



**State of the City Address by the Honourable Mayor of
Mogale City Local Municipality, Cllr Koketso Calvin Seerane**

**Centenary Hall, Civic Centre, Mogale City
27th March 2015**

Madam Speaker, Cllr Suzen Thupane;

Executive Mayors, Speakers, Chief Whips and Members of Mayoral Committees
of various municipalities;

Freeman of Mogale City, Chief Apostle and president of the TACC, Prof Caesar
Nongqunga;

Chairperson and Secretary of the Regional Executive Committee of the ANC in the
West Rand, Cdes Boyce Maneli and Sanele Ngweventsha;

Leaders of the Alliance;

Leaders of Opposition parties;

Honourable Councillors;

General Manager of Eskom in Gauteng, Mr. Bandile Jack and your entourage;

Municipal Manager of Mogale City Local Municipality, Mr. Dan Mashitisho and
your executive committee;

Municipal Managers of our sister municipalities and senior managers of
government departments here present;

Religious and business leaders;

Members of the media;

Distinguished guests, comrades and friends;

This august gathering has been convened today to provide an opportunity for us
to give an honest account of the progress we have made in advancing the
mandate that the African National Congress was overwhelmingly given by the
people of our city.

The State President and President of the African National Congress, Cde Jacob
Zuma declared this year as the Year of the Freedom Charter. He reminded us in
the January 8 Statement that:

“We are the descendants of many warriors who fought against colonialism such as Autshumato, King Hintsa, King Makhado, King Cetshwayo, King Sekhukhune, King Moshoeshe, Adam Kok and Nkosi Bhambatha.

These are some of the giants, upon whose shoulders we stand one hundred and three years after the ANC was founded. The vision of the founding mothers and fathers of our movement was confirmed by the people of South Africa, who gave birth to the clauses of the Freedom Charter at the Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto in 1955.”

The Premier of Gauteng, Cde David Makhura amplified this point in the State of the Province Address when he said:

“The Freedom Charter remains our lodestar that continues to guide us to a South Africa of our dreams as we constantly search for and surge forward to a more humane and just society.”

Madam Speaker, this account on the State of our City could be perceived as blowing our own horn as we subject ourselves to full scrutiny of the people. The report card will tell the tale of a city in rapid advancement and people experiencing tangible socio-economic development.

In an unannounced visit to Mogale City last week, the **Deputy Ministers of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Cdes Andries Nel and Obed Bapela** said:

“We have all been inundated by media reports that reinforce a perception that local government is an area of incompetence, where corruption is rife and there is blatant display of uncaring attitudes by public servants. We want to commend you for many things but want to say that Mogale City is one of the municipalities that changes the narrative. Your municipality is doing well. You have sound financial management systems, good governance and a competent management team with relevant qualifications. Through our interaction with the community of Mogale City, we also found that you have high levels of resident satisfaction. We want to commend you for that.”

Madam Speaker, if the deputy ministers say these things independent of our influence and are wrong, when other agencies have confirmed that we are one of

the best places to live in, we want the deputy ministers to come here unannounced all over again and make these wrong statements once more. Like the committed and consummate democrats that we are, we will allow them to say these wrong things all the time.

Building a local economy to create more employment (decent jobs) and sustainable livelihoods

Madam Speaker, we are committed to playing our part in ensuring that the Ten Pillars of the Gauteng Provincial Government aimed at **radical transformation, modernisation and re-industrialization of the province** are met.

The **Local Economic Development Strategy** of the municipality was crafted to ensure that we create an environment in which residents are able to work together to achieve economic growth and development and thus improve their quality of life. In implementing this strategy, through our **Business Registration Support Programme** which assists new businesses to save on registration costs, the department assisted 600 businesses to formalise their entities through the Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office (CIPRO). It should be noted that 70 of these entities were cooperatives.

We assisted 47 entities dealing with perishable foods, places of entertainment and so on with **business licenses**.

New townships and developments that were approved by the city will bring approximately 5340 residential units, with business floor area of 579 000 square metres, industrial floor area of 60 000 square metres as well as institutional and educational floor area of 45 000 square metres.

Applications for **Rezoning and Consent Use** that we considered will bring about further residential development amounting to 12 298 square metres and business development of 188 731 square metres.

The financial estimates of all building plans considered and approved is R684 million and will provide much need job opportunities.

We are also pleased to announce that the R650 million upgrades to the **Silverstar Casino** and **Key West Mall** are at final stages, with the Casino providing an assortment of adventures for its clientele.

We are also pleased to announce that the R350 million construction of the **250 bed Netcare hospital** is underway in Pinehaven, and we anticipate that it will open at the end of this year. Construction of the hospital has provided 222 jobs to

local people, especially those coming from Wards 22 and 29. The main contractor has also sub-contracted 6 local SMMEs.

We are determined to give our CBD a thorough-going facelift in order to attract and retain investment. The municipality has identified portions of land within the Inner City for the development of Mogale City's **Municipal Precinct** as part of the **Inner City Regeneration**. Further, as part of the Inner City Regeneration programme, Gautrans allocated R15 million for feasibility studies and planning of the **Krugersdorp Railway Station upgrade** which will include trading facilities, a public square, roads upgrade, taxi and bus bays. The planning and design phase is nearing completion and all documents have been submitted to Gautrans for consideration. The total upgrade of the station will cost about R40 million to complete.

In an effort to give effect to the township renewal initiative funded by the **Neighbourhood Development Programme Grant (NDPG)**, we have completed the construction of 6.6km of walkways in order to promote safe pedestrian movement along secondary linkages and main arterial roads that form part of the **Leratong Nodal Development**. We have also completed a Status Quo Review Plan to ensure that the development of the node accords with the **Urban Network Strategy** of the National Treasury.

NDPG projects currently underway include upgrading of walkways on Jacob and Geba Street, Kagiso Avenue, Munsieville (Van Riebeeck and Corane Streets as well as Robert Broom Drive).

A total amount of R30 million has been made available by National Treasury for this financial year to extend the urban upgrades to other areas of Kagiso and Munsieville.

It is our pleasure to announce that the site of the **Leratong Nodal Development** was handed over this morning to the bulk earthworks contractor who will start with site clearance. The first phase of the Mall is almost 87% let and the **anchor tenants are Pick 'n Pay, Woolworths and Shoprite with Nandos, McDonald's and KFC drive-thru's**. There is a good mix of local entrepreneurs such as Mogale Medicals, Thabong Good Health as well as Sello Optometrist.

A total of **2000 housing units** in the first phase of the development will be delivered, and 700 thereof will be give-away stock.

We wish to report that a consultant was appointed at the end of October 2014 to produce a plan to guide development of commercial and export businesses along the **N14/R28 Corridor**. A Status Quo report has also been concluded.

As part of meeting the goal of **radical transformation and modernisation of the economy**, the municipality will embark on a deliberate **SMART CITY INITIATIVE** which will stimulate socio-economic development and growth. The hallmark of this initiative will be a smart and digitally-enabled government that promotes mass access to and digital inclusion of the residents of the city through provision of affordable broadband.

Madam Speaker, we are pleased that the Gauteng Provincial Government will work with municipalities and the private sector to unlock the potential of the **Lanseria Airport logistics hub**. Premier David Makhura announced that the private sector has already injected R500 million in Capex to develop the airport whilst R10 billion is expected to be invested in this catalytic project over the next 15 years. The municipality has identified Lanseria Airport as an enabler for economic diversification. We agree with Premier Makhura that the Lanseria Airport City will be critical to economic development of the Western Corridor of Gauteng, therefore we will take full advantage of opportunities presented by this development.

In pursuance of the objectives of our **Local Economic Development Strategy**, we can report that the **Chemical Incubator** started operations in July 2014 and is situated at the Chamdor Training Centre. The facility provides laboratories, manufacturing equipment and storage. The incubator has 24 SMMEs signed up, with 17 owners of these having undergone training in manufacturing of household cleaning detergents whilst 11 of these are already trading.

Two of the companies have been assisted by Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) to pay for the SABS Quality testing for their products which is underway. We will assist the companies to meet SEDA funding requirements in order for them to also achieve SABS certification for their products.

We are pleased to announce that **Devor Cosmetics** a Kagiso-based incubate that manufactures cosmetics got a contract to supply some of their products to a pharmacy in Germiston, which in turn distributes to at least five other retailers.

The **Construction Incubator** also opened its doors just opposite the Civic Centre on Commissioner Street. The facility which has training rooms, offices for incubates and other resources is now 95% complete. It has 45 contractors

enrolled in an NQF level 4 qualification in the field of construction. The municipality will provide support by ensuring that these contractors get opportunities to deliver on in-house construction projects.

We have 50 cooperatives participating in our **Cooperative Support Programme**, and 7 of which are doing work for the municipality whilst 15 have secured contracts with the department of social development for provision of school uniforms and the contract value is R4.4 million. The latter relationship has resulted in 300 people getting employment.

Of these entities, 10 cooperatives have been assisted with marketing materials whilst 5 received start-up capital from the **Gauteng Enterprise Propeller (GEP)**.

Clean Green Road Construction and Maintenance Cooperative Ltd is another feel good story to tell because they have secured a cleaning contract worth R2.4 million with the municipality for a period of three years. The cooperative employs 130 people. It has a furniture manufacturing, maintenance and repair shop to sustain its business. The furniture shop employs 10 young people.

The municipality in collaboration with GEP successfully held a **Cooperative Exhibition** where 30 entities showcased their products.

The municipality will affirm local business entities by ensuring that **50% of all municipal procurement goes to local businesses**. We will also ensure that all entities that secure contracts with municipality but are not based in Mogale City get into relationship with local businesses as sub-contractors. Further, municipal procurement shall be biased towards youth and women-owned businesses.

The rollout of the **Tourism Development Strategy** in phases is underway with the erection of tourism signs and hosting a **Tourism Outreach Programme** in partnership with the National Department of Tourism on the cards.

We will embark on a **Tourism Buddies Programme** which is an experimental hospitality training targeted at unemployed young of South Africa as part of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). This programme dedicates 30% of classroom learning and 70% workplace training which all leads to a NQF Level 4 qualification thus making the trainees employable in the tourism sector.

The municipality is also committed to developing tourism routes in the townships in order to boost our **township tourism establishments**.

We have engaged 48 people through the **Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP)** and R 1 176 199 was spent in the Social Services department only in the period under review.

Opportunities are still sustained for 140 volunteers in the **HIV and AIDS programme** and an amount of R2 589 125 has been spent on the programme.

We have enlisted and retain 62 Scholar patrollers our **scholar patrol programme** and the total expenditure we have incurred on this programme is R2 439 220, 00.

In collaboration with the Local Government SETA, the municipality recruited and trained **9 Social Auxiliary workers**. The cost of training was R119 000,00 for the service provider and R324 000,00 was paid in stipends to the trainees. The municipality has retained the Social Auxiliary Workers that were trained at a cost which has run to R204 000, 00 thus far.

Building more united, non-racial and safer communities

Madam Speaker, the Freedom Charter makes bold a promise to South Africans that *“there shall be houses, security and comfort.”*

There has been steady progress in the provincial government project of assisting households affected by the November 2013 hailstorm with **roof replacement**. Thus far the project has yielded positive results on three fronts, namely local economic development, job creation and skills development. A total of 34 local SMMEs are sub-contracted to rollout the project whilst the services of 3 rubble removal companies and one project management company have been enlisted. The project has provided 366 job opportunities, 5 administration officers, 6 community liaison officers, 6 community safety representatives, 8 quality inspectors and 35 supervisors. Skills transferred include carpentry for 144 individuals, 100 plasterers, 6 CLOs, 6 safety representatives and 8 quality inspectors.

High level talks between the municipality and the provincial government are currently taking place in order to ensure that the project is completed soon.

Premier David Makhura pronounced in the 2015 State of the Province that there will be 160 000 housing units built in the Western Corridor which will result, amongst others, construction of houses in Kagiso Extension 13, Chief Mogale, Leratong Nodal Development and Nooitgedacht in Mogale City.

The municipality has received two positive Records of Decision for **Noordeheuwel** as well as the **Rangeview Developments**. The latter is a half a billion public-private partnership which will be rolled out over a period of 36 months.

The city, working in conjunction with the **Housing Development Agency**, has finalized and approved plans for the development of affordable housing accounting for 4 066 dwelling units which are inclusive of business, community facilities and public open spaces. This development covers an area of 110 Ha in extent and is located off Albertina Sisulu Road.

We remain committed to rollout Emergency Site and Services in the urban areas so that we can fast-track our people's access to security of tenure. The municipality will identify and acquire land which will then be serviced for the Emergency Site and Services. We will then together with the provincial government work towards provision of government subsidies to qualifying residents or allow those who can to build for themselves.

Social Housing remains an area of focus with two projects in various stages of development.

On **Traffic and Security**; in collaboration with the Department of Justice, the Municipality successfully implemented what is now referred to as the M-Court. This brings to memory the late Magistrate Joachim Nortje who started with the court but unfortunately passed on in November 2014. Magistrate Johan Engelbrecht is now the presiding officer. Since its opening the court has handled cases as follows:

- 43 639 traffic related cases (municipal)
- 11 035 traffic related cases (provincial)
- 2 398 No admission of guilt cases
- 78 /J175 summons where one person has 30 or more offences.
- 7 by-law related cases

The Municipality employs 83 Traffic and 54 Security personnel in various ranks. Statistics in the period under review are as follows:

- 154 road safety programmes were run, wherein 12 293 members of the community were educated on road safety.
- 1765 roadblocks were conducted for traffic law enforcement. In those, 472 053 citations/ fines were issued. To widen the success rate, some of these roadblocks are done with the SAPS.

The Traffic team also does **community outreach programmes** for engagement with the community on road safety and on payment of outstanding fines. Areas reached in this manner include:

- Kagiso
- Azaadville
- Muldersdrift
- Key West Shopping Centre

To facilitate a **Trainee Traffic Officers programme**, the municipality has recently approved a Policy for training of Trainee Traffic Officers R1, 035,264 has been set aside for training, with the intention of absorbing participants at the end of the training programme.

In collaboration with SAPS and the community, the municipality is mobilizing resources to fight drugs and prostitution. The **Strategy against Prostitution and illegal drug use** has been approved and resources have been lined up for implementation hereof.

The **Multi-sectoral Task Team Against Crime** we set up two years ago has done sterling work in addressing crime in the city, especially in the CBD. Several raids have been conducted and drug and prostitution kingpins were arrested; foreign nationals who were illegal in the country were deported. There is a need to take crime fighting to a higher level and citizen input, as always, is required. The municipality will host a summit to map out a programme of action to deal with this scourge.

We have been seized with a major challenge of **land invasion** in the city. With assistance from external partners, the municipality has managed to contain this problem in Magaliesburg, Tarlton, Muldersdrift, and Kagiso and in Rietvallei recently. We want to commend communities who stood on the side of the municipality against rogue elements who wanted to import disorder and anarchy into our peaceful city and derail municipal plans on the various portions of land.

Playing our part in a National Climate Change Strategy including the promotion of local energy saving campaigns

Madam Speaker, one of the key deliverables of the 2013/2014 financial year was development of a **Climate Change Framework** for the municipality. Through intensive stakeholder engagement, we developed the Climate Change Framework and strategy for its implementation at a total cost of R704 976.00.

The Climate Change Framework was then subjected to all internal approval processes which culminated in another workshop early this year. This policy framework will ensure that measures are put in place to minimize climate change impacts on Mogale City.

We have been called upon to find innovative ways to respond to energy security issues that have plagued the country over the last while and we are alive to the need for diversification of the energy mix.

We have an obligation to our people which we cannot ignore. We all know that large volumes of natural resources are utilized to generate energy on a daily basis and emissions from these operations pollute the environment we live in hence we have issues of climate change which we pointed to earlier. Our obligation is to bequeath a clean environment for coming generations.

To this end, the municipality is forging ahead with a **waste-to-energy project** which will see a private investment of R3.5 billion by Blue Waste to Energy (Pty) Ltd in the construction of a power plant at Luipaardsvlei Landfill site that will generate 72 MW/h of electricity from 550 000 tons of waste per year.

The company will deploy its patented **Blue System Technology** which addresses the challenges of alternative energy through optimal use of waste, disposed on municipal landfill sites in a manner that is environmentally friendly because it does not use any form of incineration and creates no smoke emissions onto the atmosphere. It does not use water resources.

The project will be the **first of its kind** in the Republic of South Africa and will bring 200 permanent and direct job opportunities, whilst an estimated 240 indirect jobs will be created in the city. The rollout of this project will incorporate participation of locals as well as result in skills transfer amongst others.

Our future development and prosperity depends on adequate energy supply and we are determined not to be limited by the prevailing energy supply challenges. In addition to the accolades we receive for being an efficiently run municipality, we would like to add a feather in our cap as the most green city in South Africa. In this regard, we intend to develop a **large scale solar energy** project. The solar energy project is expected to produce at least 100 MW/h which can supply 20 000 homes.

We want to inform the people of our city that all other processes have been concluded, including obtaining **Records of Decision** on the Environmental Impact Assessment for the projects. The National Energy Regulator of SA (NERSA) is currently considering energy generation license applications for the projects. It is our expectation that in the next 18 months sufficient progress in the two projects will be made and regular progress reports will be made available to the public.

These ground-breaking projects tie in well with one of the **Ten Pillars of the GPG which encourages us to take the lead in Africa's new industrial revolution.**

The Municipality planted thousands of indigenous trees this financial year and is continually focusing on urban greening and beautification of our City.

Enhancing investment in basic services in rural areas

Madam Speaker, we are committed to give our people in the rural/peri-urban areas of our city the service delivery experience enjoyed by their urban counterparts. In line with the **Ten Pillars of the GPG, we will unashamedly modernise human settlements** in the urban areas and the peri-urban areas of our city by bringing turnkey projects into the belly of previously neglected rural areas and thereby undermine the legacy of the apartheid spatial configuration.

We have drafted a precinct plan for the **Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site** which is in the process of public participation whereafter the plan will be referred to the Mayoral Committee for final approval.

We have the pleasure of reporting that the refurbishment and extension of the **Kromdraai water pipeline** we commenced in April 2014 was completed in December 2014. This R4 million project is now ready for testing and commissioning.

In Tswelopele, we repaired 41 chemical toilets and installed 35 new toilets at a cost of R3.5 million. We provided 55 of the 100 **Enviro-Loos** we promised in Lethabong.

We have completed the procurement processes for temporary package plant and appointed an Environmental Specialist for water use license which will supply the **Dr. Sefularo Housing project.**

The municipality will also ensure that the Magaliesburg Bulk Water pipeline, the Muldersdrift Water Reservoir and the Muldersdrift Outfall as well as Bulk sewer are completed. We will do so because we know how these projects will change the lives of our rural poor for the better and give them back their dignity.

We also want to report that we have appointed a consultant to design new works and an environmental specialist for water use license application and environmental impact assessment in order to accelerate delivery on the Hekpoort Wastewater Treatment Works. The same applies to the Lindley Wasterwater Treatment Works which will help us unlock development along the Muldersdrift Development Node and surrounds.

We have advertised a tender for the upgrade of the **Magaliesburg Wastewater Treatment Works** from 1.1 Mega liter per day to 7 Mega liter per day. This upgrade will help us service more families in Magaliesburg.

Some R8.3 million was spent in **Rietfontein Village** for construction of 2,34 km of internal roads and 0,97km stormwater pipe systems. Similarly, in Ga-Mohale R14,5 m was spent for construction of 2,9 km internal roads and 2,37 km stormwater pipe systems.

We are pleased to announce that Phase 1 of the R1.2 billion Council-approved **Avianto Mixed Housing Development** in Muldersdrift is currently underway. It will comprise a school and 160 low cost housing units. We are in the process of finalizing the Service Level Agreement as well as Township Proclamation.

We are therefore pleased that after intensive EIA studies were conducted, we have received a positive Record of Decision from GDARD on the portion of land in Tarlton, popularly known as Kwa-Norman, and we can proceed with for the proposed **Brickvale Mixed Housing Development** – a privately funded development supported by the municipality. The development will comprise some 8000 housing units catering for the GAP market, social housing, bonded stock and giveaway stock . It will also have a school, a shopping complex and sports grounds.

There is steady progress in municipal commonages of Vlakdrift and Camel Estate. We have built 6 tunnels, installed electricity and erected a borehole at the **Vlakdrift Commonage**. We will accommodate small emerging farmers and farming cooperatives in the project. The **Camel Estate Commonage** will be implemented in partnership with the private sector in order to establish a food security hub for the city and region. Plans are underway to improve agricultural infrastructure so that the project can start.

We made available 17 Ha of land in Kromdraai in order to provide appropriate business location for cooperatives in the area to embark on food security projects which include agro-processing.

Improving local public services and broadening access to them

Madam Speaker, the R6, 7 million refurbishment of the **Flip Human Waste Water Treatment Works** wherein we are revamping the central pump station, three thickeners as well as management of the digested sludge is continuing apace. The project will be completed in the next financial year.

Further, we will undertake Phase 2 of this refurbishment through which we will procure a balancing tank and primary sedimentation tanks, a generator as well as new electrical panels.

We will replace old infrastructure and curb water losses through an aggressive water pipeline replacement initiative. We will also deploy new technologies to curb water leakages in the yard especially in indigent households.

The R7 million **Kagiso Ext. 13 water pipeline replacement** project is at advanced procurement stages. We have appointed a consultant and we are now on the verge of appointing a contractor.

We will also rollout an R18 million pipe replacement project in the next year which will positively affect Krugersdorp West, Munsieville, Mindalore and Rietvallei.

We will invest R5 million in a **Telemetry system** for all the water reservoirs and pump stations of the city.

The R22 million bulk water and sewer project at **Chief Mogale** is also proceeding at a satisfactory pace, and we are certain that construction of top structures in Phase 2 of the mixed housing development will take off soon without hindrance.

In June this year, the municipality will complete **four key roads projects**. These are the R30 million PR5 in Rietvallei Ext. 5 where we built 4.31 km of road and 2.74 km stormwater pipeline. PR3 Kagiso Ext. 13 where we built 1.75 km of road and 0,86 km stormwater pipeline at a cost of R12,5 million. The R12 million Chief Mogale Intersection Roads and Stormwater project will also be completed as well as the Lusaka Proper Wagtail Loop Road Construction at a cost of R1.5 million.

We are pleased to announce that over five years, our roads and stormwater construction and maintenance projects have created **1052 temporary jobs**.

We have entered the final phase of our R137 million upgrade of the main intake at the **Condale Substation** so that we can receive higher energy capacity from Eskom, ensure firm supply and promote socio-economic development. We will recall that a few years ago we had indicated that the municipality would go into an aggressive infrastructure rehabilitation drive in order to unlock opportunities for the CBD. Infrastructure in the city is more than 50 years old. On his recent visit to Mogale City, the **Auditor-General** made a turn at Condale substation and did not miss the sterling work and sound management of this project. The AG congratulated the municipality for a job well done.

We will also complete the R5 million integration of the new **Reservoir Substation** to increase firm supply to Munsieville North as well as the proposed township of Munsieville Ext. 5.

Eskom has committed R127 million over the next five years to fund critical strengthening and refurbishment projects in Mogale City. Eskom has committed to working with us to accelerate the electrification programme with a focus on informal settlements that are identified by the municipality and we will commence with Matshelapata in Tarlton. We will work closely with Eskom to raise awareness to households so that they are able to access their free electricity tokens upon registration as indigents by the municipality.

Through our Corporate Support Services department which, amongst others, is responsible for the management of Municipal Properties, we were able to secure the **transfer of properties** in Kagiso Extension 9 to the occupiers of those properties thus carrying out the overarching obligation of government to provide security of tenure on property that people had been occupying for a long time.

Of importance during the year was the **commissioning of Paul Kruger Community Hall**. This hall had been occupied by illegal occupants for a number of years and the Municipality was finally able to secure its rights to evict these illegal occupants to ensure that the community in that area has access to its amenities.

The **migration of the Website** from a service provider to the municipality which occurred seamlessly, has brought about an annual saving of R600, 000.00 on operational costs. This was another highlight of the division in the year under review.

Also, we have appointed a Specialist **Outdoor Advertising** with the intention of securing the beneficial management of alternative revenue streams. We are pleased to announce that since the appointment we have been able to generate R1million rand and anticipate improved collection once the unit is operating at full capacity.

Phase 2 of the upgrading of **Kagiso Sport Complex** was completed at a cost of R11, 373,238. Also, Phase 1 of **Azaadville Sport Complex** was completed at a cost of R8, 852,856. **Lusaka Sports Complex** and **Kagiso Ext.13 Sports Complex** were also upgraded at a cost of R 2, 993, 081 and R1, 643,533 respectively. The **Muldersdrift Sports complex** upgrade amounted to R500,000. These upgrades will continue at all these sport complexes this year.

Also underway is the upgrading of the **Kagiso Swimming Pool** to the value of R7,3 million.

The Municipality has provided access to 161 121 people to use sport and recreation facilities. Programmes have been run for training and development in basketball, soccer, jukskei and netball.

Regarding the **Bob van Reenen stadium**, the municipality has spent R10M in the restoration of water, electricity and water lines which excludes we had done previously. This work has been completed. Discussions are in progress with the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation for additional funding to continue with the refurbishment work at the Bob van Reenen Stadium.

Madam Speaker, in 2011 we had said that we will build four libraries over a period of five years. It is remarkable that we managed to accelerate delivery and reached our goal in less than three years. In collaboration with Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation, the municipality has built four new libraries at **Tarlton, Rietvallei 2&3, Kagiso Ext 12 and Kagiso Ext 6**. Tarlton Library was recently officially opened. The other three libraries are at completion stage and will be opened in due course. The cost of this capital development is R36, 342, 324 .00

The municipality employs 14 librarians and 25 library assistants. In the period under review the municipality has provided **library and information services** to 406 730 people. In collaboration with the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation, the municipality has spent R1,621,200.71 on library resources – books, computers, Cd's, manuals, etc. All libraries are equipped with computers and study facilities.

Our Municipality was selected as the best location for the construction of the **Gauteng Provincial Archives**. This R312 million project is currently underway in Kagiso Ext 6. We want to reiterate the point we made before that we are humbled by the choice of the provincial government to locate historical records of Gauteng in the City of Human Origin but over and above all, we are humbled by the vote of confidence in our management of the affairs of the city.

We have not lost sight of the important **Heritage, Arts & Culture** programmes in the city and run several programmes in this area and they include the Open Spring Exhibition, Visual Arts Exhibition and the Museum Orientation programme.

In partnership with Gautrain, Gauteng Department of Infrastructure and Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation, the construction of the **Kagiso Memorial Project** is in progress. The total cost of this project is estimated at R41m.

Our **Motor-vehicle and driver licensing & testing centre** is still regarded as the best in Gauteng. The status, in terms of written inputs received, is attributed to short waiting times, clean premises and friendly staff.

The municipality awaits in anticipation the completion of the construction of the new Driver License and Training Centre in Kagiso (DLTC) in Kagiso. Opening of the centre will help fulfil the aspiration to make services accessible to local communities.

Ours is a **caring government** and we always put the plight of the poorest of the poor before everything else. We therefore wish to report that we have processed 23 373 applications for **registration of indigent households** and 14 941 have been registered in line with the Municipality's Indigent Management Policy. For these households, total debt cancellation of R97 million was effected by the Council in the 2014/15 period. In terms of cost of subsidies towards municipal services, R17.1 million has been spent in the past twelve months.

Coupled with the Indigent Management programme is the **programme of assisted burials** wherein, in line with the stipulations of the Health Act, the municipality assists with the burial of those that are totally poor. Based on need, the municipality has assisted 26 households with free graves and 34 households with both grave and burials. For this purpose the municipality has contracted 2 undertakers. The cost of the programme has so far been R284 877, 00.

Madam Speaker, integrated environmental management is the prized jewel of the municipality. No other department has consistently caused accolades to be showered on our municipality within the country and offshore as this department. We have consistently been given the highest honours at the Kirstenbosch-SA Chelsea Exhibit, fondly known as the Olympics of Horticulture.

We challenge all other departments to emulate this fine example, as the Water and Sanitation business unit has returned the **Blue Drop Certification** in successive years, we now expect the unit to pull out all the stops to achieve the **Green Drop certificate**. We look forward to another South African Human Rights Commission accolade for being the most transparent municipality.

The municipality won first place in the **Bontle-ke-Botho Campaign**. We want to commend Cllrs Bonginkosi Mpanza and Mtandazo Ndamane for respectively coming first and third in the new projects and sustainable projects categories. Another round of applause goes to Kid Maponya Primary School and Swartkop Valley Primary School who came second in the new school category and first in the sustainable school category respectively.

The first phase in the R29 million revamp of **Coronation Park** over three years is almost complete and the park has been fenced off whilst the upgrade of the existing electrical network will be completed in June 2015.

The Municipality has completed the **Magaliesburg Park** at Ga-Mohale and is in the process of completing other parks in Munsieville, and Ethembaletu. All these parks are complemented by a multi-purpose court, play equipment, ablution facilities, braai/picnic areas, trees, rolling lawns, parking and various security measures. A total budget in excess of R9 million was spent in the 2014/15 year on these parks. It is envisaged that the remaining parks will be completed in 2016/17.

Small parks including the Bill Taylor Park were upgraded in Rietvallei, Boltonia Park and Monument in collaboration with Mintails and communities living in these areas. The latest inclusion and feature in our parks will be outdoor gym equipment.

Promoting more active community participation in local government

Madam Speaker, our municipality believes in participatory democracy where communities are both the architects and drivers of all community development programmes. We do not do this because an obligation on us by statutes to embark on consultation, but we have been enjoined by the Freedom Charter which tells us in no unequivocal terms *“that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people.”* Therefore, we go to all corners of our city twice in a financial year through **Mayoral Roadshows** to gather from the people inputs that inform the Integrated Development Plan and Budget of the municipality. We are able to reach the majority of the community through these meetings and through the use of other communication strategies, including social media.

We do not confine our community interface to these statutory meetings, but hold **monthly ward feedback meetings** convened by our ward councillors. Reports from these meetings are then submitted and processed within the institution. Ward councillors also convene **block and street meetings** in various wards almost weekly to maximize public participation in the affairs of the city. Members of the Mayoral Committee host **sectoral meetings** to engage communities on issues relating their sectors.

We were fortunate to have established a **Rapid Response Task Team** whose sole purpose is to respond speedily to issues raised by communities and intervene decisively in sporadic and random protests sparked by either genuine or perceived disaffection with service delivery. This capability dovetails with the provincial Ntirhisano Rapid Response System dubbed the **Service Delivery War Room**. Working together with the West Rand District Municipality which will coordinate the initiative in our region, we will soon introduce the War Room in the institution and cascade it to all our wards.

The Municipality strives to position itself as a force to be reckoned with through the relaunch of the Municipal Newspaper, **“Dikgang tsa Mogale”** as a regional publication to serve as a voice of all the sister municipalities and residents of the West Rand region.

We have also raised the bar in terms of stakeholder engagement as we have seen to the resuscitation of the **Moral Regeneration Committee** which is a structure consisting of the municipality, eminent personalities in the city and the religious fraternity and is established to help us grapple with the obdurate issues of morality, ethics and good citizenship amidst the social challenges of crime and grime afflicting certain sections of our city.

We have been approached by the 4.4 million strong Twelve Apostles Church in Christ (TACC) which is led by the recipient of the freedom of our city, the Chief Apostle and President, **Prof. Caesar Nongqunga**, after six annual pilgrimages in our city, to assist them identify suitable land wherein they will establish their provincial headquarters. The facility will comprise a 5000 seater dome, 1000 seater chapel, a hall for Sunday school, VIP lounge, kitchen and shop. The church estimates that the facility will cost R63 million to build.

We have also established a **Mining Forum** which comprises ordinary members of the community, the municipality and mining houses doing business in Mogale City and whose brief is to address the legacy left by mining companies and impact of current operations on the general environment in line with the dictates of the Mining Charter.

Our highly-regarded **Disability Office** hosted four workshops to raise awareness on disability-related matters including training care-givers who assist people with disabilities, cooperatives for people with disabilities. The office also held a Disability Sports Day wherein people with disabilities played wheelchair tennis, basketball, volleyball, soccer, morabaraba, chess, diketo among other games. The highlight was hosting the Gauteng-wide International Day for People with Disabilities which was addressed by Gauteng Premier David Makhura at Munsieville.

We recognise the important role played by the **Local Geographical Names Committee** in standardising names of public places and street names in an environment of political contestation influenced by our painful and unforgettable past. We want to urge the committee to ensure the finalisation of the renaming of the Main Reef Road into Albertina Sisulu Road and complete the renaming of streets, especially in the CBD.

Ensuring a more effective, accountable and clean local government

Madam Speaker, we are bound by the **Ten Pillars of the GPG to ensure both transformation of the State and governance as well as modernisation of the public service and the state**. Also, it is the hallmark of all successful organisations to make substantial investments in human resources in order to increase efficiencies and effectiveness. Therefore, the municipality awarded **R540 000 of bursaries to staff** in order to ensure that we build capacity and enhance competencies in various critical areas of service delivery.

We have also attracted and placed young graduates and those seeking in-service training in various **learnership and internship programmes**. To this end, we hosted 37 interns; 19 on learnership and 21 work-integrated-learning candidates.

We have successfully migrated all our data to the new system which is running parallel to the outgoing **BIQ system**. With the assistance of the Office of the Auditor-General, we are in the process of getting the system tested for final General Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) before going live in July 2015. The success of this project has been driven by the commitment of the Project Management Office who did not use consultants to manage the project but internal staff and the unwavering support from both the Finance and Corporate Support Service departments.

The municipality sourced a R191 million loan in 2012/13 and 2013/14 financial years to finance capital projects. These projects are the upgrade of Green Hostel, Prepaid Water Installation programme, Magaliesburg Bulk Water pipeline, Water demand & conservation programme, upgrade of the Percy Stewart Waste Water Treatment Plant and Condale Electrical substation. The acquisition of the loan was cost effective and will be recovered. The return on investment on projects is not always immediately realisable, but we are confident that these projects will soon assist us generate adequate revenue to finance both loan repayment as well as other service delivery programmes.

During the 2013/14 FY, we established the **Operation Clean Audit Committee** with a view of monitoring the implementation of management action plans. This Committee acted as an early warning system in matters that could have a negative impact in achieving an unqualified audit opinion, with no matters of emphasis. We are proud to announce that, through this Committee, more than 75% of management action plans were implemented by the end of 2013/14, which was a positive contributor in the municipality achieving the clean audit opinion for the same financial year.

It should be noted that Mogale City is one of a few municipalities that do not rely on consultants to produce our financials.

We want to pause at this moment to once again commend, all our councillors across the political spectrum, management and staff as well as our community who have kept a close eye on the affairs of the municipality for helping us to achieve two successive unqualified opinions from the Auditor-General which we topped up with a **clean audit** in the last financial year. We were awarded certificates of excellence by both the SALGA national and provincial offices for receiving an Unqualified Audit with no material findings at the SALGA National Members Assembly held at Gallagher Estates on the 24th March 2015.

Under the direction of the **Regional Audit Committee** and coordination with all the municipalities in the West Rand, we have standardized policy documents for all Internal Audit activities, namely the Audit Committee Charter, Internal Audit Charter and Audit methodology. Furthermore, Internal Audit has worked closely with the Auditor General during the compilation of the 3 year rolling plan to ensure that the activities of Internal and External Audit are better coordinated.

In line with the recently developed strategic planning session we just held, we will be implementing an **Ethics Management Program** for all employees to ensure that we embed municipal values as we implement the Back-2-Basics approach.

We will continue to monitor progress in the implementation of management action plans on Auditor General's as well as Internal Audit Findings through the **Operation Clean Audit Committee (OPCA)** so that we maintain or achieve a clean audit (unqualified audit opinion, with no matters of emphasis) during the 2014/15 financial year.

VISION 2016

Madam Speaker, the ruling party in the region resolved in October 2014 to reaffirm our commitment as municipalities of the West Rand to establish one city by the year 2121, after we had lobbied unsuccessfully to achieve that objective by 2016. It is public knowledge that the Municipal Demarcation Board had decided to merge the municipalities of Randfontein and Westonaria in 2016 whereafter the establishment of a unicity or metro would be considered for the term following.

We are pleased that **Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Cde Pravin Gordhan** has affirmed our position by recommending to the MDB that the municipalities of the West Rand should be merged into a metropolitan municipality, with Mogale City as its core.

In our view, nothing less than the establishment of the metropolitan municipality will adequately define and help us respond to one of the **Ten Pillars of the GPG which is decisive spatial transformation** as well as speedy achievement of the goal of creating a metropolitan system of local government for the **Gauteng City Region**.

We support the metro because it will bring about sound governance in the region; efficient financial management; integrated and cost-effective planning and development based on the three themes of functionality, viability and sustainability.

CONCLUSION

Madam Speaker, the parting shot of the deputy ministers during their unannounced visit was that we should work closely with the provincial teams assigned with the Back to Basics approach. We were urged to work closely and avail our capacity and technical support to municipalities in distress or which are not doing well. It was emphasized that the city should work hard to retain as well as improve its good track record.

We want to urge all comrades and patriots to remember the values that informed the idealism and bravery of the men and women who gathered in Kliptown in 1955. Some 60 years later people that live in informal settlements in our region today can relate to the ideals of the living document of the people, the Freedom Charter because for them the sun is yet to shine. Those who wallow in despair because of unemployment find accord in the dynamism of the demands set out in the Freedom Charter. Let us never let go of the teachings of our late Commander in Chief, Oliver Reginald Tambo, to journey into a conspiracy with the people and collaborate for qualitative change in their lives because he taught us that:

“..we have the inescapable responsibility to make the sacrifices necessary to bring us the Uhuru we demand for ourselves. It is sacrifices which best constitute the best definition of what we want, the most persuasive and irresistible appeal for support, and the highest inducement to our brothers and friends to supplement our sacrifices with their own.”

Madam Speaker, after all is said and done, there is only one choice that remains for us and it certainly is not to deepen the crisis for the poorest of the poor. It is contained in the words of the founders:

“We of the African National Congress visualize a South Africa in which the people shall govern, in which the wealth of the country shall be restored to the people and where the land shall be shared amongst those who work it. We aim to establish in our country a society free from the exploitation of man by man.”

We place Mogale City at the full disposal of the people to ensure that every resident in our city and in our sister municipalities in the West Rand feel that they are truly free.

I thank you.