



# Transport Month Gives Festivities A Warning Signal



Page 03

Early Christmas for Avontuur - Tjakastad communities



Page 03

PPP Symposium aims its arrow on economic revitalization



Page 09

Heritage Evokes Social Cohesion in the midst of cultural diversity



## EDITORIAL COMMENT



**Sipho Monareng**  
Editor in Chief

Here is another installment of our journey towards the provision of safe, reliable and efficient public transport and infrastructure. Along the way we have encountered stormy weathers yet our determination could not surrender to prevailing challenges. Instead, our constant engagement with communities ignited within us a spirit of resilience as the Honourable MEC, Mr Gillion Mashego and the HOD, Ms Sindisiwe Xulu stirred the ship forward against raging waves.

In this episode we are highlighting our commitment to improve the quality of life for our citizens. The MEC has been at the forefront leading the troops from Bohlabela to Nkangala, patching potholes, handing over bridges and roads, interacting with commuters and ensuring the creation of business and work opportunities. We are humbled by the guidance of various stakeholders and oversight bodies who kept us on our toes to deliver on our mandate.

Well, the breeze of festivities is already in the air serenading Christmas carols which signal the end of another eventful year. The atmosphere is filled with excitement as holiday enthusiasts buckle up for a well deserved break in various destinations. In the midst of the beehive of activities, may we adhere to all safety regulations especially on the road. Our law enforcement officers will be at every corner to ensure compliance however road safety is everybody's business. Stay alert - stay alive!

### EDITOR

Mxolisi Cyril Dlamini

### GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Bonginkosi Dlamini  
Josia Magagula

### REPORTERS

Bongani Dhlamini  
Dimakatso Matentshi  
Portia Mnisi  
Nothando Ndlovu  
Benika Khambule  
Rachel Nkosi  
Simphele Mkhabela  
Zinhle Ndlovu  
Mxolisi Maila  
Lungile Mathebula  
Sifanele Maphosa  
Mbali Ngomane  
Samkelisiwe Lekhuleni  
Sondezwa Mnisi  
Ziphora Mgunu

### DISCLAIMER

Although care has been taken to verify the accuracy of information, the editorial team extends sincere apology for any inaccuracies that may occur.

# Transport Month Gives Festivities A Warning Signal



**ENFORCING THE LAW:** MEC Gillion Mashego inspecting public transport during law enforcement operation

As the festivities approach with a beehive of activities anticipated in celebration of the holiday season, so is traffic congestion on the road as holiday makers rush to various holiday destinations to enjoy a well deserved break. However, in all that commotion, road safety particularly in public transport is always the last thing in

mind or if it is ever considered, it is left into the hands of authorities.

Whilst safety is everybody's business, on the part of the Department, MEC Gillion Mashego has vowed to leave no stone unturned to ensure the safety of all road users in collaboration with various stakeholders. Law enforcement operations will be the

order of the day in a bid to improve visibility of authorities on the road.

In 2011, the United Nations' General Assembly declared 2011 to 2020 a Decade of Action for Road Safety. The Global Status Report on Road Safety of 2013 which covered 182 countries accounting for 99% of the world's population, indicated that world-wide road fatalities remain unacceptably high at 1.24 million deaths per year which means one person dies every 30 seconds.

Attitude remains the most common lethal weapon against road safety initiatives. Reckless behaviour such as speeding, overloading, drunk driving and jay walking contribute heavily on road accidents; accounting for over 77% according to the Road Traffic Management Corporation's 2016 report. The MEC has pleaded with road users to be patient on the road. **"The majority of motorists are generally impatient which result in road fatalities which otherwise could have been avoided,"** explained MEC Mashego.



**SHOCKING INCIDENT:** Overloaded bakkie ferrying workers to work.



# EARLY CHRISTMAS FOR AVONTUUR – TJAKASTAAD COMMUNITIES

The official handover of Avontuur Footbridge was cheerfully received by both masses of Tjakastad and Avontuur communities, located in Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, on the 25th of November 2018 in graced by the Honourable MEC, Mr Gillion Mashego, Executive Mayor of Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, Cllr Dan Nkosi, Umjindi and Embhuleni Traditional Authorities.

The Construction of the footbridge was prompted by the Department's realization of life threatening challenges the communities particularly learners

were facing in crossing the Mkhomazana river especially during rainy seasons. In the past, residents had to swim across the river to access social amenities such as schools, clinics and grants pay points.

During his keynote address, the MEC stated that over R10 million was invested towards the construction of the footbridge which also assisted in creating business and work opportunities. Honourable Mashego further added that the community should take ownership of the facility and protect it from vandalism. **"More still needs to be done in this community hence we must safeguard what we have in order to make way for more facilities. Infrastructure investment especially in rural areas is a priority but vandalism reverses our gains,"** warned MEC Mashego.

The Ward Councilor, Cllr Gabi Nkosi expressed his appreciation for Government's intervention of building the footbridge. **"Our lives have been made easy by this bridge.**

**During rainy seasons, the Mkhomazana river would be flooded and people would drown while attempting to cross. However, residents are now enable to access social amenities such as schools, shops and clinics."** said Cllr Nkosi.



**EASY ACCESS:** MEC Gillion Mashego cutting the ribbon during the official handover of the footbridge to the community.

## PPP Symposium aims its arrow at economic transformation



**LEADERSHIP:** DPWRT HOD, Ms Sindisiwe Xulu together with DCSSL HOD, Mr William Mthombathi attending the PPP symposium.

The sun is certainly not the only thing that is rising in Mpmalanga but economic opportunities are equally blossoming. This was evident when the Province hosted the Public Private Partnership Symposium on the 21st of November 2018 in the City of Mbombela. The symposium brought together leading minds from both sectors to deliberate on strategies to improve the economic viability of the Province.

MEC Mashego together with HOD Xulu were at the

forefront of public transport and infrastructure issues. The MEC gave a clear picture of the Province's infrastructure delivery agenda and its commitment to improve the lives of the people.

HOD Xulu emphasized the importance on integrated planning. "One of the areas Government needs to improve on is integrated planning so that we address challenges simultaneously as a collective although we are carrying different madates," said Ms Xulu.

## Season's Greetings



**Hon Gillion Mashego (MPL)**  
Member of the Executive Council

*This year's Festive Season coincides with the celebration of 100 years centenary of our stalwarts, uTata Nelson Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu. These iconic giants are the embodiment of our democratic revolution which defines our mandate of creating a better life for all.*

*Pursuant to their struggle for liberation, we remain steadfast in the advancement of the people's contract through the provision of safe, reliable, and efficient public transport and infrastructure that promote socio-economic development. Prevailing challenges will never paralyze our commitment nor obscure our vision to eradicate poverty, unemployment and inequality.*

*Our humble plea to all our citizens during this Festive Season is to take stock of our indulgence and apply necessary safety measures especially on the road where many lives are lost.*

*Wishing everyone a joyful Festive Season filled with love, peace and prosperity.*





## Commuters benefit from Buscor



**NEW BEGINNINGS:** MEC Gillion Mashego, Buscor Executive Chairperson, Dr Norah Fakude-Nkuna and Chief Nkuna handed over a newly built house to Ndlovu family.

For the past few years life has not been easy for the Ndlovu family in Mkhuhlu. Things have been tough as this is a family of a couple living with disability as a result the couple had to live with relatives due to their condition. However, on the 5th of October, the family's struggle came to halt when Buscor (Pty) Ltd intervened. The bus operator handed over fully furnished four roomed houses to ten families around Ehlanzeni District including the deaf couple

Buscor's Executive Chairperson, Dr Norah Fakude-Nkuna said Buscor understands the needs of the communities where it operates hence it offers a helping hand to assist where necessary. ***"This is not the first project and I believe through our partnership with the community and all***

***stakeholders, we will be able to do more in future,"*** said Dr Norah Fakude-Nkuna.

During his keynote address, MEC Gillion Mashego applauded the work that has been accomplished by Buscor and pledged other private companies to follow suit. ***"Such is the definition of Public Private Partnership, when the private sector works hand in glove with Government to improve the lives of our people. What Buscor has done is commendable beyond words,"*** Emphasized MEC Mashego.

The Ndlovu family was very excited and they responded by saying, ***"We are short of words for what Buscor did for us and we thank you so much."***

## TRANSPORTING THE WORKING CLASS

The efficiency of public transport systems is a determining factor of economic growth in the Province. MEC Gillion Mashego has vowed to change the narrative of Transport operations in the Province through various interventions, one of which is direct interaction with commuters to address their concerns. To bring this into effect, the MEC boarded public transport to get a first-hand experience of the service offered by bus operators.

On the 23rd of October 2018, passengers of Great North Transport (GNT) buses had the privilege to be joined by the Honourable MEC on their way to workplaces. The delighted commuters had an opportunity to share their joys and frustrations which the CEO of GNT committed to address wherever possible. The MEC was driving the programme beyond 2018

October Transport Month in pursuit of safe, reliable and efficient public transport system. He indicated that transport is the backbone of socio – economic development, without which nothing can be achieved. Transport is the driving force of economic development which is central to the whole value chain of service delivery and which in its absence, any economic growth initiative would be derailed from its course.

***"Poor transport system would mean that over 400 000 economically active commuters we are subsidizing in the Province would not pursue their economic activities, and that is only one aspect of the impact of transport,"*** said MEC Mashego.



**DAY TO DAY EXPERIENCE:** MEC Gillion Mashego together with some of the Departmental Senior Management boarding public transport with commuters.

## When changing lives is at the centre of service delivery



**THE ROAD TO SUCCESS:** MEC Gillion Mashego with SANRAL, Municipal and Departmental delegation during Moloto Development Corridor project visit.

Dr JS Moroka and Thembisile Local Municipalities residents are reaping benefits from the Moloto Development Corridor project that is promising to create over 12 000 work opportunities. Currently over 140 job opportunities have been created for surrounding communities during the first phase of the project. On the 26th of October 2018, MEC Gillion Mashego visited the project accompanied by SANRAL delegates responsible for the implementation of the project on behalf of the National Department of Transport.

The purpose of the visit was to inspect progress made so far and whether local communities are benefiting from the Moloto Development Corridor project

which is one of the biggest transport infrastructure projects implemented in the Province so far.

MEC Mashego expressed his appreciation regarding the amount of work done thus far but equally significantly the work and business opportunities that the project has been able to generate for the local communities. ***"As Government of the people, it is critical that whatever project implemented by the State, it must benefit the poor. Our people must be placed at the forefront of development and access to business and work opportunities so that we can be able to address the triple challenges,"*** elaborated MEC Mashego.



## “War on Potholes” aims its focus at Sakhile Township

Lekwa Local Municipality together with the department was the first Municipality to kick start the October Transport Month programme by patching potholes at Hlongwane Drive in Standerton which connects Sakhile township and town.

The event took place on the 04th October 2018 in where MEC Gillon Mashego together with the Executive Mayor of Lekwa Local Municipality, Cllr Linda Dhlamini joined by members of the community and Public Works, Roads and Transport employees to patch potholes. The programme came at the right time as we are approaching festive season and it will assist in decreasing road accidents.

During the Budget vote early this year the Department pronounced that it will

intensify its effort to eradicate potholes in the province. As the Department highlighted and promoted public transport and infrastructure during October Transport Month, it further strengthen its efforts on waging war on potholes so that motorist can drive safely on the roads. The initiative is a partnership between government and local municipalities as it forms part of government’s Thuma Mina initiative aimed at improving service delivery to communities.

The War on Potholes initiative was introduced in May 2017 in a bid to aggressively attend to potholes across the provincial road network together with all social partners which include amongst others municipalities, government agencies, private sector and communities.



**FIGHT AGAINST POTHOLES:** MEC Gillon Mashego and the Executive Mayor of Lekwa Local Municipality, Cllr Linda Dhlamini (both in orange) patching potholes.

## MEC makes Scholar Transport a priority



**EARLY BIRDS:** MEC Gillon Mashego interacting with learners on the way to school during scholar transport monitoring.

In many areas across Mpumalanga, scholar transport and access to education are synonymous terms that can never be separated. In an effort to prepare for the next academic year, MEC Gillon Mashego is on the ground inspecting scholar transport vehicles to get rid of “moving coffins.”

During October Transport Month, the MEC visited various areas across the Province inspecting the state of scholar transport. He started at Mkhuhlu where he impounded four buses for non-compliance with transport regulations. Amongst the areas visited by the Honourable MEC are Orighstad, Mashishing, Manzana, Msholozzi and Kriel. The MEC expressed shock as he engaged with learners to assess the level of service they are receiving. In some instances, community members were making use of scholar transport buses which deprived learners their space and comfort and as a result they would be late for school.

“These buses are not for public use but to transport learners to school so that they are able to access education. Learners must be treated with dignity which means even the condition of the buses must resemble a high level of respect for the lives of learner,” said MEC Mashego.

## PILGRIM’S REST’S HERITAGE TO BOOST TOURISM

As the Festive Season approaches, the tourism industry is promising substantial revenue for the monumental town of Pilgrim’s Rest which remains as one of the shining jewels of history in the Province. On Monday, the 19th of November 2018, MEC Gillon Mashego embarked on a roadshow to inspect business operations in the iconic town in order to address challenges.

During the visit, the MEC had an opportunity to interact with shop owners as he visited each shop especially those that were recently awarded lease agreements by the Department. This is in response to the MEC’s commitment to restore the small town’s former glory.

The MEC has committed to make Pilgrim’s Rest one of his priority projects. *“The success of businesses in this town is at our best interest hence I am here to inspect progress. My purpose is to engage with shop owners, listen to their concerns and devise a plan to address challenges if there are any. I am confident that this town will be revitalized. Any outstanding issues especially businesses that are still awaiting licenses from relevant authorities, we will intervene and assist where we can. Our greatest priority is to maximize work opportunities for our people. The issue of rent, will be looked at and each case assessed to its merit,”* said MEC Mashego during interaction with some of the shop owners.



**SHOPPING AROUND:** MEC Gillon Mashego interacting with shop attendants from one of the shops in Pilgrim’s Rest.



# 2018 HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION





# MEC'S 100 DAYS OF SERVICE DELIVER





## Msogwaba village earns another state-of-the-art education facility

The community of Msogwaba Trust is very excited to learn that their children will no longer travel long distances to receive better education. This is due to the construction of a newly built Msogwaba Primary School, which is underway. The school aims at bridging the gap of education challenges in the community, thus eliminating overcrowding in the classrooms.

The project, which has a price tag of about R48, million started in May 2018 and is projected to be completed during May 2019. The school includes facilities such as 24 classrooms, administration block, library, computer centre, kitchen, ablution facilities, guard house, car park, 3 sports grounds, rails and ramps

amongst others. As a contributor to job creation and skills transfer, the project has so far created over 74 work opportunities and 7 sub-contracting opportunities for the local communities.

As the custodian of public infrastructure, the Department is pulling all strings to make sure that the deadline of the project is met so that it can be handed over to the Department of Education as a client department. According to Mr Isaiah Nkosi, a community member, the community is delighted to have this kind of facility. **“Government heard our cry and our dreams have been fulfilled,”** said Nkosi.



**BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD:** The new Msogwaba Primary School in progress.

## Pit toilets a thing of the past



**RESTORING DIGNITY:** New enviroloo ablution facility under construction.

The Mpumalanga Provincial Government continues to live up to its service delivery mandate which include amongst others; providing basic right of health and hygiene services to the community. In recognition of the poor state of the ablution facilities at Mphoti Primary School in Mangweni, Nkomazi Local Municipality; the Department undertook an initiative of refurbishing and constructing new enviro-loo ablution facilities. The completion of the facilities will restore the dignity of learners previously subjected to substandard ablution facilities for years.

The R3 million project is another investment aimed at improving the sanitation challenges in the province. The project which started in August 2018 is moving at a high speed and is already at its completion stage. It entails: the refurbishment of ten

existing toilets, construction of twenty enviroloo toilets, 14 wash hand basins, 8 urinals, installation of 1 x 10 000L water tank and 4 drinking fountains on existing pit toilets. The project is contributing significantly towards the local economy. Over 20 work opportunities created for the local communities. Local sub-contractors have also benefited through the provision of services such as painting, plumbing, carpentry and electrical work.

The sanitation conditions that the teachers and learners were exposed to were beyond humane conditions. The learners have been using old, dilapidated ablution facilities which have become a health hazard. This move is a testimony that the Government is attending to schools infrastructure backlogs as a matter of urgency, especially the provision of water and sanitation.

## Youth empowerment infrastructure signals progress

The construction of the Youth Development Centre is to benefit the community of Daantjie and neighbouring areas. The Provincial Government has geared up itself to close the gap of unemployment by constructing a youth development centre, in its efforts to continue to empower young people in the Province. As a custodian of Public Infrastructure in the Province, the Department is constructing a state-of-the-art Youth Development Centre in Pienaar, City of Mbombela on behalf of the Department of Social Development (DSD).

The construction of the centre is projected to cost over R27 million and it will improve the socio-economic status of the village. The project commenced in February 2018 and it is scheduled to be completed by February 2019. In line with the

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) principles which is aimed at creating more work opportunities for young people, the project has since created 49 work opportunities and 2 SMMEs from the local community benefited economically during the construction of the centre.

The centre will provide much needed assistance to the Pienaar community and neighbouring areas in a form of developmental programmes geared up for the youth. Young people who are the beneficiaries of this project could not hide their excitement. **“This provides hope and joy that the Mpumalanga government is serious about youth development particularly at this time of unemployment,”** said Mr Erick Sambo a young leader in the community.



**BETTER SERVICE DELIVERY:** Construction of Daantjie Development Centre in progress.



## Enhancing service delivery through public participation

In its bid to conduct oversight, the Mpumalanga Legislature took its activities to Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality in Katjibane Sports Ground for the whole week from the 17th to the 21st of September 2018 to gain first-hand information directly from the residents about the state of service delivery in the area.

MEC Gillion Mashego joined the Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPL) during oversight visits to various projects. This allowed members of the public to engage with the dignitaries and raised their concerns. On the same breath, MPLs had an opportunity to respond to concerns and also pledged to address challenges raised.



**FIRST HAND INFORMATION:** MEC Gillion Mashego attentively listening to community issues during TLP.

Some of the infrastructure projects visited included Pankop Clinic, Mmamethlake Hospital, Marapyane Library and Sithenjisiwe Secondary School. Some notable improvements were identified in the implementation of these projects as most of them have started to benefit communities around the area through business and work opportunities.

During the public hearing, citizens were given a platform to engage with the MPLs, Departmental and Municipal representatives on service delivery issues. A Ward 27 resident in Katjibane, Mr Jacob Munyai was given an opportunity to raise his concerns. ***“We appreciate and value this opportunity. I am requesting Government to assist us with tar road because when it is raining, the road is not safe to drive on,”*** said Mr Munyai. Other residents requested speed humps, footbridges, storm drainage, youth and skill development centres especially for youth.

All relevant MECs responded to issues raised by members of the community, while other problems were noted down to be investigated further.

## Heritage evokes social cohesion in the midst of cultural diversity

Different ethnic groups showcased the attires, culture and the diversity of their beliefs and traditions in a wider context of the rainbow nation. Music, poetry, dancing, ululation and African cuisine such as Mathumbu, Samp, Ligushe, Masontja and Pooitjiekos and many more were the order of the day when the head office hosted heritage day celebration. Each cost centre was well presented on the dance floor by the vivacious and energetic officials who loofed colourful in their traditional attires.

The Acting Chief Director: Integrated Planning, Mr Monareng said ***“culture must be celebrated every day, and next year the preparations for heritage celebration must be done early”*** and he also suggested that next year heritage day must be celebrated outside the office because heritage goes hand in hand with tourism.



**OUR HERITAGE:** Head office officials showing off their moves during Heritage Day celebration.

## MPUMALANGA HOSTS 2018 WORLD MARITIME DAY



**GATHERING INFORMATION:** Deputy Minister of Transport, Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga; MEC Gillion Mashego and Executive Mayor of Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, Clr. Dan Nkosi during the 2018 World Maritime Day

More than 400 school children around Gert Sibande District Municipality congregated to a two day World Maritime Celebration on the 27th and 28th September 2018 in eManzana under the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality. The event was graced by Deputy Minister for Transport, Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga accompanied by Mr Gillion Mashego, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Transport amongst other state owns entities in the transport sector.

The World Maritime Day was aimed at targeting learners from surrounding schools in the area to enhance greater awareness and encourage learners to pursue careers in maritime while at the same time highlighting the role played by maritime industry towards the economy of the country.

In MEC's address, he reported to be greatly humbled for an opportunity to host the World Maritime Day Celebration. He further added ***“although we are a landlocked Province, we are nevertheless encouraged and equally determined to take advantage of a range of opportunities presented by this sector of our economy. We will further ensure that our youth pursue careers in maritime as much as we have done so in aviation, rail and other field.”***

A learner from Engabezweni High School, appreciated the opportunity awarded by the Department. ***“This eye - opener opportunity couldn't have come at a better time while we are the peak of choosing our careers. It has just simplified our lives.***



# PANKOP COMMUNITY GETS A NEW CLINIC



**INVESTING IN HEALTHCARE:** New construction of Pankop Clinic at Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality.

With government's commitment to the provision of world class health care infrastructure through cutting edge technologies, the Pankop Clinic will be a reflection of the Mpumalanga Provincial Government's investment in efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure.

The R7.1 million clinic is situated at Pankop in the outskirts of DR JS Moroka Local Municipality. The Department started the construction in October 2017 and estimated to be completed in January 2019, on behalf of the Department of Health.

To incorporate aspects of Expanded Public Works Programme, economic enterprise contractors are empowered with work on the project, whilst local community are benefitting from skills development and 23 work opportunities with women, youth and persons with disabilities given priority. Furthermore, a total number of 11 local sub-contractors are also benefitting.

## BASIZENI TO BRING HOPE TO THE DISABLED

The construction of Basizeni Special School in Secunda-eMbalenhle is progressing well for learners with severe intellectual disability. Construction workers are busy making final touches of the projects of four (4) classroom blocks which is expected to be completed by the end in 2018.

According to the project manager, Ms Siyanda Gidimisani the project will soon be handed over to the client department (Department of Education) after the completion of work. *"At the start of the project there were some delays due to the rainy weather conditions and service delivery protest from community members, but we want to assure all stakeholders that learners will occupy their new classes soon. The construction of the project started in November 2016 and it was scheduled to be completed in September 2017,"* she stressed.

One of the learners who is eagerly awaiting to occupy the new classrooms is a twelve year old Ms Leah Mathebula, from Kinross who explained that the new building will assist them to gain knowledge and insight so that they can be better people in life. When I grow up I want to become a policewoman, so I must gain knowledge at school," she said. The learner has intellectual and physical disability. She is one amongst the (174) learners attending school at Basizeni Special School.

According to the School Principal, Ms Merriam Rampane, the school caters for learners living with severe intellectual disabilities.

*"The school was officially opened in 1994 with at least*

*fifteen (15) teachers. It initially had twelve (12) classrooms with four classes catering for senior students. The number of students in the school has increased drastically over a period of time hence the need to add more classrooms. We have since converted the computer centre into classrooms so as to cater for the ever increasing number of students enrolled in the school. The majority of the learners are from Standerton, Kinross, Thuthukani and Embalenhle,"* she added.

The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport is an implementing agent ensuring that government buildings are built effectively and efficiently on behalf of the client Department of Education.



**FINAL TOUCHES:** Workers making final touches in Basizeni Special School.



**INCLUSIVE EDUCATION:** Newly constructed classrooms for Basizeni learners.



## LEKWA EMBRACES INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY

Working around the clock to fulfil that mandate, the Department has upgraded sanitation facilities at Thobelani Secondary School in Standerton by firstly upgrading water and sewer reticulation before the constructing new 22 waterborne toilets and demolishing the old depilated structure. And, due to the fact that some schools experiences inconsistent water supply, 4x5000L water tanks were installed to make use when municipal water supply is interrupted.

More than R2 million was invested to the upgrading of the sanitation facilities project which started in March 2018 and was completed by the end of September 2018 and has 13 local people benefiting from work opportunities. Another beneficiary was Thutho-Thebe Secondary School. At a tune of more than R800 thousand, has renovated their existing waterborne toilets and upgraded the water and sewer services. A total of 12 work opportunities benefited local people during the six (6) months project which was completed by end of August 2018.

Libraries are also on the list of critical amenities that play a major role in disseminating information particularly to improve the quality of life through education. As Nelson Mandela once said "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Sakhile Township is also in amazement after construction of new Lekwa Community Library has commenced. The R14 million project started in June 2018 and is set to be completed in June 2019. During the construction, at least 13 work opportunities were created for the local communities where youth and women also benefited.

Still under Lekwa Local Municipality there is a newly construction of an Early Childhood Development Centre which received special



**ON-SITE INSPECTION:** MEC Gillion Mashego and officials of the Department during project visit.

attention from the MEC OF Public Works, Roads and Transport, Mr Gillion Mashego. On the 4th of October 2018, the MEC accompanied by Cllr Linda Dlamini, Exucutive Mayor of Lekwa Local Municipality arrived at the project site to monitor the progress. In his address he urged the contractor to be mindful of the schedule time and constantly report back on challenges they may encounter.

More than R5 million was invested into the project which commenced in June 2018 and is set to be completed in February 2019. During the construction, at least 12 work opportunities were created for the local community where youth and women benefited.



**BRICK AND MOTAR:** Construction of an Early Childhood Development Centre at Lekwa Local Municipality.

## NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE PAINTS A PLEASANT PICTURE

Ms Mary-Jane Skhosana, who is 25 years old living in Botleng at Delmas, has been unemployed for the past two years. She is amongst the unemployed youth who were recruited into the National Youth Service Programme for 2018/19 financial year. In an interview with us, Ms Skhosana expressed her gratitude on efforts made by the Department to create jobs and develop skills for the unemployed youth. **"For the past two year, my efforts of getting a job had been shattered by the lack of experience and skill. Every time we apply for employment, we are being told about not having enough experience. I believe that through this National Youth Service (NYS) initiative, some of the challenges experienced by the youth in this country would be addressed,"** she explained.

performed on her first assignment, **"I was very nervous when my mentor said we need to join the maintenance team at Bernice hospital to do plumbing work, but the maintenance team was very patient and helpful as they even showed us how to build a guard house,"** she said.

Ms Skhosana with five other participants from Delmas Cost Centre were absorbed into the 12 month NYS programme to assist with maintenance of government building. They are under the mentorship of Ms Margret Ntuli who is a foreman at the centre. They started working in the department in August 2018 and their contract will lapse in July 2019. They are amongst the 350 NYS participants absorbed into the programme for 2018/19 financial year.

Mary-Jane's luck turned for the better when she joined the programme to nurture her artisanship skills which will prepare her to enter the job market. When she recalled on how she

Selected candidates will undergo a twelve months artisanship training programme to acquire skills such as plastering, bricklaying, tiling, plumbing, boiler making and plastering. During



**HANDS ON:** NYS participants practicing their artisanship skills.

the training, learners will each receive a stipend. The National Youth Service (NYS) is a Government initiative under the Expanded Public Works Programme focusing on uplifting

young people. Its main objective is to create job opportunities and develop skills. All government departments are expected to utilize some of their budget to implement this programme.





transport

Department:  
Transport  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SOUTH AFRICAN



Centenary celebration of  
Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu

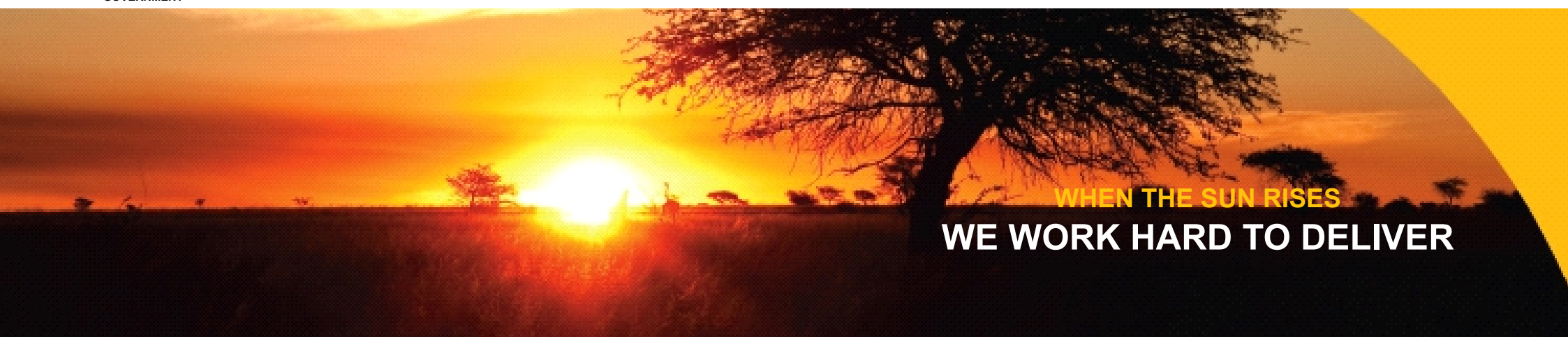
ICAD  
INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION DAY  
2018

8 December 2018  
Nelspruit Airfield  
Mpumalanga

AIRSHOW STARTS  
AT 11:00 am

FREE ENTRANCE

Working together to ensure no country is left behind



WHEN THE SUN RISES  
WE WORK HARD TO DELIVER

## CONTACT DETAILS

### HEAD OFFICE

**Corporate Services, Strategic Planning & Finance**  
No.7 Government Boulevard,  
Riverside Park, Ext. 2  
Mbombela, 1200  
Tel: 013 766 6696  
Fax: 013 766 8471

**Building Infrastructure, Transport Management & Transport Operations**  
Bell Towers Building  
Mbombela  
1200  
Tel: 013 752 4593  
Fax: 013 752 4043

**EPWP, Property Management, Government Motor Transport, & Transport Infrastructure**  
16 Hope Street  
Mbombela  
1200  
Tel: 013 766 8594/8502

### DISTRICT OFFICES

**Bohlabela District**  
Private Bag X1313  
Thulamahashe  
1365  
Tel: 013 773 8300  
Fax: 013 773 0760

**Ehlanzeni District**  
Private Bag X11226  
Mbombela  
1200  
Tel: 013 762 5600  
Fax: 013 753 7221

**Gert Sibande District**  
Private Bag X9034  
Ermelo  
2350  
Tel: 017 801 4000/4600  
Fax: 017 801 4120

**Nkangala District**  
Private Bag X4018  
KwaMhlanga  
1022  
Tel: 013 947 2593  
Fax: 013 947 3779

**Operating Licensing Board**  
Bell Towers Building  
Mbombela, 1200  
Tel: 013 752 4593/7585  
Fax: 013 752 4043



dpwrt.mpg.gov.za



CommunicationDpwrt  
@mpg.gov.za



Mpumalanga Department of  
Public Works, Roads  
and Transport



dpwrtmpumalanga



EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME