



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Press Release**  
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### **KEEPING TO MANDATE, DESPITE ODDS**

The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements is set to continue with the spatial transformation of communities with a view to advance the delivery of integrated services in priority development areas whilst ensuring inclusive residential property markets. MEC Speed Mashilo made this bold undertaking this week when delivering the department's policy and budget vote, which saw a slight reduction in its overall budget from **R1, 558 billion** in the 2020/21 financial year to **R1, 557 billion** in the 2021/22 financial year.

Owing to COVID-19 challenges and general sluggish economic growth, MEC Mashilo made optimistic announcements, which seek to keep up with the department's mandate. "The following projects are under planning processes in the current financial year while others are already undergoing implementation. Nkosi City Project and Dingwell in the City Mbombela; SEZ Smart City in Komatipoort in Nkomazi, Retiefville in Mkhondo and Rondebosch in Steve Tshwete as well as Secunda Ext 75 and Ext 76 in Govan Mbeki Local Municipalities", said Mashilo. These multi-year projects will yield different housing typologies, socio-economic facilities, and other related services that will deal with historical skewed spatial planning.

Mashilo also acknowledged the challenges of informal settlements and cited the need for focus to upgrading informal settlements. "The nature of the location of the informal settlements presents a serious challenge in terms of connecting them to bulk water and bulk sewer existing infrastructure. A total of **3 759 sites/stand** in informal settlements is planned for upgrading", he said. A budget of **R259 million** will be directed towards the upgrading of informal settlements throughout the province. Furthermore, the department plans to deliver **3800 serviced sites/stand** under the integrated human settlements,

During the course of the current financial year, seven bulk infrastructure and sanitation projects and three social economic facilities will be delivered. An amount of **R25 million** is allocated for bulk infrastructure work in the Parliamentary Village; whilst, **R95 million** is allocated for schools and community related infrastructure. In other delivery outputs, **2 890** fully subsidized houses will be delivered, owing to shift to provision of more serviced sites than houses. This move will allow self-built by beneficiaries and increase in rapid release of land. To ensure security of tenure and foster sense of dignity and property ownership, **7 865** title deeds will be issued to beneficiaries of government subsidised houses. The budget vote was generally accepted by stakeholders.

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**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE**  
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