



No. 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Ext 2, Mbombela, 1200, Mpumalanga Province, Private Bag X 11291, Mbombela, 1200
Tel: +27 (0) 13 766 2027, Int Tel: +27 (0) 13 766 2027, Fax: +27 (0) 13 766 2494, Int Fax: +27 (0) 13 766 2494

**CLOSING REMARKS BY THE HON PREMIER MP NDLOVU
CLOSING OF THE "TAKING LEGISLATURE TO THE PEOPLE"
STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
NKANGALA DISTRICT, MIDDELBURG
04 SEPTEMBER 2026.**

Speaker of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature: **Hon Makhosazana Masilela**

Deputy Speaker of the Legislature; **Hon Sam Masango,**

Chief Whip of the Governing Party, **Hon Iva Makhabane,** and Whips of all participating political formations,

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Members of the Executive Council

The Executive Mayor of the Nkangala District Municipality, **Cllr Thomas Ngwenya,**

The Executive Mayor of the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, **Cllr Mhlonishwa Masilela,**

Representatives of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional and Khoisan Leaders led by Chairperson who is also President of CONTRALESA, **Kgosi Mokoena,**

Director-General **Ms Maggie Skosana,**

Heads of Departments, and Senior Government Officials,

Representatives of organized business, labour formations, and civil society,

Comrades, compatriots, and the beautiful people of Steve Tshwete, Middelburg, Mhluzi, Hendrina, Kwazamokuhle, and surrounding areas, **Sanibonani**



1. Sesfike ekugcineni kokucocisana nani. Sifike ngomvulo, sihlale khona la liviki lonkhe, Siyabonga kakhulu, sicocisane kahle.
2. Asiyi emphakathini ngobe sibhale phansi ukuthi kufuneka sifike. Sifika la, kutococisana nani ngama priorities a-Hulumeni wenu.
3. Sisusa i-Legislature e-head office siyiletha kubantu. Sitibonela thina ukuthi niphila njani futhi niyazikhulumela ukuthi i-service niyayithola noma cha.
4. Sinilalele, nikhulumile uku hluleka kwethu, kodwa niphinde nasifakazela lanithola kahle ama-services. Abanye bathi bona asizanga siletha ne service eyodwa la Steve Tshwete.
5. Ngithanda ukubonga ukuthi thina siyasebenzisana nawo wonke ama political parties.
6. Sometimes sinayo imibono ehlukeni kodwa siyakwazi ukubambisana, asilwi kodwa siyalungisa. Nani nibonile ukuthi besisebenzisana nama political parties uma sicocisana nani.
7. Ukubambisana kwama political parties kucinisa i-democracy yesifundazwe sethu.
8. Sibonga ukusebenza ngoku zikhandla kwabo MEC bethu. Basebenza kahle nabo HOD nawo wonke ama officials aHulumeni. Imali ya Hulumeni bayisebenzisa kahle. Sithole nama clean audit, asizanga siba ne Department ethole i-disclaimer. U-AG akazange athi imali ka Hulumeni asiyiphathi kahle, afune noku sivulela amacala.

9. I-unemployment yala ekhaya ifika ku 18.1% futhi i-youth unemployment yona iphezulu kancane ngo 27,6%. 39.3% ya bantu balapha, abantu abahluphekile. Ngithanda ukwazisa umphakathi ukuthi singu Hulumeni sinayo i-policy ye kusiza abantu abahluphekile, yokuthola 6000 litres ya manzi ne 50 kilowatts ya gesi mahhala hha.
10. La Steve Tshwete sisebenza kahle nama mines amalahle. Siyabonga ukuthi ilahle sisalisebenzisa, siyajabula nokuthi ilahle sesicalile uku li clean sehlisa i carbon-dioxide. I problem esinayo i-air pollution.
11. U-Nkulunkulu waphinda wasi bhansela ngo moya kanye ne langa, futhi umoya wethu u pure awu mixani no moya wase lwandle. Lomoya kanye nelanga siyakusebenzisa nako ukwakha i-energy.
12. La Mpumalanga i-lahle, umoya kanye nelanga siyakusebenzisa ukwenza igesi. i-lahle, umoya kanye nelanga asikuzondi.
13. Sifundile la ngokuvalwa ka Nkomati Coal Fired Power Station, abantu balahlekelwa imisebenzi, kungakoke sicocisane na Eskom ukuthi i-Arnot singayivali manje
14. Lapha e Steve Tshwete sinenkinga yamanzi especially kuma farm areas 27.7% yama household ayitholi amanzi kahle especially e-ward 4, 5, 7, 9, 28 kanye na ward 29. Sisebenzisane nama mining companies safaka ama boreholes. ama water tankers nawo siyawasebenza as a temporary interventions.

15. Sakhe nama reservoirs, vaalbank water treatment plant, graspan reservoir, vliegveld reservoir siphinde sa-replacer nama old water works.
16. I-Sewerage network yona siyi upgradile , asi pholuthi thina, no Minisiter uze wabanika ne award yokuthi imifula yala ayika pholutheki.
17. 93% yama households athola ugesi. Kufuneka sisebenze sicedisele lo 7% ukuze kuthi wonke umuntu athole ugesi.
18. Siphinde sakha 4 wama MPCC, e-Rockdale, Kwazamokuhle, Hlalamnandi kanye nase Sikhululiwe. Lama MPCC anama community Hall kanti amanye anama Library kanye nama creche.
19. Sakhe nama sportsfields e-Kwazamokuhle kanye nase Hlalamnandi. Sifuna abantwana bethu badlale imidlalo, imidlalo efaka phakathi ibholo, netball, ba joine nama marathon clubs, baphinde bagijime. Kufuneka sibuyele eringini siyodlala isibhakela la e-Steve Tshwete.
20. Siphinde sakha 500 houses e Rondebosch, 200 Kwazamokuhle ext 19, Rockdale North 100, saphinde sakha nama community residential units awu 120 units.
21. Sivumelene ukuthi la Mpumalanga sizofaka ama containers to support small scale farmers ukuze babe ne access yekuthutha izilimo zabo baziyise e-Mpumalanga Food Market.
22. Sifuna nokuvusa i-Loskop Nature Reserve ukuthi abantu bangayi ka Skukuza kuphela bayobona i-Big 5, kwamele bayithole i-big 5 khona la.

Kufuneka umuntu avuke e Goli abe ne breakfast khona ayekele kancane kuba matasatasa avela aye e Loskop Nature Reserve ayobona tinyamatane abese udla i-lunch la bese uphindela e Goli ayodla i-supper khona.

23. Uma ngiceda la kule TLP, ngizohamba ngiyovula i-Hhotela khona la Middelburg ebizwa ngokuthi i-Destiny Exclusive Hotel eyakhiwe i-Akani Properties, a 100% black owned and managed company.
24. This magnificent R350-million development features 150 luxury rooms and a world-class convention centre. It stands as a powerful testament to economic confidence business has for our province.
25. This exclusive hotel proves that major transformation is taking place in Mpumalanga's hospitality sector.
26. It is strategically located near the N4 corridor. This Destiny Exclusive Hotel and International Convention Centre, positions Middelburg as a premier destination for business tourism, conferences, and international visitors traveling through to the Kruger National Park.
27. It injects jobs into the local business ecosystem

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ROADS AND TRANSPORT (DPWRT)

28. Our infrastructure programme must, however, be measured not only by kilometres of roads constructed or the value of buildings delivered, but by the economic opportunities it creates for our people.

- 29.** Kusukela ngonyaka ka 2024 ukuya ku June 2026, DPWRT awarded approximately R7 billion in contracts, of which 99.7% went to black-owned enterprises, 45.2% to women and 23.5% to youth, while 4,732 EPWP work opportunities were created in Steve Tshwete alone, including 2,450 opportunities for young people.
- 30.** Government is also expanding internships, learnerships, artisan development, the National Youth Service and emerging-contractor development programmes to ensure that young people participate meaningfully in the infrastructure economy.
- 31.** Our political task going forward is therefore clear: accelerate infrastructure delivery, protect and maintain the assets we have already built, deepen economic transformation, and use every rand of public infrastructure investment to stimulate local enterprise, skills development and sustainable employment.
- 32.** Lapha eSteve Tshwete, sibeke imali esondele ku-R190 million ukwenza isiqiniseko sokuthi imigwaqo yethu iyahambeka futhi isesimeni esihle. Siphinde sakha umgwaqo omusha oya esibhedlela esisha, ukuze kube lula ukufinyelela izinsiza zezempilo.
- 33.** Kusukela ngo-2019 kuya ku-2026, sakhe imigwaqo ebiza cishe u-R800 million. Ngaphezu kwalokho, sinama projects aqhubekayo abiza u-R51 million. Lokhu kufaka Road D20, lapho sisebenzisana khona ne-STLM kanye ne private sector.
- 34.** Njengamanje, amanye ama projects aku planning design, kanti enye yawo, i-Road D1555, umgwaco osuka e-Wonderfontein uya e-Arnot, siqedile ama design sizo advertiser manje si appointe i- contractor .

- 35.** Mayelana ne maintenance yemigwaco, kusukela ngo-2020 kuya ku-2026, sisebenzise u-R158 million. Manje manje sicede umsebenzi omkhulu wokulungisa ama-potholes, ophele ngo July.
- 36.** Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP): Siphinde sasebenzise i-EPWP programme kudala amathuba emisebenzi.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- 37.** The Mpumalanga Provincial Government continues to invest significantly in health infrastructure, modernise our health facilities and strengthen access to quality healthcare services, particularly at primary healthcare level.
- 38.** Our approach is to ensure that healthcare is brought closer to our people and that our facilities provide services in environments that are safe, dignified, modern and fit for purpose.

New and upgraded health facilities

- 39.** U President ufikile la azovula the state-of-the-art hospital ngo mhlaka 4 August 2026 khona la e-Steve Tshwete Municipality, I hospital ebizwa ngokuthi i-King Nyabela Hospital.
- 40.** This modern district hospital represents a significant investment in the health of the people of Mpumalanga. It brings expanded and improved hospital services closer to communities in the Middelburg area and strengthens the province's capacity to provide quality secondary-level healthcare.

Facilities Currently Under Construction

41. Our investment in health infrastructure does not stop with the facilities that have already been opened. A number of new facilities and major upgrades are currently underway across Nkangala District.

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality

42. **Newtown Clinic:** la sekucane ukubhunya uthuli sizoyiceda le clinic ngo September 2027.
43. **Rietkuil Clinic:** Nalapha futhi uthuli luyabhunya, sizoyiceda nayo futhi ngo December 2026.
44. **Middelburg Clinic:** uthuli luzobhunya maduzane lapha kusukela ngonyaka ka 2026/27. Le clinic siyakha lapha currently Middelburg Hospital endala khona. Lesikhalo senu sekuthi sifuna ukuyekela lesibhedlela sakudala singasisebenzisi asikho.

Digital Transformation of the Health System

45. e-tibhedlela tethu asisafuni ukusebenza manual ngoba i-information iyalahleka manje sifuna kuhlala nayo, sesiya digitaliza.

Health Patient Registration System

46. All hospitals and primary healthcare facilities in Mpumalanga are implementing the Health Patient Registration System (HPRS).

- 47.** The HPRS provides an electronic mechanism for registering patients and creating a unique patient record within the public health system.
- 48.** The system strengthens patient identification, continuity of care, data quality, reporting and health system planning.
- 49.** It also provides an important foundation for the province's broader digital health transformation and our preparedness for the implementation of National Health Insurance.

Electronic Medical Records: Steve Tshwete Pilot

- 50.** Steve Tshwete is also at the forefront of digital health innovation. Seven clinics in Steve Tshwete are currently piloting the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. The pilot will serve as a proof of concept for the phased rollout of EMR to other primary healthcare facilities in the province.
- 51.** The EMR takes us a step further than electronic registration. It enables healthcare professionals to capture and access the patient's clinical information electronically, including relevant medical history, diagnoses, treatment, medication and clinical interventions.
- 52.** The lessons learned from the seven pilot clinics in Steve Tshwete will guide the phased expansion of the EMR system to other facilities across the province.

NHI Readiness: Steve Tshwete

53. Steve Tshwete is a national pilot site for the NHI contracted units for Primary Healthcare (CUP) Proof of Concept, providing an opportunity to strengthen systems for the future implementation of National Health Insurance and universal health coverage.

54. La wonke ama health facility ethu bawa declare ukuthi a-right, kanti futhi aselungele for i-NHI.

Strengthening Community Health Workers

55. Thina la Steve Tshwete si cashe 147 Community Health care Workers (CHWs) loku kwenze ukuthi i-number yama CHWs ikhuphuke iye ku 232.

Availability of medicines

56. Khona la Steve Tshwete sihlala sinayo i-medication, ihlala iku 95.5%. If one facility ingena medicine kwamele bakhulumisane ba shera i-medication.

57. Sina 195 ambulances, I target yethu ukuthi sibe na 204, one ward isebenzele two wama ward. If ama ambulance angafiki ngesikhathi kusho kona ukuthi abasebenzi abawenzi umsebenzi wabo but u Hulumeni uwathengile ama ambulance.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

58. Hon.Speaker, Steve Tshwete provides us with an encouraging example of what can be achieved when learners, educators, parents,

School Governing Bodies, government, business and communities work together towards a common goal.

59. From 2021 to 2024, Steve Tshwete ibe the best performing municipality.
60. La e-Steve Tshwete, ama learners awu four (4) abe part ya the best 10 kuma students aka Grade 12 matric results ngonyaka ka 2025.
61. This is a clear demonstration that our learners can compete at the highest level when they are provided with the necessary support, committed educators and conducive learning environments.
62. Lana e-Steve Tshwete sina three circuits, wonke a-performer ngaphezulu kwa 85%, siyabonga kakhulu kubazali, abothishela kanye nabantwana ngokubambisana.
63. Uthuli luyabhunya la e-Steve Tshwete, evikini eliphelile be si-handover isikolo e-Rockdale, ngempela loko kusho kona ukuthu kubhunya luthuli eMpumalanga.
64. Singu Hulumeni sisebenzisane ne Thugela Mine sakha i-Mphephethe Primary School, sizoyiceda nayo manje.
65. Sisesebenzisana ne Seriti ukwakha izikolo eziwu two (2), u Masipalati usesinikile indawo yokwakha lezikolo.
66. Sizo renovator the following Schools:
 - Alex Benjamin Secondary School
 - Laerskool Middelburg

- Makhathini Primary School
- Mkhulu Combined School

67. Kusukela ngonyaka ka 2022 sicede tikolo saphinde satithula emphakathini.

- Aerorand Primary School
- Lingitjhu Primary School in Doornkop.
- Ezinye ikolo ezifaka phakathi i-Hoer Tekniese Skool Middleburg ithole ama additional classrooms

68. Ngonyaka ka 2025/26 sisebenzise R47m uku renovator izikolo eziwu 6 (Koorenfontein, Manyano, Middleburg Combined, Maziya, Tsiki Naledi and Steve Tshwete Boarding school)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (DARDLEA)

69. Steve Tshwete is home to many inspiring agricultural success stories, and I can mention but a few.

70. Khola la e-Steve Tshwete singu Hulumeni sine Programme yoku support ama farmers efaka phakathi :

- **i-Timthok Primary Cooperative**, eholwa uNkosazana Mathalela. Yena sim supporter ngo R9 million for poultry house, fencing and water reticulation. udale imisebenzi ewu 23. Through government support le nhlangano ikwazile ukuthuthuka yakha i profit yonyaka ecishe ibe ngu R500 000.

- **Sina Dudu M**, nayo le nkampani iphethwe ngumlimi wesifazane osemusha, **uNkosazana, Dudu Skhosana**. She is processing timber into charcoal and cosmetics. She is also supplying 15 retailers around Middelburg and Witbank.
- **I-Eggsellent by Lebo** nayo ihlangano ephethwe owesifazane osemusha. Ngokwesekwa nguHulumeni, usungule izindlu ezimbili zokufuya izinkukhu ezizalela amaqanda.
- **TCM**, i-director yayo umuntu omusha olima ama vegetables
- **Thokoza Farm**, nayo futhi iphethwe owesifazane u Nkosazana Hlatwayo. Ulima ubhontshisi wesoya, ummbila kanye nama vegetables.
- **Okuhle Piggery**, ephethwe owesifazane u-Nompumelelo Tshabalala. Waqala ku support uHulumeni ngezingulube eziwu-11 kuphela manje usefuya izingulube ezingaba ngu-247, futhi uthengisa cishe izingulube ezingu-30 in a week.
- **RAKS**, okuyibhizinisi yezolimo. Le nkampani yenza i-malt kanye no flour we sorghum (amabele).

71. Konke loku it's a testimony yokusebenza kuka Hulumeni wethu.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY, SECURITY AND LIAISON

72. Kufuneka silwe ne bugebengu, sibambisane nemphakathi, si behlise lobu gebengu ngo 30%. Si be na ma safety forums kuwo wonke ama wards.

73. sesi appointe Provincial Commissioner. Sinivile futhi uMEC Jackie Macie ukhona la sizoba bopha. Bopha Cde Jackie Macier Bopha

CONCLUSION

74. Mhlaka 04 November siya emakhethweni ama Councillor, Siyabonga ukuthi u Hulumeni wethu since 1994 kanye ne 1995 isinika ama elections after each and every 5 years. Siyabonga ukuthi siya kuma elections.

75. Government yethu ayi manage ama elections, sivumela i-IEC irane ama elections. Ama elections ethu a credible, ama political parties ethu ya accept ma electoral outcomes.

76. Sicela ukuthi wonke umuntu o registerile ku voters role avote, kanti futhi sicela ukuthi nivote kahle.

77. Sicela bafundisi bathandaze especially laba labatodliwa ukuthi bavume ukuthi badliwe, vele bona bazodliwa.

78. Sinivile, nikhulumile, nabo bo MEC banilalele, ngikhulumile ukuthi asikhona la to tick the right box but size la ukuzonilalela, sinizwe.

79. Honourable Speaker, Members of the Legislature, Executive Mayors, Councillors, Traditional Leaders, distinguished guests, and most importantly, the people of Steve Tshwete, ngithanda ukubonga

kakhulu wonke umuntu okhona lapha and who has participated in this important engagement.

80. Size lapha hayi kuzomane sikhulume nje but to listen to your concerns. Siwazwile ama concerns enu, your frustrations, your aspirations and, importantly, your proposals for a better future.

81. Let us leave here with renewed determination that the Taking Legislature to the People should not be an event that ends when we depart from this venue. It must be the beginning of sustained action, monitoring and accountability.

82. We may belong to different political parties and may disagree on many matters, but we must never disagree on the fundamental objective of improving the lives of the people we have been entrusted to serve.

83. Let us therefore continue to put the people first, service before self, and development above political differences.

84. Ngaphansi ko Hulumeni wase Mpumalanga, Ngithanda kubonga kakhulu nina mphakathi wase Steve Tshwete for opening your communities and hearts to us. I thank the leadership of the Legislature, the Municipality, our traditional leaders, government departments, officials and all stakeholders for their contribution to this successful engagement.

85. Sonke, let us build a Steve Tshwete that is prosperous, inclusive, safe and sustainable; a Steve Tshwete that creates opportunities for its

young people; and a Steve Tshwete where every resident can live with dignity and hope.

86. U Nkulunkulu abe nathi, abe nani mphakathi wase Steve Tshwete, bless Mpumalanga, and bless our beautiful South Africa.

I thank you.