ISSUE 3 POLIOKWAANTE The Official Newsletter Polokwane Municipality





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POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY BOOSTS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT WITH HANDOVER OF NEW YELLOW FLEET

n a significant step towards improving service delivery and infrastructure development, the Polokwane Municipality has officially handed over a new yellow fleet, including four graders and a compactor for waste management, at Greenside in Ward 8. The handover ceremony marks a pivotal moment in the municipality's efforts to enhance road maintenance and waste management services while reducing reliance on external service providers.

The MMC for Roads and Stormwater, Mr. Moloto, highlighted the importance of the new fleet, stating that the municipality currently operates 10 graders responsible for internal street regravelling. The four additional graders will be allocated to the Seshego, City, and Mankweng clusters within the municipality, ensuring broader coverage and improved efficiency in road maintenance.

The Executive Mayor Cllr. Makoro John Mpe said: "Our primary objective as a municipality is to tar and pave our roads and by acquiring our own fleet, we are putting an end to the overreliance on external service providers. This move allows us to build a capable and efficient municipality that can deliver services effectively and create job opportunities for our communities."

The handover of the graders and compactor is expected to have an immediate impact on the living conditions of residents. The graders began to work promptly, focusing on improving road conditions in the area and ensuring smoother transportation networks. The compactor will enhance waste management efforts, contributing to cleaner and healthier communities.

The executive mayor emphasized the importance of proper maintenance of the new fleet, urging grader operators to take absolute care of the equipment to ensure its longevity. "These machines are a critical investment in our infrastructure and service delivery. Their proper use and maintenance will ensure they serve our communities for years to come," he added.

The municipality's initiative aligns with its broader goals of increasing internal capacity to deliver essential services more efficiently. By modernizing its fleet and infrastructure, Polokwane Municipality aims to stimulate economic activity, attract investment, and improve the quality of life for its residents.

"Well-maintained roads are essential for economic growth," noted Cllr Mpe. "They facilitate the movement of goods and services, connect rural communities to urban centres, and create an environment conducive to investment. This initiative is not just about infrastructure; it's about building a foundation for sustainable development and job creation."

The handover of the new yellow fleet is a testament to the municipality's commitment to infrastructure development and service delivery. As the graders and compactor begin their work, residents can look forward to improved road conditions, enhanced waste management, and a brighter future for Polokwane.

Polokwane News

POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY DELIVERS SIGNIFICANT WATER AND SANITATION PROJECTS IN 2023/24 & 2024/25



Polokwane Municipality has made substantial strides in improving water and sanitation infrastructure across its communities during the 2024/25 financial year. Numerous projects have been successfully completed, bringing much-needed relief and improved living conditions to thousands of residents. Here's a detailed look at the completed Water Infrastructure Enhancement initiatives:

Water Infrastructure Enhancements:

1. Kalkspruit Water Supply Phase 1

Scope of work:

- Bulk Water Supply Pipelines,
- Water Reticulation,
- 54-yard connections,
- Equipping 4 boreholes,
- Re-drilling of 4 x New boreholes and Installation of 1000 KVA backup generator for the Houtriver Water treatment plant.Budget: R23 106 611.33

Beneficiaries 56 households from Kalkspruit, Magongoa, Moshongo villages.



Story Continues to the next page

2. . Boyne Regional Water Scheme Phase 2

Scope of work:

- Refurbishment and equipping of Boreholes (11 Off), Refurbishment of 250kl elevated steel tank, Refurbishment of 200kl reinforced concrete reservoir, 4200m of 90mm Ø Bulk uPVC between Magokobung and Mountain View,2km of 90mm Ø Bulk uPVC Pipeline from Lepelle Bulk Line to Makgeng elevated steel tank, Construction of new 200kl steel tank, Construction of new package plant
- Budget: R15,531,000.00
- **Beneficiaries:** 4,326 households in MountainView, Mankgaile, Nnoko, Riverside, FloraPark, Subiaco, and Magokobung.

3. Mars Phase 2

Scope of work:

- One new borehole, 108 kl elevated steel tank, Supply and installation of uPVC water lines ranging from 90mmØ to 75mmØ, 356 yard connections. New Package Plant
- Budget: R8,398,075.04
- **Beneficiaries:** 356 households in Mars Village and GaMangou.





4. Sebayeng Dikgale Phase 10

Scope of work:

NTSIMA VILLAGE

3 390m length reticulation, Equipping of one borehole, 10 Communal taps, 40 KL elevated PVC tanks.

POTSE VILLAGE

4 393 m length reticulation, Equipping of one borehole, 10 Communal taps, 40 KL elevated PVC tanks.

SYFERSKUIL VILLAGE

4 626m length reticulation, Equipping of two boreholes, 25 Communal taps, 80 KL elevated PVC tanks.

MEHLAKONG

Electrification of two boreholes and installation of pump house.

SEBAYENG TOWNSHIP

Equipping of 2 Boreholes

Budget: R19,251,013.41

Beneficiaries: 724 households from Ntsima, Potse, Syferskuil, Mehlakong, villages and Sebayeng township.

These projects reflect Polokwane Municipality's commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents by providing access to clean water and sanitation. The successful completion of these initiatives is a testament to the municipality's dedication to infrastructure development and service delivery.

POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY DOMINATES SALGA AWARDS WITH SIX PRESTIGIOUS WINS

Polokwane Municipality took centre stage, claiming an impressive six awards, at the highly anticipated SALGA Moses "Big Moss" Maluleke Municipal Awards held in Bela Bela, recently. The municipality's remarkable success underscores its commitment to excellence in governance, financial management, and innovation. The event, which brings together municipalities from across the country, witnessed Polokwane rising as a beacon of effective leadership and service delivery.

With this impressive haul of accolades, Polokwane has cemented its position as a leader in municipal governance. The awards reflect the municipality's focus on smart leadership, rigorous financial discipline, and a constant drive for innovation. Polokwane is clearly not just participating in municipal governance—it is setting the standard.

The municipality was recognized for its achievements in six key categories:

- 1. Innovation in Municipal Digital Solution Polokwane is leading the way in creating a smart city, turning innovative technology into a tangible reality.
- 2. Improved Municipal Council Grading A direct result of diligent work and focused governance, Polokwane's improved grading speaks to its commitment to progress.
- Sustaining Improved Audit Opinion 2023/24

 With fiscal responsibility as a cornerstone, Polokwane has maintained high standards in financial management.
- 4. 100% Spending of Water Services Infrastructure Grant – Ensuring every cent of this critical funding goes toward improving water

services in the municipality.

- 5. 100% Spending of Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant – Maximizing infrastructure investments and eliminating waste, ensuring a robust infrastructure base.
- 6. In-house Preparation of Annual Financial Statements 2023/24 Polokwane showcases the capabilities of its in-house financial team, reducing reliance on external services.

Executive Mayor Cllr Makoro John Mpe, accompanied by Council Speaker Cllr Kobela Modiba, Council Whip Cllr Phetola Rapetswa, MMC for Finance Cllr Tshepo Nkwe, and City Manager Thuso Nemugumoni, proudly accepted the awards. Mayor Mpe emphasized that these accolades were a direct result of hard work and dedication to delivering results that directly benefit the people of Polokwane.

"This success is a reflection of the collective effort and determination of our team. We set high standards and consistently meet them. Polokwane is not just participating in governance; we are setting the gold standard," said Mayor Mpe.

With an improved audit opinion and a track record of responsible grant spending, Polokwane is rewriting the rules on municipal management. These awards not only recognize the municipality's achievements but also elevate expectations for what effective governance can accomplish.

Polokwane's success is a clear statement that, with the right leadership, municipalities can achieve significant, measurable progress. As Polokwane looks ahead, it is poised to break even more records, further reinforcing that excellence is not just a goal but a habit for this dynamic municipality.





POLOKWANE GEARS UP FOR COMMUNITY IDP AND BUDGET TALKS!

Polokwane is buzzing with budget plans! The city held the IDP/Budget Technical Committee meeting, a key step in shaping the 2025/26 financial year. This gathering is all part of the city's planning process, leading up to a big public participation campaign in April—where residents get to have their say!

Acting COO, Mr. Vheli Mthombeni said the 2025/26 IDP is the 5th review for the 2021-2026 term of council and it's the 5th Generation of IDP's since the beginning of democracy in RSA. He said critical to note is that service delivery backlogs among communities have been reduced.

So, **what's happening now?** The committee is reviewing the draft budget before it heads to the IDP Steering committee and the City Council for approval on March 27, 2025. Once approved, the draft Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and budget will be open for public input from April 3 to April 24. This is where businesses and community members can weigh in on the city's future projects and priorities.

What is the IDP, and Why Does It Matter?

The Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is like the city's roadmap for the next five years. It ensures that resources are used wisely to improve the lives of Polokwane's residents. It also helps align local plans with national and provincial goals. The upcoming 2025/26 IDP update is actually the final review of the 2021–2026 plan, making it a big deal as the city gears up for the 2026 local government elections.

The main focus areas?

- Faster service delivery
- Job creation & economic growth
- Sustainable and integrated housing

What's Been Achieved So Far?

Polokwane has made great strides in improving services and opportunities for its people. Here are some key highlights from the current IDP:

- Fewer service backlogs More homes connected to electricity & services.
- Job creation More opportunities through city programmes.
 Better housing – Integrated, sustainable settlements for more families.
- Improved access to basics Water, sanitation, and electricity services expanded.
- Economic growth A more businessfriendly environment to boost development.
- **Community empowerment** Programmes helping locals take charge of their future

Your Voice Matters!

The IDP isn't just a document—it's a way to shape Polokwane's future together. The city wants to hear from its residents, so don't miss the chance to share your thoughts when public consultations begin in April! Stay tuned for updates, and let's work towards a better, brighter Polokwane!



he Executive Mayor of Polokwane Municipality concluded the IDP (Integrated Development Plan) Steering Committee meeting with a strong call for the draft IDP to align with national imperatives and address the pressing needs of the community. The Mayor emphasized the importance of inclusive growth, job creation, poverty alleviation, and efficient local governance as the cornerstones of the municipality's development agenda.

In his closing statement, the Mayor outlined the key principles guiding the municipality's priorities, which include building proper infrastructure, sustaining water and road projects, creating jobs, diversifying energy sources, improving transportation services, and expanding human settlements to drive economic growth. He stressed the need for concrete renewable energy and water reuse initiatives to be integrated into the IDP, particularly in water and sanitation projects.

"Our plans to tar, pave, and re-gravel roads are critical to improving infrastructure, but we must ensure proper project and financial planning to avoid incomplete projects," the Mayor said. He urged officials to prioritize meticulous planning and execution to deliver tangible results for the community.

The Mayor also highlighted the importance of inclusive ward-based planning, ensuring that no ward is left behind and that rural areas benefit equally from development initiatives. "We must consider the competitive advantages of each area to attract investments and drive economic growth," he added. Revenue optimization was another key focus of the Mayor's address. He called on municipal departments to identify new revenue streams and implement innovative solutions to enhance revenue collection while reducing the cost of doing business. "We need to be creative in finding ways to optimize revenue and ensure the financial sustainability of the municipality," he said.

The Mayor also emphasized the need for innovative fleet management solutions to enhance service delivery. He stressed that fleet management must include proper maintenance and care, and those who abuse municipal resources must face disciplinary action. "Our fleet is a critical tool for service delivery, and we must ensure it is managed efficiently and responsibly," he stated.

In a bid to foster a culture of accountability and efficiency, the Mayor called for the implementation of Performance Management Systems (PMS) to reward high-performing employees. He also urged the municipality to take care of its employees to develop a capable and motivated workforce.

To combat crime and vandalism of infrastructure, the Mayor advocated for the use of technology. "We must leverage technology to protect our infrastructure and ensure the safety of our communities," he said.

As Polokwane moves forward with its development agenda, the emphasis remains on delivering value for money, reducing waste, and ensuring that every project contributes to the long-term growth and prosperity of the municipality.

POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY PRIORITIZES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON 2023/24 Draft Annual Report at New Peter Mokaba Stadium

Polokwane Municipality, committed to transparency and accountability, recently held a crucial community consultation regarding the 2023/24 Draft Annual Report at the iconic New Peter Mokaba Stadium. This initiative, spearheaded by the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC), provided a vital platform for residents to directly engage with municipal leadership and offer feedback on service delivery progress.

Acting Mayor Clr. Tshepo Nkwe, representing the Executive Mayor, underscored the importance of this engagement, stating, "Our initiatives were guided by the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and aligned with the Council-approved budget for 2023. The purpose of tabling the Annual Report is to account for the municipality's activities over the past financial year, ensuring we remain accountable to the people of Polokwane."

The report highlighted several key achievements, demonstrating the municipality's dedication to responsible governance. Notably, Polokwane Municipality secured a favorable unqualified audit outcome, a testament to sound financial management. Furthermore, the municipality's debt collection efforts exceeded expectations, achieving a remarkable 76% collection rate, significantly surpassing the budgeted 30% despite prevailing economic headwinds. This success reflects the collaborative efforts of the Finance Department and the community's commitment to paying for services rendered.

However, the Acting Mayor also addressed ongoing challenges impacting the municipality's financial

stability. Issues such as illegal meter connections and land invasions were identified as areas requiring intensified focus. These challenges, while complex, are being addressed through collaborative strategies involving various municipal stakeholders, including:

- The Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC): Ensuring oversight and accountability.
- **The Finance Department:** Maintaining financial integrity and improving revenue collection.
- The Electrical Department: Addressing illegal connections and ensuring reliable power supply.
- The Planning and Development Department: Managing land use and addressing illegal land invasions.
- **Community Liaison Officers:** Facilitating communication and engagement between the municipality and residents.
- The Polokwane Police Services (SAPS) and Municipal Security: Assisting in addressing illegal activities.

The Polokwane Municipality remains committed to working alongside its residents to build a prosperous and sustainable city. The feedback received during the consultation at the New Peter Mokaba Stadium will be instrumental in shaping future service delivery strategies and ensuring that the municipality continues to meet the needs of its communities. This engagement strengthens the partnership between the Polokwane Municipality and the people of Polokwane, working together for a brighter future.



Page 09 Issue 3



Improve citizen satisfaction by providing easy access to municipal services.

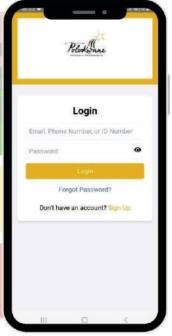


Enhance operational efficiency within municipal departments.

Tracking Service Requests: Citizens can track the status of their requests, creating a transparent process.



Improved Citizen Communication : Citizens can easily report issues (e.g., potholes, power outages, waste collection problems) directly through the app



The Digital Revolution

MYPOLOKWANE CITIZE

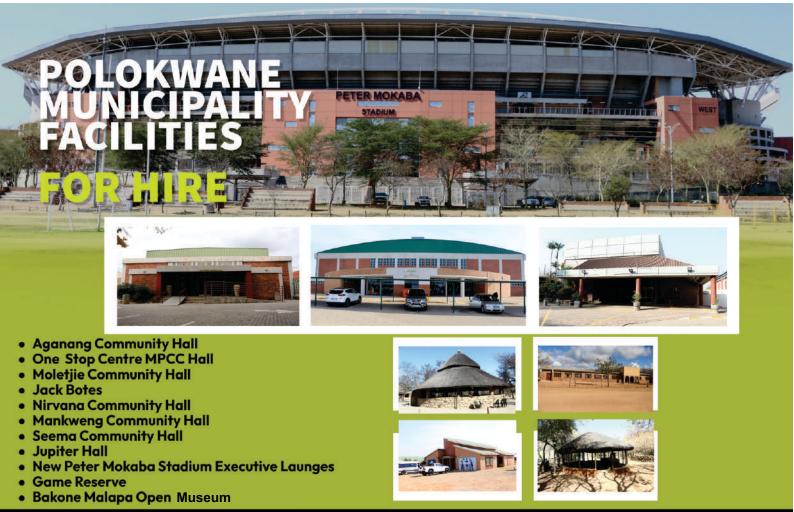
APP BENEFITS

he municipality is embracing digital transformation to streamline processes and improve efficiency. "As part of our SMART Pillars, the Municipality is phasing out ineffective manual systems with integrated electronic systems," said Mayor Mpe.

Citizen's App will empower residents to report service delivery issues directly.

"The service delivery App must be completed by CCTV and drone systems to improve surveillance over the work of our employees," the Mayor added.

By embracing technology and focusing on improving service delivery, Polokwane Municipality aims to create a more efficient and responsive government.



All mentioned hall can be used for: Weddings, Funerals, Conference, Meetings, Festivals and All indoor activities.



POLOKWANE MAYOR CHAMPIONS SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPAL FUNDING AND LOCAL ELECTRICITY CONTROL AT NATIONAL LEKGOTLA

Polokwane Executive Mayor, Cllr Makoro John Mpe, recently represented the municipality at a high-level South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Lekgotla held in Newlands, Cape Town. This important gathering of national and local government leaders, including Deputy President Paul Mashatile, Minister of Finance Enoch Godongwana, and Minister of Electricity Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, focused on critical issues impacting municipalities nationwide, with Mayor Mpe advocating strongly for Polokwane's priorities.

The Executive, in his capacity as Chairperson of SALGA Limpopo, played a key role in discussions surrounding sustainable municipal funding models. He highlighted the challenges faced by municipalities like Polokwane in generating and retaining sufficient revenue for essential services. "A stable and equitable funding framework is crucial for Polokwane to continue delivering quality services to our residents," said Mayor Mpe. He expressed optimism following the Lekgotla, noting a strong commitment from national government to address these financial challenges.

A significant focus of the Lekgotla was the future of electricity distribution. Mayor Mpe championed the idea of empowering municipalities to play a greater role in local electricity provision. "We believe Polokwane should have the opportunity to directly serve our community's electricity needs," Mayor Mpe explained. He argued that local control over distribution would not only improve service delivery but also create new revenue streams for the municipality, ultimately benefiting Polokwane residents. He cited successful examples like Maluti-a-Phofung and proposed a collaborative approach where Eskom focuses on generation and transmission, while municipalities manage local distribution. This initiative aligns with Polokwane's ongoing efforts to ensure reliable and affordable electricity access for all.

Beyond funding and electricity, the Lekgotla also addressed broader service delivery concerns. Mayor Mpe welcomed the Deputy President's proposal for a national municipal cleanliness competition, recognizing the importance of environmental sustainability and community involvement in maintaining a clean and healthy Polokwane.

Mayor Mpe emphasized that his participation in the Lekgotla reflects Polokwane's commitment to proactive engagement with national government and other municipalities. "These discussions are vital for shaping the future of local government and ensuring that Polokwane has the resources and authority it needs to thrive," Mayor Mpe concluded. He reiterated the municipality's dedication to improving service delivery, enhancing financial sustainability, and empowering local communities.



POLOKWANE MUNICIPALITY STANDS IN SOLIDARITY TO HONOR FALLEN SOLDIER

Polokwane Municipality recently joined the nation in mourning the loss of Rifleman (Rfn) PTE Sebatane Richard Chokoe, a dedicated member of the South African military who tragically passed away while serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Representing the Executive Mayor, Cllr Makoro John Mpe, the Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Community Safety, Cllr Joosuf Pemma, attended the funeral service held in Mokgokong Village to pay tribute to the fallen hero. Cllr Pemma stood alongside Minister of Defence and Military Veterans Angie Motshekga and Limpopo MECs for Agriculture and Treasury Nakedi Kekana and Kgabo Mahoai, demonstrating the municipality's respect and support for Rfn Chokoe's service and sacrifice.

Speaking at the funeral, Cllr Pemma conveyed the municipality's deep condolences, stating, "Polokwane Municipality stands in solidarity with the family, friends, and colleagues of Rfn Chokoe during this difficult time. His selfless dedication to protecting peace and stability in the DRC is a testament to the bravery and

commitment of our soldiers. We will forever remember his sacrifice."

The role of soldiers in a country is of paramount importance. They are the guardians of national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Their duty is to defend the nation against external threats, ensuring the safety and security of its citizens. Beyond defence, soldiers often play a crucial role in maintaining internal stability and supporting law enforcement agencies when necessary. They also contribute significantly to international peacekeeping efforts, promoting peace and security in troubled regions around the world. The dedication and sacrifice of soldiers like Rfn Chokoe underscore their vital contribution to the well-being and stability of the nation and the broader global community.

Polokwane Municipality expresses its condolences to the Sebatane family and salutes the bravery and commitment of Rfn Sebatane Richard Chokoe, a true hero who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. His service will not be forgotten.

BOOSTING POULTRY PRODUCTION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT EMPOWERS LOCAL FARMERS

The Economic Development Unit of Polokwane Municipality, in collaboration with Core Energy and NTK Polokwane (VKB Group), successfully hosted a comprehensive poultry production workshop at Mr. Ntsako Malungane's farm, Xihluke 09, Ga-Manamela village, Moletjie on February 27, 2025.

This vital capacity-building initiative aimed to equip local farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to produce high-quality, marketable poultry products, fostering sustainable business growth. The workshop, held directly on a working farm, provided a practical learning environment, serving as both a training ground and a marketing platform for Mr. Malungane's enterprise.

Purpose of the Workshop: Empowering Farmers for Success

"Our goal is to provide our local farmers with the essential tools and knowledge to thrive in the poultry industry," stated the Manager of Economic Development Unit, Moipone Segooa. "This workshop focused on practical, actionable strategies that will directly translate to improved production and increased profitability."

Message of Support from MMC for Local Economic Development CIIr Mashangoane

"The Polokwane Municipality is committed to supporting our local farmers," stated MMC for Local Economic Development CIIr Mashangoane. "This workshop demonstrates our dedication to providing practical training and resources that empower our agricultural community. We are pleased to see such a large number of participants taking advantage of this opportunity to enhance their skills and grow their businesses. We will continue to support these initiatives, and work together to grow our local economy." The workshop covered key areas including:

- **Feeding and Nutrition:** Understanding the phases of feeding for optimal growth.
- **Disease Prevention and Control:** Implementing effective strategies to safeguard flocks.
- **Biosecurity, Flock, and Waste Management:** Ensuring hygienic and efficient farm operations.
- **Direct Interaction with Suppliers:** Facilitating access to crucial resources and support.

Practical Demonstrations and Hands-On Learning

Participants engaged in practical demonstrations within the poultry house, gaining first hand experience in proper facility management. They learned essential techniques such as floor preparation, ventilation control, feeding protocols, and biosecurity implementation.

Overwhelming Success and Enthusiastic Participation

The workshop exceeded expectations, drawing 140 participants, significantly surpassing the initial target of 100. The overwhelming positive feedback from attendees underscores the event's success in providing valuable exposure to emerging farmers. This initiative is expected to enhance farm production, boost income, and stimulate active participation in the local agricultural sector.

This initiative by the Economic Development Unit reinforces the municipality's commitment to fostering economic growth and sustainable development within the agricultural sector.







"We won't have a society if we destroy the environment."



KEEPPOLOKWANE CLEAN



HIGHLIGHTS FROM EXECUTIVE'S ADDRESS

Saturday, 15 February 2025 | Mookgophong

Executive Mayor Cllr Makoro John Mpe kicked off the strategic planning session at Euphoria Golf Estate with a bold vision for Polokwane's future.

He laid out clear plans for the city to become a metropolitan powerhouse, not just for the title but to improve people's lives in real ways.



A Growing City on the move

Executive Mayor Mpe celebrated Polokwane's rapid growth, marked by major projects like the R5 billion academic hospital. He acknowledged the challenges of urbanization but framed them as opportunities to drive strategic progress and economic development.



Top priorities: Water, roads and jobs

Cllr Mpe made it clear: water, roads and job creation are non-negotiable priorities. He praised the Water Task Team's efforts but also called on Lepelle Northern Water to step up. His plan includes monitoring water systems, developing groundwater projects and pushing for the R11 billion De Hoop initiative to secure long-term water supply.



Smart City Vision: Technology leading the way

Polokwane is on its way to becoming a Smart City, with Mayor Mpe driving digital transformation. Initiatives like digital municipal services and the MyPolokwane Citizen App are designed to make life easier for residents and improve efficiency.



Economic growth and financial stability

Executive Mayor linked financial sustainability to economic growth by focusing on smart metering, better revenue collection and strict cost management. The municipality's approach ensures Polokwane grows economically while staying financially responsible.



Energy security for a brighter future

He laid out a strategic energy plan, including exploring renewable energy sources and expanding public lighting. The municipality is also working with national authorities to expand Polokwane's electricity license, which would boost the city's revenue and energy security.



Leading with Vision and Integrity

Executive Mayor Cllr Makoro John Mpe inspired his team by quoting leadership icons like John C. Maxwell and Napoleon Bonaparte. He called for visionary leadership, courage and accountability to achieve Polokwane's ambitious goals.

POLOKWANE'S PATH TO GREATNESS. READY FOR GROWTH

www.polokwane.gov.za | Download MyPolokwane Citizen App



#SAVEWATE

USE A BUCKET Use a bucket rather than a hose or a spray to wash your car. Using a garden hose as much as 30 litres of water per minute.

Use a filled plastic bottle to save water when

flushing the toilet. Reducing the toilet flush volume alone can save 20% of total water consumption. This can be done by putting a 2-litre cold drink bottle, filled with water and a little sand to add weight into the cistern.

The use of municipal water for the purpose of gardening by means of a hose pipe or irrigation system, washing of paving and open areas in residential areas as well as by business and industry is prohibited.

GREY WATER Use "grey water". used water from bath, washing machines and other safe sources - to flush your toilet and for gardening.



R100

ENCOURAGEMENT

FINE