will be when users are directed otherwise by the traffic officer on duty to address emergency situations. BRT has a corridor protection strategy approved by Council, which allows only TRT buses to use the facility. Affected operators are therefore compensated if directly affected or operating along the TRT line. The industry leadership and the National Department of Transport will negotiate the possible use of the facilities by other taxi operators.

Improved finances

Since taking over the running of the city, cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year improved from R1,1 billion in the 2015/16 financial year to R2,1 billion in the 2016/17 financial year. Unauthorised expenditure reduced from R1,6 billion in 2015/16 to R634 million in 2016/17.

Conclusion

The City of Tshwane has a responsibility to ensure that we set the highest possible standard for the rest of the country since we run its capital city. We must be a shining example for all people across South Africa.

I am very proud of the accomplishments that have been made, but there is still more work to be done.

Credit also goes to all officials who have rolled up their sleeves to help make Tshwane a city that is better to live in, resilient and inclusive.

This administration will continue to honour the commitments it made to all the people of Tshwane, and to be a government that they can be proud of.

Let us work together to make the capital city prosperous again.

I thank you!

Media enquiries

Samkelo Mgobozi

SPOKESPERSON TO THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF TSHWANE

078 231 5977