

ADDRESS BY THE MEC FOR THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, HON. ANDRIES GAMEDE DURING THE
SOD TURNING CEREMONY OF SELECTION PARK INTEGRATED
HUMNA SETTLEMENTS PROJECT, EXT 8.
LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPLAITY.
10 OCTOBER 2013.

Executive Mayor, Cllr C Morajane

Honourable Councillors

Council Speaker

Government and Municipal Officials

Private Partners (New Denmark)

Financial Institutions (Absa, STD Bank, Capitec, Nedbank and FNB)

Developer (Merbombo Projects -Vikinduku JV)

Local Leadership

Business Representatives

Members of the Media

All Distinguished Guests

FREEDOM CHARTER

Adoption of Freedom Charter in 1955.

Espoused a united and non-sexist human settlement was proclaimed by the Charter that:

“There shall be Houses, Security and Comfort!

All people shall have the right to live where they choose, be decently housed, and bring up their families in comfort and security,

Unused housing space to be made available to the people.....

Slums shall be demolished, and new suburbs built where all have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, crèches and social centres”

The declaration by the people’s congress clearly had a Human Settlements Department in their mind in a free South Africa.

Our existence as this department is derived directly from the people’s congress in Kliptown.

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CONSTITUTION

- Bill of Rights
- Provision of houses by the State
- Improved welfare

BNG

The BNG policy undertook to look at the following issues:

- Adequacy of location
- Adequacy of shelter
- Adequacy of space (both indoor and outdoor space)
- Adequacy of services
- Affordability (upfront costs)
- Affordability (ongoing costs)
- Physical security
- Security of tenure

Proper planning and implementation of the policy will yield:

- Locations that are closer to jobs, shops, facilities and transport
- Rental accommodation in towns
- Serviced stands
- Economic opportunities
- Social cohesion

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NEW MANDATE

- The Department's broadened mandate entails the development of human settlements in an integrated and sustainable manner.
- Emphasis is on the creation of integrated settlements, delivery of low-cost houses, mixed-typologies, and other required social and economic amenities such as community halls, health and education facilities.
- The outcome-based approach emphasizes improved coordination of activities across the spheres for common objectives.
- The department's outputs include the upgrading of informal settlements, improvement of access to basic services, improved property market, and more efficient land utilisation.

INTEGRATED PLANNING

- Gert Sibande is strategically located as an economic hub of the Province
- Mining, agriculture, timber, etc are key in economic development
- Major road links (N2, N11, N17, and R39) are key for development
- This project must address accommodation demand in the region
- It should cater for middle-income group (Integration)

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CONCLUSION

- The Province has Klarinet in eMalahleni
- Few other projects at Thaba Chweu and Emakhazeni are on the plan
- Today's ceremony shows government's seriousness in delivering on its mandate
- More projects will still be rolled out in the Province (Msukaligwa, Mbombela, Umjindi, Nkomazi)
- Commend partnership with the Private Sector

Ngiyabonga.