

FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR



In terms of Section 34 of the Municipal Systems Act, 2000 [Act 32 of 2000], the Council's Integrated Development Plan must annually be reviewed. The Act requires the following from the Integrated Development Plan of a Local Authority.

“To provide for the core principles, mechanisms and processes that are necessary to enable municipalities to move progressively towards the social and economic upliftment of local communities and ensure universal access to essential services that are affordable to all, to establish a framework for support, monitoring and standard setting by other spheres of government in order to progressively build local government into an efficient, frontline development agency capable of integrating the activities of all spheres of government for the overall social and economic upliftment of communities in harmony with their local natural environment....”

The legislator clearly intended local government to play a key role in integrating the activities of all spheres of government to build a better life for all. The Integrated Development Plan is the tool through which the needs and expectancies of all role players are defined and evaluated.

As Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng Local Municipality, I am honoured and proud to present the 2010 – 2011 revised Integrated Development Plan [IDP] on behalf of the Dipaleseng Municipality. This IDP illustrates the commitment and dedication of the Dipaleseng Local Municipality to review and address current realities within our communities.

Through the IDP, the Dipaleseng Local Municipality is informed about the obstacles affecting its residents. The Municipality is thus able to develop and implement appropriate strategies and projects to address the problems. The IDP helps to make more effective use of scarce resources helps to speed up delivery and helps to attract additional funds. The key function of Local Government is to reinforce the need for a balanced developmental agenda. We have an obligation to contribute towards meeting

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The key function of Local Government is to reinforce the need for a balanced developmental agenda. We have an obligation to contribute towards meeting the extended expectations of the communities we serve while assisting the local Municipalities in the region.

Integrated development planning for the Dipaleseng Municipality as a whole, including a framework for integrated development plans of all municipalities in the area of the Gert Sibande District Municipality, are the processes we take great pride to ensure that needs are met or will be met in future. Continuous follow-up meetings amongst all stakeholders will be arranged in order to early identify the needs of the communities.

A hearty word of thanks is extended to the Programme Management Unit who had the Challenging task of managing the revision of the IDP for the Dipaleseng. As Executive Mayor of the Dipaleseng Local Municipality I am proud of the outcomes of this document.

I am satisfied that the information contained in this document is a true reflection of the needs and expectancies of the community.

**MP TSOTETSI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR
DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

FOREWORD BY THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER



Periodical reviews of the IDP and assessment of the progress we have made thus far, is necessitated by the ongoing changes in both the societal demands and the Dipaleseng Local Municipality's ability and readiness to address such dynamics.

This is also necessary in order to enable us to align and synergise our working programmes with immediate and emerging priorities. This IDP Review, therefore, is the practitioner's assistant and guide on the constitutional obligations that we have to meet over the next twelve months. It needs to be studied with diligence, followed with absolute precision, and applied with passionate dedication.

Dipaleseng Local Municipality's development and service delivery mandate goes to the heart of the people's developmental and social needs, aspirations and frustrations. These are captured amply and embodied in the Municipality's Integrated Development Plan. Even though we realise that IDP implementation will require us to go beyond the call of duty and walk the extra mile, we are prepared to continually serve and seek ways and means that would enhance excellence.

Council committed Dipaleseng Local Municipality to the following localised planned interventions in order to respond to the Local Government Strategic Agenda, 2006-11:

Municipal Transformation: organisational development with specific reference to the restructuring of the Local Municipality and the establishment of a Shared Services component at a district level.

The Provision of Basic Services: to the best possible level, also with reference to infrastructure that can enhance economic growth.

Local Economic Development: with specific reference to the creation of a sound environment to stimulate development and investment.

Municipal Financial Viability: and management, with specific reference to the position of the Dipaleseng Local Municipality as one of the smallest and with the poorest resource base within the Mpumalanga Province.

Good Governance and Public Participation: to ensure that, though less capacitated than some of the other Municipality within the Province, the Dipaleseng Municipality can, with the close co-operation of its residents, still play a meaningful role in the arena of municipal governance.

To enhance **human development** by encouraging the involvement of communities in community initiatives and thereby creating a favourable environment.

This IDP will indicate that Dipaleseng Local Municipality has in the past and will in the future continue to respond to the guidelines set by National and Provincial government. Although much has already been accomplished, it is acknowledged that a lot still needs to be done. Assistance from government is needed in the following areas:

Water Services Development Plans [need urgent update]
 Development of a Consolidated Infrastructure Plan for the Municipality.
 Establishment of a Housing Forum with specific focus on housing for farm Dwellers.
 Establishment of LED Board
 Establishment of Emerging Business Forum.

Council takes cognisance and will assist and monitor the projects from Grootvlei Bio-diversity Initiative [ABI], South African National Parks [SANPARKS], Department of Land Affairs and the Department of Agriculture who plays a major role in land reform and local economic development in the Dipaleseng.

Council is also in the process of investigating the following possibilities:

- Development of a strategy regarding the fishing industry.
- Development of farm workers.
- Sustainability of Council's resorts.
- Database and future planning and development of Council's properties.
- Sustainable LED projects.
- Protection and utilisation of biosphere.
- Establishment of cultural village at Nthorwane.

Reference is made in the IDP to the Dipaleseng Local Municipality's financial position and the fact that: the municipality almost completely reliant on government grants funding.

The Municipal Infrastructure Grant [MIG] to mention one is totally inadequate [R3000] in order for Council to play a leading role in the Dipaleseng regarding service delivery with specific reference to bulk infrastructure. Further investigation into the future financial viability of the Council needs urgent attention with the assistance of National Treasury. The budget does not make provision for Council to assist the local municipalities where there are capacity problems.

On behalf of the Dipaleseng Local Municipality, I would like to express my gratitude and sincere appreciation to all role-players who participated in this extremely challenging IDP Review Process for 2010/2011.

**PM MALEBYE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER
DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**