



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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PROVINCE TO BENEFIT FROM PRESIDENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

In line with its strategic focus areas, the Department of Human Settlements remains steadfast on increasing access to affordable rental housing across the province, particularly in the ever growing mining towns. During the recent State of the Nation Address debate this year, Human Settlements Minister, Ms Mmamoloko Kubayi announced six social housing projects to be implemented in the ensuing financial year throughout the country.

Of the six, two will be rolled out in Mpumalanga namely; KwaNdokuhle and Willow Creek Social Housing Projects in Govan Mbeki and Msukaligwa Local Municipalities, respectively. The KwaNdokuhle project will have **492 units** whereas the Willow Creek is set to have **360 units**. The combined estimated budget on both projects is well over **R326 million** over 24 months' period commencing in 2022/23 financial year.

Speaking on these projects, MEC Speed Mashilo indicated that these units have no pre-emptive rights whatsoever. *“Look, we have had our lessons from the past and I think we need to be assertive and concise that these units are for rental purposes only, not rent to buy as it was previously believed in few projects. Tenants will be signing lease agreements and committing to paying rental fees as required”*, affirmed Mashilo. He added that housing companies managing these properties must be effective and efficient in their management.

Both projects are expected to yield over 2600 job opportunities much to the benefit of both skilled and semi-skilled labourers, preferably locals. The implementation of these multi-year projects will be in partnership with accredited social housing companies who will in turn manage these properties upon completion. *“The primary purpose of social housing are urban restructuring and regeneration, and increasing the supply of rental housing in good locations for low-to-moderate income earners”*, stated Minister Kubayi. The Govan Mbeki Housing Company will be responsible for the KwaNdokuhle Project, while the Mzansi Housing Company takes responsibility of Willock Creek Project. Both projects were approved in the year 2020 and will run concurrently.

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
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