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PORFOLIO COMMITTEE LAUDS DEPARTMENT

The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements has been hailed for consistently improving the lives of rural communities in Nkomazi Local Municipality. The Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements in the Legislature visited Rural and Farm-Worker projects to impoverished residents of Mgobodzi and surrounding areas recently. The committee visited several projects in the area during a three day - Taking Legislature to the People - programme.

During the visits the Department revealed two of its concluded projects to the members which, beyond any reasonable doubt, were deemed as unparalleled and matching the requirements and expectations of government. Steering the team, Deputy Speaker in the Legislature Mr. David Dube commended the perpetual commitment of the contractors which he said was observable from the level of work they had put in so far.

Speaking at the site, Dube said: "We are pleased with what the Department has done. This shows great commitment and working with good vision to deliver adequately to deserving people. We wish to also commend the contractors for such enthusiasm. Working with such distinction and being able to deliver such state of the art houses deserves praise."

One excited beneficiary, Mr. Obed Khoza jokingly said that he never thought he could ever own such a 'town house' in the rural areas: "This is impressive. Such a complete house for free without having to pop out a single cent from my pocket – it is amazing. I am grateful to my government for making me feel this special and restoring my peace once again," said the pleased Khoza. The project will deliver 50 units in the area through the Rural and Farm Worker Support programme.

The municipality will further benefit from other projects including the delivery of nearly 500 housing units through other programmes including for Military Veterans, planning for a community hall, planning and design for rental housing project and finalization of Malalane roads and storm water drainage infrastructure during the current financial year. The Department remains resolute to providing adequate integrated human settlements to all citizens of the province. With the help and interventions of other stakeholders there have been massive improvements to achieve this objective in all corners of the province.

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE

MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

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