
**STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 2025 DELIVERED BY HIS WORSHIP
THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY, CLLR
MAKORO JOHN MPE**

Thursday, 05 June 2025 | Jack Botes Hall, Polokwane

Madam Speaker, Cllr Kobela Modiba;
Council Chief Whip, Cllr Adolph Rapetswa;
Executive Mayor of Capricorn District, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo and all Mayors
of our local municipalities, from Lepelle-Nkumpi Cllr Dr Meriam Molala,
Molemole Cllr Masilo Paya and for Blouberg Cllr Maria Thamaga;
Speakers and Chief Whips of our municipalities;
Beng-mabu, Maaparankwe, Magoshi a rena, with special mention of our
honoured guests, the Paramount Queens, Her Majesty Hlapogadi a Phaahle
Queen Manyaku Thulare and Her Majesty the RainQueen Masalanabo
Modjadi;

Our local Traditional Leaders:

Re tamisha Maapara nkwe a geshu, batho ba ka mafateng a matelele, ba
malapeng a maredi-redi.

- Bahlaloga ba Moletji ka fase ga boetapele bjwa Mohlomphegi Kgoshi KS Moloto III, (Mokwena wo mogolo)
- Bakone ba Dikgale, ka fase ga pusho taolo yeo e eteletswego pele ke Mohlomphegi kgoshi MS Dikgale, (Morare)
- Ditlou ba ga Molepo, bao ba eteletswego pele ke Mohlomphegi Kgoshi SM Molepo, (Maremo)

- Ditlou Ba ga Ledwaba bao ba eteletswego pele ke Mohlomphegi kgoshi SM Ledwaba, (Tloutona)
- Ditlou ba ga Makgoba, bao ba buswago ke Mohlomphegi, Kgoshi MG Makgoba, (Tloutona)
- Ditlou ba ga Mashashane ka fase ga pusho ya kgoshi Mashashane II, (Tloutona)
- Ditlou ba ga Maraba, ka fase ga pusho taolo yeo e eteletswego pele ke, Mohlomphegi Kgoshi MB Maraba, (Tloutona).
- Ba bina Phuti ba ga Maja, ka fase ga pusho taolo ya Mohlomphegi Kgoshi DC Maja, (Napenyane).
- Bakone ba Mothiba bao ba eteletswego pele, ke kgoshi yaka, Mohlomphegi kgoshi Mothiba PP, (Mokone wo mogolo)
- Dikolobe ba Bjatladi ka moka bao ba eteletswego pele ke bogoshi bjwa ga Mamabolo.
- Dikolobe ba bjatladi ka fase ga pusho taolo yeo e eteletswego pele ke mmago rena, Mohlomphegi Mmagokgoshi Mamabolo, (Thokwadi)
- Bakone ba Matlala a Thaba, ka fase ga pusho taolo yeo e eteletswego pele ke mmago rena, Mohlomphegi Kgoshigadi MRL Matlala, (Ngwato a mosadi)
- Bakgaga ba Mothapo, ka fase ga pusho taolo ya mmago rena, Mohlomphegi Kgoshigadi Moremadi Mothapo (Moremadi a Hlabirwa).
- Ditlou machidi ba ga Tshwene bao ba emetsego moshate wa gabo rena wa Ditlou- machidi, bana ba rakgolo ba Mohlomphegi, kgoshi Mamokgalake Tshwene.

Representatives of the Zion Christian Church, as well as the St. Engenas Zion Christian Church;

The leadership of the South African Council of Churches and other representatives of faith-based organisations;



Judge President of the Limpopo High Court, Justice Moletje Phathudi;
Fellow Councillors;
Leadership of our glorious movement, the ANC and its Alliance partners;
Leadership of the official opposition, the EFF, and all political parties represented in Council;
Municipal Manager Ms. Thuso Nemugumoni, your management team and hardworking officials;
Representatives of various government departments and entities;
Leaders and Members of organised labour, SAMWU and IMATU;
Representatives of vulnerable groupings – youth, women, elderly and people living with different disabilities;
The Mpe, Sefara and Molepo families, including all my relatives present;
Our talented local artists, Kharisma and Shandesh;
The inspiring Gauta BMX trio;
Our Miss Teenager South Africa 2024/2025, Pearl Mathebula;
Members of the business community;
Members of the sporting fraternity;
Members of the academia;
Members of the media;
Fellow residents of Polokwane who are present in this hall and listening from various media platforms;

Good morning, Kgotsong!



It is both a distinct honour and a profound responsibility to stand before you today to deliver the **2025 State of the City Address** — a moment that calls for reflection, renewal and recommitment to the collective vision of a people-centred, forward-looking and service-driven municipality.

The State of the City Address is a declaration of accountability, a mirror held up to our progress and a compass pointing us toward the future our communities demand and deserve. **It is a platform to report back**, to engage and to commit anew — not with words alone, but with actions grounded in the aspirations of our people.

This year's address is delivered in the month of **June**, a time in South Africa when we reflect on **the sacrifices and resilience of the youth of our nation**. As we approach **Youth Day**, we are reminded that progress is not inherited — it is fought for, shaped and advanced by every generation.

As **Nelson Mandela** once said, *"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow."* Our actions as leaders must therefore open the doors of opportunity, so that our young people can walk through with confidence, courage and purpose.

In this month, we also commemorate the life and times of the Lion of the North, **Peter Ramoshoane Mokaba**, who passed away on 09 June 2002, 23 years ago. As a municipality, we continue to cherish the immense



contribution of Peter Mokaba to our liberation struggle and believe that we must do more to honour his rich legacy.

We want to thank the Mokaba family for their continuous support to the municipality as we jointly keep the spirit of Peter Mokaba alive.

We also meet today just weeks after Polokwane once again demonstrated its capacity as a host city of national importance. During the Easter weekend, we welcomed **millions of pilgrims** travelling to Moria, where both the **Zion Christian Church (ZCC)** and **St. Engenas ZCC** held their annual conferences. We thank our dedicated frontline teams — traffic officers, law enforcement, rescue services and basic service departments — for the professionalism and excellence they demonstrated.

In defining Polokwane, the two churches cannot be left out and we are grateful to the founder of the Church, Dr Engenas Lekganyane, for his rich contribution to our society and city.

But Madam Speaker, we also meet today at a historic juncture for our city's global diplomacy. Just few days ago, I concluded a working visit to the **City of Maricá and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**, where I joined other world leaders including the **SALGA President Cllr Bheki Stofile, Mayor of Maricá Washington Quaqua and the Mayor of Kazan in Russia Illsur Metshin**, for the 2nd **General Assembly of the BRICS+ Association of Cities and**

Municipalities. I was honoured to represent local government in South Africa and the African continent in this important gathering of progressive cities and municipalities.

During the assembly, we approved the founding documents of the association, established thematic committees and tackled pressing matters related to cooperation among BRICS+ cities and municipalities. This milestone signals the start of an era where Polokwane is not just part of the national conversation, but also part of shaping **a new world urban order** — one that is inclusive, development-focused and people-driven.

This global platform gives Polokwane an opportunity to **forge strategic partnerships** on infrastructure investment, knowledge exchange, technology transfer and sustainable development. It opens doors for economic and cultural exchanges that will benefit not only the people of Polokwane, but also **the broader Limpopo Province and South Africa as a whole**. Our hope is that in the near future, cities and leaders from BRICS nations will visit Polokwane — bringing with them trade, opportunity and solidarity.

Madam Speaker, we have arrived and the world is taking notice.

We are also proud to be **hosting G20 Workstreams** in the lead-up to the G20 Summit in Johannesburg later this year. In May, we successfully hosted



both the **Education** and **Agriculture Workstreams**, with more to follow. We want to thank SALGA for advocating that Polokwane hosts these workstreams. The presence of international delegations in our city signals one thing clearly - **Polokwane matters**. It is now a recognised stage for shaping national and international development agendas. Our people must know: **when we open our doors to the world, we open new windows of opportunity for our youth, our entrepreneurs and our economy.**

And while we celebrate these global developments, we must also pause to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of our local heroes.

We extend heartfelt congratulations to **Miss Pearl Mathebula**, who has been crowned Miss Teenager South Africa 2024/2025. She will represent South Africa on the international stage at the Miss Teenager Universe pageant in Peru on 7 June 2025. Hailing from Kotishing in Ga-Dikgale, Pearl is a shining example of elegance, confidence and purpose. We are proud of her, and we send her with our full support and blessings.

We also celebrate the remarkable achievement of one of our own in the music industry. **Congratulations to Melita Mogale famously known as Kharishma** for winning **Song of the Year** — an outstanding milestone not only for her as an artist but for our city as a cultural hub. Kharishma's rise in the music industry is a clear indication that Polokwane is home to talent that

resonates beyond borders. We honour her success and look forward to the many stages she will still conquer.

We also on the same note congratulate **Rakgoale Nelly Machete famously known as Shandesh** and **Lehlogonolo Khwinana known by the name Kaycherlow** for their promising rise and waving the flag of Polokwane and Limpopo very high. We also acknowledge the presence of **Khutso Kgatla whom we all know as King Monada, including Janisto and CK** for their ever-enduring support.

Amid these proud moments and speaking of remarkable achievement and courage, I cannot continue without saluting the inspirational **Gauta BMX trio** — three young men who cycled over 1,700 kilometres from Burgersfort to Cape Town, not for glory, but for a noble cause. Their journey may have ended in Cape Town, but their message travels even further. I suspect they have now made it unsafe to own a bicycle in their neighbourhood, because now everyone wants to be just like them. But on a serious note, may their determination inspire many of us to go the distance in serving others.

And as we celebrate these champions, we also take this moment to extend our best wishes to the dedicated employees of Polokwane Municipality who will be representing us in the **Comrades Marathon** in Durban this Sunday. These colleagues are not only ambassadors of a healthy lifestyle but proud standard-bearers of the Polokwane spirit — one of endurance, commitment

and unity. May the road rise to meet them and may they cross the finish line with pride. We are behind them all the way.

THREE KEY PRIORITY AREAS

Madam Speaker,

This year's State of the City Address will elevate three key priority areas of government, namely:

- Driving inclusive economic growth and job creation
- Reducing poverty and tackling the high cost of living
- Building a capable, ethical and developmental local government

Thus, these priorities will serve as a guiding blueprint for the work we shall undertake.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Madam Speaker,

We gather here fresh from a comprehensive series of **IDP and Budget consultations** across our seven clusters. In these meetings, we listened to our people who came in large numbers — from traditional leaders to ward councillors, community forums to individual citizens. The message was clear: *our people see the work we are doing*. Yes, they are calling for more. Yes, they are asking for faster delivery. But above all, they are recognising

progress. From gravel roads turned to tar, to lights that now shine in previously darkened streets, to boreholes that bring water closer to families — change is visible. Hope is alive. And Polokwane is on the rise.

Our communities are not asking for miracles — they are asking for movement forward. And because they are seeing that movement, they are walking this journey with us, not in protest, but in partnership. That, Madam Speaker, is a testament to what it means to govern with the people, not for the people.

Our public participation process re-affirms the injunction of the **Freedom Charter** that declared - *“the people shall govern”*.

Madam Speaker,

Good governance, at its core, is about more than just administration — it is about *participation, accountability, transparency, responsiveness, effectiveness, and inclusiveness*. We are pleased to report that all our governance structures are aligned with these constitutional imperatives. These include the Portfolio and Standing Committees of Council, the Audit and Performance Audit Committee (APAC) and its sub-committees, and most critically, the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC), which convenes public hearings on a quarterly basis.

As the late former Auditor General, **Mr Kimi Makwetu**, said: *“Impunity and accountability cannot co-exist.”*

These hearings provide a platform for the Executive Mayor and the administration to account directly to the public on both financial expenditure and service delivery performance.

All Council and committee meetings remain open to the public, ensuring that decisions are made in a manner that is transparent and subject to scrutiny. Individual members of Council are empowered to submit questions for written response from the Executive Mayor and to table motions for open debate. Furthermore, every political office bearer is required to account to Council on the exercise of delegated powers and functions, with quarterly reporting structures in place through the Council Committees, the Office of the Speaker, and the Office of the Chief Whip.

In strengthening public participation, we have institutionalised clear rules and processes that allow communities to have a voice in municipal affairs. These include **IDP and Budget consultations**, public petitions, deputations to Council, and quarterly feedback meetings hosted by Ward Councillors. In late 2023, Council commissioned a public satisfaction and perception survey on the performance of Ward Committees. The insights from this study have guided improvements, culminating in the **Ward Committees Conference held in September 2024**, where valuable recommendations were adopted.

Building on this foundation, Council has now adopted a **Ward Committees Operational Plans Framework**, which takes effect from **01 July 2025**. For the first time, every Ward Committee will operate with a formally approved **Ward Operational Plan** for the 2025/2026 financial year. These plans will include key ward information, scheduled projects with budgets and timelines, confirmed dates and venues for Ward Committee and community meetings, and designated reporting lines. Council will monitor the implementation of these plans to ensure that ward-level governance is not only functional but directly responsive to the needs of our people.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: Alleviating poverty and the high cost of living

Madam Speaker,

Polokwane has once again demonstrated its commitment to sound governance by maintaining an **unqualified audit outcome for the third consecutive year**. This achievement is the result of clear, disciplined management and the consistent application of good governance principles.

We thank those sitting on the audit steering committee, internal audit and APAC for the great work done.

We are further pleased to announce another major milestone in relation to the municipality's achievement of a **Grade 6 status** in terms of Upper Limits for Councillors. This means that the Municipality is now on an equal grading with metropolitan municipalities and is thus taking a gigantic step forward in terms of our goal towards the realization of the metro vision.

As the late Finance Minister **Tito Mboweni** once said, *"Good governance with transparency and accountability is the hallmark of a developmental state."* These principles guide our ongoing efforts to build a municipality rooted in integrity, fiscal prudence and service excellence.

To build the Polokwane we envision - a city of opportunity and prosperity for all - we must root out **corruption**, **appoint competent personnel** and **create pathways for our young graduates**. Only the most capable should serve this great city, ensuring that Polokwane becomes the green pastures and city of dreams for the people of Limpopo.

The Budget

Madam Speaker,

I am pleased to announce that **Polokwane Municipality** has adopted a **R6.4 billion budget for the 2025/26 financial year**, which is projected to grow to



approximately **R7 billion over the next two years**. This positions us well on the path toward achieving our vision of becoming a metropolitan city.

Approximately **R823 million** of the 2025/26 budget is allocated to capital projects, with **83% directed toward critical infrastructure** in roads, water and sanitation, energy services and community services. This allocation reflects our focus on strengthening service delivery capacity and improving the quality of life for all residents.

The total service delivery capital budget for the 2025/26 financial year is allocated as follows:

- **Water and Sanitation:** R370.9 million
- **Roads, Stormwater and Transport:** R278 million
- **Electricity:** R107.6 million
- **Refuse Removal:** R36.7 million

In terms of revenue, **Polokwane collected over R2.280 billion in the 2023/2024 financial year** (excluding VAT refunds from SARS), an increase from **R2.153 billion** in the previous year — a positive sign of improved financial discipline and enhanced revenue strategies.

Ladies and Gentlemen,



This budget is more than just figures and forecasts.

It is a **response**.

A response to the lived experiences of our people.

A response to the voices we heard during our Integrated Development Plan consultations —

Voices that didn't whisper.

They called out with clarity.

They demanded change. They demanded dignity. And we listened.

This budget will assist to overcome some of the pressing challenges raised by residents like *Legodi Mathabatha* of Ward 41 during our consultation in **New Jupiter**.

These are the same challenges facing communities in **Mapangula, Monotwane, Naledi, Mapeding and Venus**.

We have heard their cries for service delivery.

And this budget is our reply — bold, targeted, and action-oriented.

It will respond to the issues raised

by *Tebogo Phokungwana* of Ward 34 in **Mankweng**.

He spoke for *Komaneng, Segoreng, Monywaneng* and surrounding areas —

communities where infrastructure is overdue,



and development must not be delayed any longer.

Our response is not symbolic —

It is specific. It is strategic. And it starts now.

This budget will tackle the concerns raised

by *Patrick Pula* of Ward 15 during the consultation in **Moletjie**.

We know the challenges.

We understand the pain of waiting for basic services.

This budget brings that wait to an end.

Thus, this budget will address the needs brought forward by many of our residents who responded positively to our IDP community consultations.

Colleagues, Friends, Residents of Polokwane

This is not just a budget.

It is a **blueprint for delivery**.

It is a **mandate for action**.

It is a **contract with our communities**.

No one will be left behind. No voice will go unheard.

We are building.

We are delivering.

We are moving **Polokwane** forward — together.

Tariffs



Madam Speaker,

We continue to carefully consider the economic pressures facing our residents. However, due to ongoing global and domestic financial challenges, the municipality has had to adjust tariffs to sustain service delivery. **Polokwane Municipality sources electricity from Eskom and water from Lepelle Northern Water (LNW). These essential services are then distributed to residents and businesses within the municipality.**

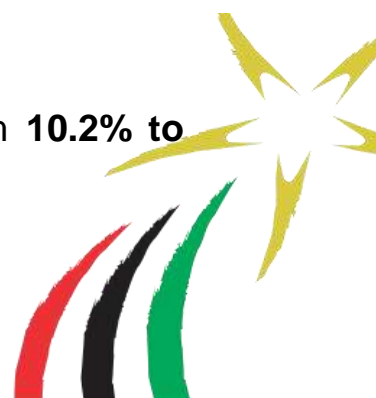
As a result, when Eskom or LNW implement tariff increases, the municipality is obligated to adjust its own tariffs accordingly to maintain service delivery. **However, we will not increase at a percentage higher than those implemented by Eskom and LNW. Instead, the municipality will align its increases with those of Eskom and LNW.**

For the 2025/26 financial year:

The Municipality has implemented tariff adjustments to ensure the sustainability of essential services amid rising input costs. These increases are necessary to maintain consistent service delivery, especially in the face of economic pressures and utility cost escalations from primary service providers.

Tariff increases are as follows:

- **Water:** will increase by a block percentage ranging from **10.2% to 11.2%**, depending on consumption levels.



- **Electricity:** will increase to **11.32%**, which is exactly equal to the increase imposed by Eskom, and aligned with guidelines issued by the **National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)**.
- **Other municipal services:** Adjusted by **6%**.
- **Rates and taxes:** Increased by **3%** for residential properties, agricultural land, public service infrastructure and public benefit organisations — consistent with the inflation rate at the time of budget planning, in accordance with **National Treasury Circular 129** minus **1.4%**.

Indigent Support

On indigent support, our commitment to cushioning our most vulnerable residents remains steadfast. In this regard, we have made provision for approximately **R280 million** in subsidies to ensure free access to basic services for indigent households.

This includes:

- **6 kilolitres of free water**
- **100 kWh of free electricity**
- **100% subsidy** for refuse removal and sewer charges
- **100% rebate** on property rates

The **indigent levy** will increase slightly from **R126.83 to R133.17** effective 1 July 2025, ensuring continued support while keeping pace with inflation.

Revenue Protection Unit (RPU)

Established in 2019, the Revenue Protection Unit has had a measurable impact on revenue collection and credit control. Through the use of technology and data analytics, the unit accurately identifies tampered or bridged meters across households and businesses.

In the 2023/2024 financial year alone, over 111 bridged meters were detected, resulting in R7 million in levies in accordance with Council-approved by-laws. We will continue to enforce a zero-tolerance policy on meter tampering and encourage residents and businesses to refrain from such unethical practices. **We will show zero tolerance to any individual or entity engaging in such illegal activities.**

Revenue Collection

We recognise the financial challenges that households and businesses face. Nonetheless, it is essential that all revenue due to the municipality is collected to sustain our service delivery mandate.

An **aggressive debt collection programme** has been launched, targeting all sectors — including government departments. As a result, **R230 million was recovered from government departments in 2023/2024.** Our firm

actions, including service disconnections, have sent a clear message: everyone must honour their obligations.

WATER AND SANITATION: DELIVERING DIGNITY AND HEALTH

Access to clean water and dignified sanitation remains one of the most fundamental expressions of service delivery. As a water-scarce municipality experiencing rapid growth, Polokwane continues to face significant challenges in maintaining sufficient, sustainable supply. Yet, in the face of these challenges, we are making real and measurable progress.

As former UN Secretary General **Kofi Annan** once said, *“We shall not defeat any of the infectious diseases that plague the developing world until we have also won the battle for safe drinking water, sanitation and basic health care.”*

His words remind us that access to water is not just a service—it is a right, a lifeline, and a foundation for public health and dignity. That is why, even amid constraints, our efforts are unwavering. Every borehole drilled, every leaking pipe replaced, every reservoir rehabilitated is a step forward in the pursuit of human dignity.

Over the past four years, **12,080 households** have been connected to clean water through standpipes and yard connections. An additional **5,168 households** now have VIP latrines, securing basic dignity and hygiene.

In the past year:

- The 4th Industrial Revolution-powered **Seshego Water Treatment Plant** was commissioned, producing up to **8 megalitres per day**. This translates into an increase of 8 million litres of water per day as compared to the previous 1.5 million litres. This critical intervention has stabilised water supply to the Seshego township, including access for high lying areas that previously had shortages.
- Water interventions were prioritised in high-demand areas such as **BM Corner** and **Seshego Zones 2–5**.
- Strategic upgrades at **Seshego Hospital** ensured reliable water access.
- Rural water projects such as **Kalkspruit Phase 1**, **Sebayeng-Dikgale Phase 10**, and **Mars Phase 2** were completed.

Despite these advances, undeniable challenges remain. All wastewater treatment plants are operating beyond their original design capacities, compromising efficient wastewater treatment and placing pressure on environmental compliance. Rapid economic development and population growth have intensified demand on infrastructure already under strain.

Polokwane remains dependent on external sources for potable water, making us vulnerable to regional supply limitations. Theft and vandalism of water infrastructure, particularly at borehole sites, continue to destabilise

operations. Equipment such as pumps, electrical panels, and cables are frequently targeted. Illegal connections and ageing pipelines contribute significantly to water losses, while frequent pipe bursts disrupt supply and increase maintenance costs.

Frequent electricity interruptions also remain a major obstacle to consistent water delivery. Our testing laboratories are limited by outdated equipment and lack full national accreditation. Water demand now far exceeds supply in several areas, resulting in empty reservoirs and stressed distribution networks for much of the year.

Mitigation Strategies

In response, the municipality has launched multi-billion-rand, forward-thinking infrastructure projects. Chief among them is the construction of a **100ML/day Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant**, currently underway. Phase 2B is progressing well, with Phase 2C — delivering mechanical and electrical components — scheduled to commence in the 2025/26 financial year.

To ease the burden on the city's water supply, we are constructing the **Sand River North Water Treatment Plant**, an 18ML/day facility fed by the Sand River North and South wellfields, as well as the Sterkloop wellfield. This will provide long-term relief, especially to the city's north and Ladanna industrial corridor.

We are investing in the development of the **Turfloop/Diepriver wellfields**, upgrading conveyance infrastructure from the Dap Naude Dam, and optimising pressure zones in the Polokwane Urban Water Distribution System. Additionally, the city plans to expand the **Mankweng Wastewater Treatment Works** from 8ML/day to 25ML/day, with infrastructure readiness submissions lodged with national government.

To combat non-revenue water and unaccounted losses, we have accelerated the rollout of water meters for domestic and commercial users. Community awareness campaigns via social media and local radio platforms educate the public on efficient water use and infrastructure protection.

Fellow residents,

We acknowledge the scale of the challenge, but we are not standing still. We are building a resilient, responsive, and future-ready water and sanitation system for our people. With every pipeline upgraded, every pump installed, and every community reached — we are restoring dignity, securing health, and unlocking opportunity for all residents of Polokwane.

All these efforts are underpinned by our interventions to arrest water shortages in the short-term, medium to long-term.

ROADS, STORMWATER AND TRANSPORTATION



Madam Speaker,

We are transforming our infrastructure landscape because roads, stormwater infrastructure and efficient transportation services remain top priorities for spatial equity and resilience against climate change.

Hence, roads, stormwater and transportation services have a total budget of **R278 million** for the 2025/26 financial year, as adopted by Council.

Roads and Stormwater

In the last four years, **66.35 kilometres of roads were upgraded from gravel to tar or paving**. These are the arteries of economic activity, social integration and service accessibility.

Moreover, a total of **R18.5 million** was invested in upgrades and **R4.1 million** in maintenance - reflecting our shift from reactive to preventative infrastructure planning.

In the current financial year, **2024/25**, we have done the following:

- The **rehabilitation of 9.2 km of roads** within the **city cluster**, encompassing **15 streets** including Church, Grobler, Dorp, Thabo Mbeki, Bodenstein and others — a direct investment in urban quality and mobility.

- The successful completion of **four stormwater projects**, totalling **3.7 km**, which improve climate resilience and protect homes and businesses. These projects include:
 - Construction of two stormwater systems in **Polokwane Extension 76**
 - A major stormwater canal in **Seshego**
 - Upgrading of stormwater infrastructure in **Laboria, near Jumbo**

This work forms part of our broader agenda to modernise urban infrastructure as we prepare for the responsibilities and privileges of

The **Roads Master Plan**, adopted in 2014, is being updated to incorporate newly incorporated areas such as Aganang. In parallel, we are finalising the **Stormwater Master Plan**, which will provide a comprehensive blueprint for addressing stormwater infrastructure across the municipality.

Clusters such as **Seshego, Mankweng** and **the CBD** are receiving focused attention due to deteriorating road conditions linked to limited maintenance. These areas are prioritised under our long-term strategy to surface all municipal roads and embed preventive maintenance systems.

The City continues to make progress in enhancing infrastructure and improving the daily lives of residents through focused service delivery initiatives. During the 2024/25 period, significant achievements were



recorded in the maintenance and upgrading of road infrastructure and stormwater systems.

Challenges and Mitigating Actions

While service delivery continues to advance, several operational challenges were encountered. These include an **aged grading fleet**, which delayed rural road maintenance. To address this, **7 new graders were procured and deployed** across all service clusters.

A **shortage of operations and maintenance personnel** also posed a challenge. The City responded by employing **102 ad hoc workers** and advertising **5 senior operator posts** to strengthen capacity.

Flooding in vulnerable communities required targeted interventions. As a response, **stormwater systems were upgraded in Extension 76** and around **Jumbo**, with **engineering designs finalised** for other high-risk areas, including **Seshego, Sterpark, Ga-Semenya, and Ivy Park**.

To combat the widespread **proliferation of potholes** due to heavy rains, the City intensified its **“War on Potholes” programme**, which has been rolled out across all clusters.

To address the **backlog in road surfacing**, a strategic shift from traditional re-gravelling to more **cost-effective paving solutions** was adopted, resulting in **13 roads being paved since 2023**.

Despite **budgetary constraints**, the City prioritised **shovel-ready projects** through a careful **reallocation of resources**, ensuring that critical infrastructure projects continue moving forward.

Transport: Leeto La Polokwane

As we move steadily towards metro status, we are unapologetic in our commitment to delivering **modern, dignified and integrated public transport** to all our people.

Polokwane is one of the few cities nationally implementing the **Integrated Public Transport Network (IPTN)** with the support of the **Public Transport Network Grant (PTNG)**. At the centre of this transformation is **Leeto La Polokwane** — a smart, people-focused public transport system that now carries over **78,000 passengers each month** across three major corridors.

With real-time tracking, intelligent transport systems, and a dedicated operations control centre, Leeto is redefining urban mobility by improving safety, reducing congestion, and enhancing commuter trust through technology-driven transparency.



Yet we are not blind to challenges. The delivery of 10 required 9-metre buses has been delayed, limiting our expansion efforts. Council has already initiated **legal action to recover the value of the undelivered fleet**, reaffirming our commitment to accountability, value for public money and consequence management.

Our success would not be possible without **strong partnerships** — particularly with the **taxi industry**, including the FPTA, SPTA, and WTA. Together, we implemented Phase 1A and are preparing for expansion to additional clusters in future phases, ensuring that **no community is left behind**.

We continue to invest in **universal and accessible transport infrastructure**, with the successful completion and operationalisation of the new **Leeto La Polokwane Bus Station** in 2024/25.

We have also begun the **refurbishment of the Oriental Plaza (Indian Centre) Taxi Rank**, transforming it into a modern, multi-phase transport hub, with full completion expected by the 2025/26 financial year.

Looking ahead, key transport projects in 2025/26 will include:

- The **construction of a modern Transit Mall** — a pedestrian-focused corridor linking mobility with local economic growth.

- The **installation of 10 new bus stop shelters** in Seshego, the inner city, and Flora Park — offering commuters safer, more comfortable waiting areas.

Madam Speaker,

Leeto La Polokwane is more than a bus service — it is a vehicle for empowerment, equity, and economic opportunity. It is driving us closer to a connected, inclusive, and smart metro.

ENERGY SERVICES: Lighting the way, reducing crime, enhancing access

Madam Speaker,

The provision of electricity to all communities remains a critical developmental imperative. We are pleased to report continued progress in our electrification rollout.

Our electrification programme has reached **4951 new households** under this administration, lighting up homes, possibilities and futures. In a world that runs on energy, we cannot afford to let any child do homework under a candle when solutions exist. We are building a city where every child has light — both literally and metaphorically.

In our continued efforts to enhance public safety, reduce crime and improve road visibility — particularly in high-risk and accident-prone areas — the City has made notable progress in the rollout of solar-powered public lighting. This initiative not only addresses safety concerns but also supports our commitment to sustainable and energy-efficient infrastructure.

The municipality installed **12 solar high mast lights** and **40 solar-powered streetlights** in key areas like OR Tambo View, Zebediela Road and Tibane, reinforcing community safety and night-time economic activity. Maintenance work on urban lighting, particularly around the University of Limpopo and Thabo Mbeki Drive, ensures public safety and accessibility.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION: Empowering our people, building towards metro status

Polokwane Municipality is laying the foundation for inclusive economic growth through strategic infrastructure investment, decisive job creation and targeted youth empowerment initiatives — all essential pillars in our journey towards Metro status.

Polokwane is fast becoming a model of infrastructure-led development:

- **The Limpopo Central Academic Hospital**, now under construction near Edu-Park, represents a R5 billion investment that will yield 2,400

construction jobs and 1,000 permanent positions. This project, in partnership with the DBSA and the National Department of Health, will redefine healthcare in our province.

- **The Green Arch Precinct**, a R710 million mixed-use development opposite The Greenery, will bring regional bank offices, an international hotel, and luxury apartments — generating over 500 permanent jobs and R9.9 million in annual municipal revenue.
- **The Provincial Theatre and Arts Hub** along the R37 is a key part of our cultural and tourism strategy. It will include a theatre, recording studios, and film development spaces. Bulk infrastructure designs have been completed to support this landmark initiative.
- We are also facilitating the **Edu-Park student housing initiative**, a 200-bed residence for medical students that complements the academic hospital precinct and supports our growing knowledge economy.
- The **Polokwane Game Reserve Eco-Estate** is another **flagship catalytic project** poised to redefine eco-tourism and residential development. Located in the south-eastern part of the city, the estate promises luxury living **in harmony with nature**. The **Environmental Impact Assessment** is already underway, with public participation held in April 2025. This will position Polokwane as a leader in **sustainable urban expansion**.



This Council continues to invest in the institutional capacity of the municipality to ensure that our people are served with excellence and professionalism. Our transformation agenda is not just theoretical — it is yielding tangible results.

We have revolutionised access to municipal jobs through our new **e-Recruitment System**, making job opportunities more accessible — especially for young people in remote and rural communities. In a bold and progressive move, Council has **scrapped the experience requirement for all entry-level positions**, breaking the cycle that locked many out of employment. Since this decision, **233 posts** have been filled — **129 by youth** and **175 of those with no prior experience**.

This is what real inclusion looks like — opening doors based on potential, not privilege. And we are going even further: more than **50 new professional positions will be advertised in this month**, signalling that Polokwane is not only open for business but open for opportunity.

Investing in youth through training and learnerships

To equip our youth with the skills required for the economy of tomorrow, we continue to forge partnerships that expand access to structured learning and work-based training.

We have just concluded an agreement with a **private company for training and development**, which successfully sourced funding for **319 learnerships** targeting young people in Polokwane. These programmes — set to commence at the start of the new financial year — will focus on **Electrical Engineering, Water and Wastewater Treatment, Landscaping, and Plumbing**.

This is a clear example of public-private collaboration driving empowerment at a major scale. These learnerships are not only a pathway to employment, but a tool for building a skilled, local labour force that can support municipal services and the broader economy.

We understand that education is the most powerful tool to fight poverty. That's why:

- **150 external bursaries** have been awarded to students pursuing scarce skills in fields like engineering, finance, and environmental studies.
- **56 internal bursaries** were granted to municipal staff for professional development.
- Internship and learnership programmes were implemented with various SETAs to give young people the experience they need to succeed in the job market.

In partnership with the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, **256 graduates** have been employed through the **Youth Development Programme**, gaining valuable experience in tourism, environmental management, horticulture, and occupational health and safety.

Tourism: A thriving destination

Polokwane continues to grow its reputation as a regional economic hub and a tourism powerhouse.

We are proud hosts of the **Annual National Tourism Career Expo (2024–2026)** in partnership with LEDET and the National Department of Tourism. Held at the **New Peter Mokaba Stadium**, the expo inspires youth by showcasing careers in tourism and hospitality, encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our **Limpopo Holiday Fair**, now in its **10th successful year**, continues to attract **SADC-region buyers**, positioning our city as a tourism and events capital.

As per Council approval, we are now a **Business Registration Centre** under the Limpopo Business Registration Act — a reform that will simplify business compliance, improve regulation and unlock economic potential.

We continue to reposition Polokwane as a tourist destination. The refurbishment of four chalets and supporting facilities at the **Polokwane Game Reserve** is now complete. This upgrade boosts our tourism appeal and revenue generation potential.

Enterprise Development: *Empowering SMMEs for a metro future*

We remain resolute in nurturing **local enterprise** and **youth-driven innovation**. Through robust **public-private partnerships** — including with **Standard Bank, Hollywoodbets, Core-Energy, Munsoft** and **Lepharo Incubator** — we have facilitated **over R1 million in direct SMME investment**.

Our enterprise support model focuses on:

- Capacity building
- Market access
- Farming and tech-based youth entrepreneurship

This is not charity - it is an **investment in a self-sustaining local economy**, one step closer to our **metro city vision**.

ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT: A municipality that works for the people



Our commitment to a clean, capable and caring municipality continues to guide our efforts. We are building a professional municipal administration grounded in transparency, accountability, efficiency and ethical leadership.

Hence, we have emphasized the need to put the right systems in place to run an efficient municipality. This has prompted us to implement a **performance management system** that is complemented by a **consequence management system** in order to improve efficiency.

The implementation of the performance management system has made us to realize an improved performance by various Directorates in the City. For the first time Council considered the Institutional Performance Report of above 80%. Thus, this system is the step in the right direction.

The need to put in place the right systems cannot be divorced from instilling the right institutional culture. This requires a change in the attitude of our employees. As author **Simon Sinek** says, *“customers will never love a company until employees love it first.”*

All this, however, does not mean that all is gloom. We do have employees that go beyond the call of duty such as **Ms Agnes Setwaba** from Revenue Office who has won the hearts and lifted the spirits of our residents with

exceptional customer care. Recently, **Mr Thabo Seabela**, Acting Manager also at Revenue has been praised for transcending the call of duty in the service of our residents. And of course, **Mr Thipa Selala**, who is appreciated for keeping everyone informed about the municipality's operations, challenges and solutions.

There are many others who, ladies and gentlemen, who are contributing immensely in the noble cause of ReagaPolokwane.

Ethical leadership and talent development

Polokwane has embraced the professionalisation of the public sector. We have appointed **four Chartered Accountants (CAs)** in key strategic roles — a testament to our commitment to sound financial management and good governance. Our internal training programmes and performance systems ensure that we retain skilled talent and drive results.

The municipality is also committed to the process of **insourcing critical services**, including security and cleaning. This shift will promote fair labour practices, ensure better oversight, and enhance service delivery outcomes. For instance, the cleanliness of areas such as the New Peter Mokaba Stadium and Civic Centre Park owes a great deal the hardwork of our own employees.

WASTE MANAGEMENT



Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen,

When **President Cyril Ramaphosa** visited our municipality and convened a meeting at the new Council Chamber with our Provincial Government, he described Polokwane as *"a city of cleanliness, a model for what is possible when local government and communities work together for a common good."* These words are both a recognition of our progress and a call to deepen our commitment.

Indeed, waste management is more than the removal of refuse—it is a reflection of our values: dignity, equity, and environmental stewardship. In the past year, we have added **1,167 new households** to our municipal waste collection system. Yet, we remain deeply aware of the persistent backlogs, especially in our rural areas.

To confront this challenge, we are implementing **three Rural Waste Transfer Station projects**, aimed at extending waste services to historically neglected communities. Additionally, in March this year, we appointed contractors for two general waste transfer stations in **Seshego** and **Westenburg**—a significant step to boost our city's waste processing capacity.

Further, land use rights are being acquired for new transfer stations in **Ga-Maja** and **Ga-Chuene**, with construction to begin after final approvals. To

support long-term sustainability, a consultant has been appointed to oversee the **expansion of the Weltevreden landfill site**, with phased budget allocations committed.

To combat illegal dumping, the municipality has strengthened its operational capacity through the procurement of key equipment—including a **front-end loader, compactor truck, load lugger, and roll-on-roll-off truck**—allowing for quicker, more effective clean-up operations.

Our **Keep Polokwane Clean Campaign**—underpinned by the *Mayoral Greening and Cleaning Competition*—has become a transformative movement, rallying residents to take pride in their surroundings and actively contribute to a clean, healthy city.

Climate resilience is integral to our approach. Through our **Greening Programme**, over **25,944 trees** have been planted since July 2021, improving air quality, enhancing biodiversity, and mitigating the effects of climate change. I have often encouraged the practice of gifting trees instead of cakes during celebrations—because each tree is a living legacy to future generations.

Responding to community concerns raised during IDP consultations, we have also procured **121 grass-cutting machines** to enhance in-house capacity and reduce dependence on external contractors.



Through the **Expanded Public Works Programme**, we've created **11,611 work opportunities**—uplifting households, especially youth and women, while delivering essential environmental services that benefit all.

Madam Speaker, waste management in Polokwane is not merely a municipal service—it is a social contract with our communities, one that we continue to honour with urgency, investment, and innovation.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND HOUSING DELIVERY

Madam Speaker,

Access to **dignified, safe, and sustainable housing** remains a cornerstone of our developmental agenda. We have made great strides in ensuring that the right to adequate housing is no longer a distant dream but a lived reality for many of our residents.

I am proud to announce that **we are the first local municipality in the entire Limpopo Province to obtain Level 2 Implementation Protocol status** - a designation that affirms our administrative capacity, our technical readiness and our firm obligation to deliver on the human settlements agenda.

Informal settlements are no longer symbols of neglect—they are being transformed through systematic upgrades and relocations. To date, **over 500 housing units** have been built in **Extensions 126 and 127**, with Phase 4 now focusing on **top structure development**, reflecting our commitment to integrated, long-term planning.

We commend the **Polokwane Housing Association (PHA)** for advancing **social housing** at Annadale Extension 2, where the **tenanting of 494 units** began in February. But speed is of the essence. The PHA must accelerate allocation to meet the overwhelming demand for affordable, well-located housing. Completed units must never lie vacant while people wait in hope.

As the municipality, we will continue to support the PHA by clearing bottlenecks, engaging with regulators, and promoting innovative, **smart and green housing models** aligned with our **Smart City Vision 2030**. Our goal is to build **communities**, not just houses.

We have also made significant strides in the **Asbestos Roof Removal Programme**, with **2,052 of 2,737 units** already upgraded in Seshego, and ongoing work in **Wards 08 and 19**. No resident should live in unsafe conditions.

In honour of our veterans, **50 sites were donated** in **Ward 23**, with **19 homes completed** and others underway in rural areas.



Security of tenure is equally important. Through our **Title Deeds Programme, 2,153 out of 2,966 registered deeds** have been collected — advancing land ownership and generational wealth.

FLEET MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Madam Speaker,

As we continue to prioritise **responsive and reliable service delivery**, the capability of our municipal fleet is central to our performance. A well-equipped fleet is a necessity to service our communities effectively, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas.

In the current financial year, the municipality has successfully **procured and delivered:**

- **1 Compactor**
- **6 Graders**

We are also expecting the **delivery of an additional Grader before the end of this financial year** and we have **procured 4 Cherry Pickers**, which will be delivered within the next six weeks. These vehicles are instruments of service delivery, particularly in refuse removal, road maintenance and electrical infrastructure repairs.

Looking ahead to the **2025/2026 financial year**, the Council is exploring a **comprehensive fleet solution** that ensures **value for money, improved turnaround times and greater reliability**. As part of this, we plan to procure **210 various new units**, significantly enhancing the municipality's ability to deliver across all service sectors.

To support this expansion, we have also **proposed the leasing of 110 mixed fleet units**, with a budget allocation of **R37.4 million**. This strategic approach blends ownership with operational flexibility — ensuring that our services remain uninterrupted while we modernise our capacity.

ICT SERVICE DELIVERY INNOVATION: SMART CITY 2030

Madam Speaker,

The **digital era** demands that we **govern smarter, listen better, and respond faster**. That is why the City has introduced the **MyPolokwane Citizen App** — a groundbreaking innovation that is already redefining how we engage with our communities and address their service delivery needs in real time.

This app is a bridge between government and the governed, a platform for participation, accountability and progress.



Previously, residents had to report issues through fragmented channels: phone calls, emails, WhatsApp messages, or physical visits. This was inefficient, frustrating, and unfit for a modern city. **Today, we have changed that.**

As **Albert Einstein** famously said:

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

With **MyPolokwane Citizen App**, we are embracing new, intelligent approaches to governance designed not only to solve today's challenges but to prevent tomorrow's frustrations.

With this **App**, residents can report service delivery issues in real time, upload photos and receive rapid feedback — **all within a single unified platform**. Complaints are transmitted to our municipal call centre within **60 milliseconds**, and issues are allocated to the **nearest available technician within 15 seconds**. This is **responsive governance in action**.

Currently available on **Huawei and Google app stores**, we are finalising the rollout to **Apple devices** to ensure full accessibility.

We have also recognised that **connectivity is no longer a privilege — it is a right**. As part of our commitment to digital inclusion, we have rolled out

free Wi-Fi at Seshego and the City Libraries, giving residents access to government services, educational resources and communication tools. This initiative will continue to expand to other communities, because **a connected city is an empowered city**.

Through this intervention, Polokwane is opening new pathways to opportunity, equity and participation for all residents.

Our journey towards becoming a **Smart City by 2030** is no longer an aspiration — it is a reality in motion. On **30 August 2024**, we launched the **AFLA online GIS portal** — a revolutionary platform for remote land development applications. Through AFLA, citizens and investors can submit **town planning, building plans and cemetery applications** entirely online.

Built on compliance with **SPLUMA, Building Standards Act and the Municipal Property Rates Act**, AFLA promotes **transparency, accountability and paperless governance**. Professionals can now track their application's lifecycle — from submission to approval — without visiting municipal offices.

This digital milestone **places Polokwane among a handful of cities in the country pioneering smart governance** and resident-centric technology.

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY



Madam Speaker,

A clean, safe and well-governed city is non-negotiable. Guided by **Section 152 of the Constitution**, we continue to enforce by-laws, protect municipal assets and uphold public order through a **24/7 law enforcement shift system**.

We have deployed security officers across clusters, strengthened our municipal call centre operations and improved inter-agency collaboration in joint crime-fighting operations.

We are proud to report that **16 suspects** involved in cable theft were arrested. Our **Safer City operations** have now expanded to include the **Mankweng Cluster**, extending visible policing and enforcement to more communities.

Three Control Room Operators, two Technicians and three Switchboard Operators have been appointed as permanent six-day workers and integrated into the municipal shift system to bolster service delivery.

TRAFFIC SERVICES

Madam Speaker,

Our roads are safer today, thanks to the implementation of 24/7 traffic services. This shift played a key role in achieving **zero fatalities during the 2025 Easter period** - an outstanding milestone. Notably, the **Easter pilgrimage to Moria** for both the **ZCC and St. Engenas ZCC churches** was also **fatality-free**, a testament to the commitment and vigilance of our dedicated traffic personnel.

We recently appointed **eight (8) new traffic officers**, strengthening visibility and enforcement on our roads. The **City Traffic Centre in Ladanna** has been upgraded, and **Phase 1 of Mankweng Traffic and Licensing Centre**, which included yard fencing, has been completed. **Phase 2 construction** is currently underway.

Traffic services have now resumed in **Mankweng** following the restoration of equipment. We condemn all acts of theft and vandalism against municipal infrastructure in the strongest possible terms.

Smart Traffic Management Solutions

Looking ahead, we are rolling out an **integrated traffic management system** that includes:

- **Speed enforcement cameras**
- **Automated number plate recognition**
- **Improved traffic flow analysis**



This system will enhance road safety, reduce accidents, and boost our ability to collect revenue from traffic fines.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Madam Speaker,

Polokwane continues to assert itself as the **sporting capital of Limpopo** and a rising sports tourism destination. Our commitment to **healthy lifestyles, social cohesion** and **international-standard sporting facilities** is firm.

One of our legacy projects, the **International Softball Stadium**, faced budgetary constraints since its inception in the 2019/20 financial year. We are correcting that. Council has now budgeted co-funding alongside the **National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture**. A new contractor and consultant are appointed to ensure the timeous completion of the stadium.

Hosting of Major Events

Polokwane is quickly becoming a **hub for major events**. In just one quarter, we hosted **44 events** at the Old Peter Mokaba Stadium, including:

- Football matches



- School athletics
- TVET college championships
- Cultural festivals and marathons

We proudly hosted a **World Cup Qualifier** between **Bafana Bafana** and **Lesotho**, a match that drew national attention and reaffirmed our city's status as a premier sporting destination. Our **New Peter Mokaba Stadium** continues to attract teams from **Zimbabwe, Namibia, Kenya, Mozambique**, and beyond, proving its enduring **international appeal**. **Tomorrow**, we are honoured to host yet another international fixture - a **friendly match between Bafana Bafana and Tanzania** - further entrenching Polokwane's reputation as a hub for high-calibre football.

We have also successfully hosted **double headers** of the **Soweto giants**, with **Orlando Pirates** and **Polokwane City** utilising the **Old Peter Mokaba Stadium** and **Kaizer Chiefs** and **TS Galaxy** thrilling fans at the **New Peter Mokaba Stadium** in April.

In addition to football, the recent **Polokwane City Marathon** drew over **3,500 runners**, solidifying its place as a **flagship event** in our **tourism** and **wellness calendar**, and showcasing the city's ability to host large-scale, inclusive events that promote health, community and local economic activity.



We are ensuring **inclusivity in sports infrastructure**, with new and revitalized facilities in townships and rural areas:

- **Seshego Stadium:** After two decades, the stadium is alive again and proudly serves as home ground for **Magesi FC**.
- **Nirvana Swimming Pool:** Reopened in **December 2024** after seven years, now fully functional.
- **Sebayeng/Dikgale Sports Complex (Phase 1):** Completed fencing, borehole installation and septic tank construction.
- **Town Pool:** Heat pump servicing completed.

Going forward, our strategy will emphasize **combi-courts** to deliver sports infrastructure faster and at scale, especially in underserved areas.

These developments generate **economic spin-offs** - creating jobs for hawkers, security personnel and boosting revenue in the retail and hospitality sectors.

We thank all athletes and residents participating in the **Polokwane City Marathon, CDM Marathon, Seshego Marathon**, and the **Mall of the North Marathon**. You are ambassadors of our City's sporting spirit.

CONCLUSION



In closing, I want to sincerely appreciate the support that we continue to receive from our residents, traditional leaders and stakeholders in the quest to build a better Polokwane – the City of our dreams.

I extend my heartfelt **gratitude to the residents who continue to pay for services on time**. Your civic responsibility strengthens our city and makes Polokwane a leader in the province.

When we had the privilege of assuming this great responsibility at the beginning of this term of Council, we embraced the overarching message of change. Through collective action, change is today visible.

Madam Speaker, Honourable Councillors and residents of Polokwane,

In the story of every great city, there are defining chapters — moments where the tide begins to turn, where hope is reignited and where the people feel seen, heard and served. This is such a moment for Polokwane.

From the boreholes that now bring water to families in our villages, to the thousands of new households electrified, from the roads that connect a child to their school to the streetlights that make a woman feel safe walking home — service delivery is not a statistic. It is the restoration of dignity. It is government in action. It is the tangible expression of democracy.



Our message is clear: *Polokwane is on the rise.*

We thank our Queen of Bapedi Hlapogadi a Phaahla and The RainQueen Modjadji for blessing us with their presence, re-affirming that Polokwane is the capital city of their province.

We also thank our senior traditional leaders for coming out in large numbers.

Yes, we are a growing city facing real challenges — ageing infrastructure, power interruptions, limited budgets, cable theft and external dependencies. But we are not a municipality of excuses. We are a municipality of execution. We are investing billions into water resilience, into modern sanitation, into smart lighting, sustainable waste management and climate-responsive infrastructure. We are tackling service delivery head-on — *not with rhetoric, but with results.*

To the resident in Hwibi, Ga-Matlala who now has lights in her home.
To the learner in Extension 48 who walks safer under solar streetlights.
To the elder in BM Corner and Corner House in Seshego whose taps now run clean.

To the small business in Ladanna and Moregloed that can open because the road is finally paved.



To the commuter in Nirvaba and Flora Park who now travels with dignity and reliability on a Leeto La Polokwane bus.

These are not promises. These are deliveries. These are victories.

Madam Speaker, the work is not done — but the direction is right. The momentum is real. The commitment is firm. As this administration, we are not just fixing pipes, building roads or installing lights; we are building trust. We are rebuilding dignity.

I want to thank the governing party for entrusting us with this great responsibility to fix Polokwane.

Working together with all our residents and stakeholders, Reaga Polokwane — the Polokwane of tomorrow.

Let the message ring across every ward, every village, every street: *Service delivery is back on track and Polokwane is rising.*

Ke a leboga, I thank you!

