



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE

BUDGET SPEECH 2021 | 2022

08 April 2021

10h00

Limpopo Legislature



The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people



MEC NAMANE DICKSON MASEMOLA
PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

BUDGET SPEECH FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE, VOTE 09, DELIVERED BY MEC NAMANE DICKSON MASEMOLA ON 8th APRIL 2021- LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE CHAMBERS

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker

The Honourable Premier

My colleagues in the Executive Council

The Chief Whip of the Legislature

Leader of Opposition

Chairpersons of Committees

Members of the Provincial legislature

Chairperson and Members of the Board, Roads Agency Limpopo

The Auditor- General

Members of the Media

Comrades and Fellow South Africans

Greetings to you all

It is with humility and great honour to have an opportunity to once again on behalf of the African National Congress, the inexhaustible store of revolutionary cadres and the people of our Province, to serve and make transformation efforts as we continue bettering the lives of the people.

We are performing our legislative duties this year at the time, when the country and the world celebrate the life and times of the veteran of the struggle against colonialism and the founder of the women struggle and power. Mme Charlotte Makgomo Maxeke.

A heroine who laid a profound revolutionary foundation for theoretical abstraction significant; for human development and social progress. Her ideological orientation disfigured the irrational posture of the colonial and apartheid forces.

And radically ingressed their false belief of class and race superiority, thus placing the ideas for struggle and freedom primary to the efforts of the motive forces.

Given the greater degree of women oppression her ideals gradually brought modified social relations in society, a basis from which the African National Congress advanced women emancipation for prolongation of the revolutionary theory and longevity of the progressive forces led by the African National Congress.



Indeed her stature as a heroine and an intellectual deserves global attention and celebration. We are intrigued by her life and indeed even future generations will forever cherish her ideals.

Hon Speaker,

We are again attending to matters of societal importance amidst the challenges of the global pandemic, which we continue to fight in our collective endeavours to protect lives and livelihoods.

We remain committed to our plans and priorities to reconstruct and revive the economy, from the devastations caused by the pandemic. To those who transited to the astral cradles of their ancestral forebears, may their souls rest in peace.

Hon. Speaker, the President in the State of the Nation Address have articulated key priorities which where accentuated by the Hon Premier in the State of the Province Address.

That remains a policy framework which guides us as we traverse through turbulent socio-economic conditions facing society.

The trajectory has been set by government towards economic recovery through implementation of infrastructure led programme, to create jobs, rollout massive infrastructure projects, accelerate economic reforms to unlock investment and growth, fight crime, malfeasance and sleaze, continue to build capacity of the state as it is essential to carry-out all the programmes listed in the development plans of government.

Hon Speaker,

The Global Infrastructure Hub, an initiative of the G20 for sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructure implementation, has found that over the past twenty-five (25) years, government investment in infrastructure is more effective than other types of public spending in increasing economic output.

We are therefore confident that the country's Sustainable Infrastructure Development Symposium hosted in June 2020, resonates well with the articulated rationale about the private and public sector investment in infrastructure to unlock and stimulate the economy.

In this regard the President is providing the quality leadership required through national platforms and systems, for strategic interventions and appropriate approaches. And as the Province through the Limpopo Development Plan released by the Hon Premier, we are fully conscious of the mandate

bestowed upon us, that infrastructure development has been placed high on the agenda for development.

It is however important to highlight that more investment is needed in the construction of new roads given the backlog that we have. Equally a competing challenge remain fiscal constraints confronting both the Department and the Entity given that this year's allocation for the upgrade of roads has a shortfall of **(R492 million)** four hundred and ninety-two million.

This compounds already existing challenges given that about 31 % of the Provincial roads are tarred and about 69% still require upgrade from gravel to tar. This is not only a challenge for the need to provide new roads but also a matter that will likely affect the timelines of the existing schedules.

I have since asked the technical experts and engineers in the department, to find other engineering methods of providing service delivery, given these financial constraints. Though we hope for fiscal injection going forward.

I will come back to this area of infrastructure service delivery in a short while.

Hon Speaker,

Expanded Public Works Programme remains the key programme in the restoration of the livelihoods of the poor and the unemployed. It provides short to medium employment, skills and enterprise development opportunities through use of labour intensive methods in the delivery of public and community assets and services.

Since the launch of the EPWP Phase 4 targets, the demographic employment target for women has increased from 55% to 60%, whilst more work still need to be done for youth and people living with disabilities, given unchanged percentages of 55% and 2% respectively.

Hon Speaker,

The national target for EPWP Phase 4 for the period 2019\2020 to 2023\2024 has been set at 5.04 million work opportunities. While the Provincial target is (475 358) four hundred and seventy-five thousands, three hundred and fifty-eight, which is 9, 4% of the national target.

For the financial year 2021\2022, the Provincial target is (95 210) ninety-five thousand two hundred and ten work opportunities.

We are confident that collectively the provincial administration will achieve the set target.

To this end we have developed a concept document on how to revive the massive labour intensive and job creation programme in roads construction, rehabilitation and maintenance. Through this initiative community members will literally participate in the actual activities while being financially empowered.

In this regard amongst various job creation endeavours, we have earmarked twelve projects across the Province, through which to implement the Presidential Employment Initiative. These projects will enable us to create (750) seven hundred and fifty work opportunities.

Hon Speaker,

We are forging a partnership with NYDA, National Youth Development Agency to empower young people on business enterprise development initiatives as well as other related services. Our commitment to develop young people within and without the sector remains a goal to pursue.

We continue to invest in our internal capacity to deliver on our mandate. To date the department has enrolled (55) fifty-five young people in (4) four areas of community practice being:

- Construction
- Electrical & Mechanical
- Civil & Structural
- Quantity Surveying

Furthermore **Hon Speaker**, (60) sixty learners have been taken through the National Youth Service in collaboration with MerSETA:- Manufacturing, Engineering, and Related Services Sector Education and Training for welding learnership have graduated in December 2020.

The jewellery incubator programme supported by SEDA Limpopo is ongoing and 72 learners attached to it will complete end of August 2021. Also that 110 participants of the Cleaning and Hygiene project will be completing their training.

We also have 70 young people in the internship programme implemented in partnership with the Premiers Office for a period of 24 months.

The Department has signed MOU: - Memorandum of Understanding with Seven TVET Colleges in the Province. There are (100) hundred young people being trained in electrical apprenticeship, welding, fitting apprenticeship and diesel mechanic who will complete their studies in 2022.

Hon Speaker,

Through Artisan Development Programme we continue to train learners to acquire skills required to pursue their chosen areas study. These initiatives show the extent to which, we have programmes to really empower young people through skills development in various areas.

We also have Matured Candidates Programme which targets employees in the core Directorates of the Department, whose occupation requires Council registration by law.

Hon. Speaker,

Our mandate is infrastructure provision and maintenance and as such delivery of socio-economic infrastructure continues in this regard.

Though the recent heavy rainfalls have further compounded our challenges particularly on roads infrastructure. The assessment done point the extent of the damage on the roads network hence the serious need for rebuilding of collapsed bridges, patching of potholes and rehabilitation of many roads.

The costs are estimated at **(R538 million)** five hundred and thirty-eight million which the Provincial fiscus does not have hence unallocated budget in this regard. However, we are working hard through differentiated approaches to respond to the challenge.

Through the leadership of the Premier relations have been built through forums of engagements with private sector. In pursuing Public-Private Partnership we have been able to secure an amount of **(R80 million)** eighty million from the mining companies towards construction of the new bridge at Ga-Malekana, Steelbridge. Administrative processes are underway towards the realisation of this project.

We have also started with the re-construction of bridge 6116 in Makuleke village under the Collins Chabane local municipality in the Vhembe district. A contractor for this work has been appointed and handed over site and work will commence in this financial year, 2021/22.

Over and above, processes are underway to ensure that four other bridges and installation of drainage structures and re-gravelling are done in Waterberg, Sekhukhune and Vhembe districts and have also identified more same projects in Mopani and Capricorn districts to be given attention in this financial year.

Hon. Speaker,

As part of the initiative to continue improving our road network, six (6) roads have been assessed and will be rehabilitated at an estimated cost of **(R151 million)** One hundred and Fifty-One Million Rand. These are projects mentioned by the Honourable Premier during his State of the Province address earlier in the year and have been visited by the Department and RAL. They include, but not limited to;

- D3480, the road Joining Giyani and Phalaborwa in Greater Giyani Municipality;
- D3200 in Lebaka- Mohlabaeng, Greater Letaba Municipality
- D11 in Ga-Mamaila-Kolobetona, Mopani District,
- D4150 in Praktiseer, Sekhukhune District,
- D1589 Kgobokanang to Ga-Makgato in Blouberg, Capricorn district,
- D2537 Penge in Sekhukhune District.

Contractors have been appointed and construction works will commence in this 2021/22 financial year.

Again **Honourable Speaker**, five more such projects have been finalised and contractors will be handed over sites soon.

Those are:

- D4 Elim to Malamulele in Vhembe District,
- D4240 Masevens in Sekhukhune District,
- D1483 Musina to Pontdrift in Vhembe District,
- P51/3 Stofberg in Sekhukhune,
- D3653 in Malamulele, Vhembe District.

Hon. Speaker,

It is important that we report to the people of Limpopo that with all the constraints that characterise our work, there is significant progress in the delivery of roads. In 2020/21 financial year we managed to complete four roads under mentioned:

- Road D3556 from Gilead to Road D3564 in the Waterberg District. The total length is 7km
- Road D3671 from Musekwa to DoliDoli in the Vhembe District. The total length is 3km
- Road D3810 from Thomo to Khakhala to Gawula to Mahlathi to Ndindani to Hlomela to Phalaubeni in the Mopani District. The total length is 3km
- Road D3820 from Blinkwater to Rotterdam in the Mopani District. The total length is 3 km

We take this opportunity once more to report progress on roads projects that are ongoing as follows. There are eleven projects that at different levels of progress and they will be completed this year. The roads are:

- 3 km on road D3878 from Sekororo towards Balloon in the Mopani District is currently at 95% to completion
- 24 km on road D4370 from Tompi Seleka to Mogaladi to Phokwane in the Sekhukhune District is currently at 65% completion

- 13km on road D2922 and D2919 from Keerom to Tshikanoshi in the Sekhkhune district is currently at 88% completion
- 7.5 km on road D3727, D879 and D1356 from Mashamba to Tshitale to Morebeng in the Vhembe District is currently at 89% completion
- 3km on road D3688 from Khubvi to Tshidzivhe in the Vhembe District is currently at 90% completion
- 5km on road D3695 from Siloam to Tshandama in the Vhembe District is currently at 82% completion
- 5km on road D4253 in Ga Masemola Village in the Sekhukhune District is currently at 97% completion
- 3km on road D3187 and D3843 from Mageva to Makhuva in the Mopani District is currently at 98% completion
- 3km on road D3200 from Mokwakwaila to Mawa in the Mopani District is currently at 68% completion.
- 3km on road D3377 from Limburg to Matlala in the Capricorn District is currently at 80% completion.
- 32km on road D3232, D15 and D3150 from Morebeng to Sekgosese currently at 75% completion.

Hon. Speaker,

Our area of work requires collaboration with various stakeholders and key amongst them is SANRAL: - South African National Roads Agency with whom we collaborate to deliver quality roads. The Premier's State of the Province Address in 2021/21 financial year, mentioned the following roads that are under implementation:

- 12.4 km from Calais to Sekororo in Mopani District: At procurement stage
- The upgrade of Steelpoort to Riba to Kokwaneng to Ga-Mapodile to Burgersfort in Sekhukhune District: Consultants to be sources in the 2nd quarter of 2021)
- 13 km from Tshikanosi to Malebetsa: A consultant has been appointed
- 29.3 km from Thomo to Hlomela: currently at design phase
- N11 Mokopane ring road and Mmapela to Mokopane in Waterberg: Design process is proceeding however, there are challenges with land acquisition but we are attending to the matter
- R71 Namakgale to Phalaborwa: Consultant to be sourced in 1st quarter 2021/22)
- R524 Louis Trichardt to Albasini to Tshakhuma in Vhembe: Currently at concept design phase and stakeholder engagements are in progress
- R518 Mapela to Mokopane: SANRAL has committed to proceed with the necessary processes to have this road improved in the 2021/22 financial year.

Equally important, the condition of road R521, Polokwane to Mogwadi (Dendron) to Alldays has been a cause for concern to us and the road users. After visiting the road we have allocated (**R35 million**) thirty five million rand in this financial year for its designs and rehabilitation.

We have also initiated engagements with SANRAL for possible collaboration to restore the state of the road to its good condition given its economic significance.

Hon. Speaker,

There are many roads challenges which we continue to resolve for actual completion of the affected roads. Like the long outstanding matter of the 22 km Road P277/1 in Masisi, Vhembe District, we have resolved the disputes and it will receive a contractor soon to complete the project as procurement processes are underway.

Equally D192 road in Mogalakwena, Waterberg District, from Rantlakana, Ga-Chere to Marken will be fixed this year hence we have allocated the budget for rehabilitation and designs. I will soon meet with the Mayor of Mogalakwena Municipality and community leaders to give them feedback.

Hon. Speaker,

We have been inundated with visits and complaints and protests by communities demanding the upgrades of their roads. Demands that are understandable although as I have already indicated earlier on, that the budget appropriated to us does have a shortfall or deficit even on our current commitment for road upgrades.

The Department is allocated only **(R356, 5 million)** Three Hundred and Fifty-Six Comma Five Million Rand from the equitable share for road upgrades which means from gravel to tar and there is shortfall of **(R492 million)** Four Hundred and Ninety-Two Million Rand alluded to in my prelude to this budget speech.

This means it will be difficult to meet the demands for roads from communities given the budget allocation and this is the hurdle confronting us this financial year.

Clearly if no further funding is secured during the course of the financial year, we are going to have challenges with communities.

Hon. Speaker, difficult as it would be, I wish to respond to some of the communities by indicating that we have allocated the budget for the designs of their long standing roads which are as follows:

- D3277 Blouberg Health Center to Buffelhoek Clinic, in Capricorn District
- D4180 Atok Mine Sefateng - Ga Selepe to Modimolle
- D4109 Marulaneng and Selwane, in Capricorn District
- D3561 Segole 1 & Segole 2, in Waterberg District
- D4260 Malope to Phokwane in Sekhukhune District

- D3669 Mavhunga Access Road, in Vhembe
- D3734 Tshatshama Road, in Mopani District
- D 4090, D4093, D4094, D4096 Malemati, Lepelle Nkumpi in Capricorn District
- D4199 Apel to Ga-Nkoana to D4190, in Sekhukhune District
- D3426, D3428, D5007: - Ga-Ramoshwane, Ga-Rametlwane, Ga-Ramotlowana
- D3248 Thapane Cross to Nwamitwa, in Mopani District
- D1639 in the Waterberg District
- D4283 Glen Cowie to Malaka, in Sekhukhune District.

We humbly appeal to communities for cooperation given the reality confronting us regarding financial constraints and remain committed to work with them in finding solutions.

Hon. Speaker,

In addition to the work done through various programmes, we are strengthening Districts and Cost centres to be more responsive in roads maintenance. An allocation of **(R1, 345 Billion)**, one billion three hundred and forty-five million, has been made available for use between the Department and RAL.

And this will be spent on (75) seventy-five projects implemented by both the Department and RAL.

This includes PRMG: - Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant which is only meant for maintenance of roads and not building of new roads.

Of this total amount **(R615 491 Million)** six hundred and fifteen million, four hundred and ninety-one thousand will be spent on (25) twenty-five roads maintenance projects spread across the Province. Like the following roads:

- D856 Dennilton – Moteti, Elias Motswaledi
- D3840, Giyani – Phalaborwa – to complete the whole road
- D3873, Bokgaga – Lephephane
- D3880, Lenyenye Road
- D11 Mamaila road: complete the whole road
- D4 Elim – Malamulele: complete the whole road
- D959 Makhado – Madombizha
- D715 Madombidzha – Kutama
- D4070 Mamaolo – Seleteng – Mashite
- P18/2 Kuschke – Zebediela
- D3110 Ga Seleka – Shongoane

- D192 Mogalakwena
- D3502 Magongoa – Mosesetjane
- D2219 Magnetheights – Malekana

Just to mention but few and the complete list is the schedule or work plan.

Additional to the work to be done will be through the use of the 22 Households Contractors allocated to local municipalities to fix potholes and bad roads identified by the Districts of the Department.

Hon Speaker, we remain committed to ensure that as a lead department responsible for infrastructure delivery, we meet the expectations of the Provincial administration.

Our unwavering commitment continues and working together with the Department of Education, we have already handed over contractors sites to six Schools for construction this financial year. This will be medium State of the Art Schools with the necessary facilities for better education and the schools are: -

- Gidela Secondary School in Giyani
- Naledi ya Meso Secondary School in Dikgalaopeng
- Leduma Mahume Primary School in Phokwane
- Alldays Primary School in Blouberg
- Mahlagaume Primary School in Bothashoek
- Marude Secondary School in Thohoyandou

In collaboration with the Department of Education we remain committed to solve the backlog of schools with acute infrastructure challenges including storm damaged schools.

The department is busy with (52) fifty-two schools which are currently at designs stage. It is anticipated that contractors will be appointed for a list of priority schools from the fifty-two that will be approved by Education Department for possible implementation this financial year.

Moshomo o tshaba diatla Mahlako 'a Gafela.

Hon Speaker

There are several health projects that are at different stages of progress with regard to implementation and designs. These projects are laundry facilities, building works, upgrading of health facilities, Emergency Medical Services and Maphutha –Malatjie Hospital which is at 85% and will be completed this year, 2021/2022.

With regard to the construction of the Agriculture Offices in Molemole, progress is at 93% and completion is expected during the first quarter of 2021/22 financial year.

In the same breadth, we are proud to announce that we have completed the Masia and Mphaphuli Traditional Council offices in Vhembe District and are currently working on Ditlou Manchidi in Capricorn District and Mogashoa Ditlakaneng in Sekhukhune District respectively.

These are important facilities as they preserve the dignity of leadership of Royalty, our traditions and cultures that constantly remind us of who we are. In collaboration with the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), we are committed to ensure that this programme continues as we restore the authority and dignity of Royal leadership.

The Department is busy with the construction of accommodation facilities at the Limpopo Traffic College. Phase 1 has been completed, phase 2 is underway and completion is expected by end of 2021/22 financial year. We will then immediately commence with phase 3 of this project thereafter.

Hon Speaker, provision of infrastructure should be coupled with maintenance to ensure longevity of the state assets. In this regard the department will continue conducting condition assessments on state owned buildings throughout the Province to determine the extent of maintenance.

Mindful of the fact that maintenance budgets reside with each department and it gets done per request from departments.

Hon. Speaker,

It is a noble commitment and determination of the provincial government to ensure that the long awaited Provincial State Theatre becomes a reality. Working with the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, we are in earnest focused to ensure that this much needed arts and recreation facility for the people of our province is realised.

The project is currently at planning stage and it is anticipated that the detail design will be finalised during the third quarter of 2021/22 financial year. Construction is planned to commence during the last quarter of 2021/22 financial year.

Further work is being done regarding four (4) libraries which are at the planning stage and construction is anticipated to commence during the fourth quarter of 2021/22 financial year.

Hon. Speaker,

Many years ago leaders stood before this House with commitment to indeed pursue a developmental goal of relocating Sekhukhune District Offices of the Provincial Government to Jane Furse.

Their efforts have laid a basis for us today after twenty-six since the democratic breakthrough, to report to this respected House, that we have secured a decision and understanding with the Royal leadership of Mamone, that land is available for this long awaited development to start.

Fifty hectares of land will be made available for this massive development and that will accommodate also both the District and the Local Municipalities of Sekhukhune and Makhuduthamaga respectively.

Task Teams are being established and the public and legislative processes will be undertaken to ensure compliance and steadfastness in this regard.

Hon Speaker and Premier, our hearts are warmed by this unshakable commitment of certainty reached with the Royal leadership of Mamone. That the best way for sustainable development in pushing back the frontiers of poverty and underdevelopment, is to create base for regional economic development anchored on this long awaited project, which will inevitably change the relations between towns and the country side.

We remain faithful to the principles and the fundamental cause of these socio-economic efforts. We are illuminated by the profound understanding demonstrated collectively and our readiness to act and canalise the terrain is informed by your policy pronouncements and leadership Hon Premier.

This will bring fundamental social change in the lives of the people of Sekhukhune and pride to the Bapedi Nation.

Bahlaku ba Raphogole, Golokwane tsa Tsate boba tsa Mohlaku, bana ba Lethebeswane la noka ya Tubatse, re a leboga.

Ba re khutlong sa thaba go swere yeshu gomme matsea moro a bo mmutla re tla mona.

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of LEDET we are doing work in the four Nature Reserves of Nylsvlei, Wolkberg, Blouberg and Letaba Ranch Nature Reserves. These projects required both maintenance and construction works in order to refresh their condition and also expand.

To date maintenance on all four (4) is complete and the Department will commence with main construction works in the 2021/22 financial year based on the approved scope of work.

The work we are doing in these important tourist attraction areas of our beautiful province, is being monitored closely and are determined to complete them within the scheduled time.

In this financial year the Department will be doing maintenance of access road and chalets at Makhutsi Camp in Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve. In Blouberg and Percyfive Nature reserves, we will be constructing buffalo bomas.

Hon. Speaker,

The Department is further tasked with an exciting responsibility to reconstruct Schoemansdal Museum, which is meant to preserve the history of the people of Limpopo. This project will commence in 2021/22 financial year and we will be handing over site to the contractor in the coming weeks.

Hon. Speaker,

These projects are not just brick and mortar, they are part of drivers of our economic recovery initiative given their potential to create jobs. They further enable access to places of economic and social activities with ease provide conducive infrastructure for learning, health-care, recreation and other social services and necessities.

Thereby contributing to the development of the people of this province and building a fundamental base for social cohesion and advancement.

Hon. Speaker,

Human resource management and development remains a key aspect for the success of everyone institution or organisation to achieve its vision and mission. As such the repositioning of the department to assume its primary mandate of being the implementing system of infrastructure and maintenance for the Provincial Administration, needs a new shift from how it has been fifteen years ago.

Its business processes today should respond to the diminishing capacity and agility, structural gaps in roles, work processes and accountability, critical information flow, disorganisation and improper system resulting in performance challenges.

Transformation that we advance equally beckons of the public service to use a different lens of analysing, approaching and executing their mandate.

We are therefore busy with the organisational structure to recalibrate our critical mission based on job designs, departmentation, delegation, appropriate systems and designs, leadership and management, effective chain of command and guidance for successful implementation of development programmes.

In this regard consultation processes are underway towards finalisation of reviewing the structure.

Hon. Speaker,

Limpopo Infrastructure Strategic Planning Hub remains the centre of engineering capacity created and institutionalised in the department, to maximise on the existing built environment professionals in the Province. This helps to enhance management and implementation of Infrastructure Delivery Management System.

In this area of technical engineering expertise, we are also benefitting from the long standing Diplomatic relations between Cuba and South Africa. We have (11) eleven Cuban Technical Advisors who are based in the department and continue to do the great job.

We are very grateful of their commitments and contribution and hold in high regard the support from this great Nation.

Hon. Speaker,

The financial year 2020/21 will not only go down in history as the year of the pandemic, but it will forever be etched in our hearts as the year we turned the department given the positive audit opinion from the Auditor- General of South Africa (**AGSA**).

I am pleased to say for the first time in a long time, the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure received an unqualified audit opinion.

Equally the Roads Agency Limpopo also obtained an unqualified audit opinion.

I would like take this opportunity to thank all the officials who worked hard, the capable men and women who continue to put efforts to ensure prudent use of the financial resources we are entrusted with.

The Head of department and your team, Chairperson of RAL Board and other Board members, the CEO and your executive, the staff, the audit committee and those who never lost faith in the department, I thank you.

Of course this performance could not have been achieved without the support and guidance of the Portfolio Committee and the Standing Committee of Public Accounts (SCOPA). Our heartfelt appreciation goes to you all.

Our attitude towards this good work is that, we are forging ahead and accelerate our effort and use this as a base towards achieving a clean audit. There is no room regression.

BUDGET ALLOCATION

For the work ahead, the provincial Treasury appropriated **R3.212 billion** for the 2021/22 financial year. This allocation has a 9.0% negative growth due to a once off allocation made in 2020/21 financial year. As mentioned earlier, the allocation includes **R1.345 billion** for conditional grants to be used on road maintenance, EPWP and the overall improvement of infrastructure delivery in the province.

The Department will transfer **R1.109 billion** to RAL for operational costs and roads maintenance. This amount includes **R42.5million** allocated for capital priority road projects.

An allocation of **R80-million** is made for the acquisition of a building for office accommodation. This supports the decision of EXCO to procure office buildings in order to move closer towards saving money spent on rentals.

The budget is hereby broken down per programme:

- **ADMINISTRATION: R304.6 million**
- **INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS: R721.9 million**
- **EPWP: R66 226 million**
- **ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE: R2 119 151 billion**

CONCLUSION

As we enter the new financial year, we cannot only hope but join hands and strengthen government's efforts to ensure that this becomes the year we win the fight against the pandemic.

Equally important, that it becomes the year in which we rise above all odds and try to meet expectations of the electorate.

We commit to work with all stakeholders to ensure that together we contribute to the development of the Province and take our work to greater heights.

Let me express my appreciation for the leadership and guidance provided by the honourable **Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, Mahlatjie 'a Hibirwa 'a Morwaswi 'a Molea.**

Re a leboga **Tlou.**

Words of thanks to the Portfolio Committee Chaired by Hon Makoma Makhurupetse, for the oversight role on us that seeks to make the department a productive organ.

The collective work done by the officials of the department and the entity RAL is quite evident and much appreciated.

I would like to thank my family, my wife and children for their unwavering support.

Hon. Speaker,

The work is not over but just the beginning, we are called to serve and do that with the amount of dedication and determination of a lion in pursuit of prey, and tackle the challenges and stumbling blocks with the ferocity of a cornered buffalo.

Ke a leboga

Ha khensa

Ndo livhuwa

Ngiyathokoza

Baie dankie

Thank you