

**External Communications Unit
Press / Media Release**

To : All media
Attention : News Editors & Journalists
Date : 14 June 2011

For the attention of all media houses

Election and inauguration of Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng as the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality

Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng is the newly elected Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, beginning his five-year term. He was elected and sworn in as the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor at the first council sitting of the Sedibeng District on Thursday, 26 May 2011 at the council chambers in Vereeniging.

Sedibeng District Municipality, on the southern part of Johannesburg, comprises of the Emfuleni, Lesedi and Midvaal Local Municipalities. It further boasts areas such as Sebokeng; Evaton; Boipatong; Tshepiso; Sharpeville; Vanderbijlpark; Vereeniging; Bophelong; Ratanda; Heidelberg; Meyerton; Siculo; Mamello; Vaal Marina; Kliprivier and many more.

Presenting one of his passionate service delivery subjects, the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng committed himself and the Team of MMCs to continuing with the improvement and implementation of the Sedibeng Growth & Development Strategy to ensure continued economic development in the Region.

“We will straighten and flatten the road and we will build bridges for our communities to cross over troubled waters. It is my commitment and that of the ruling party, the African National Congress to work together with you for effective life changing services and to build better communities which will ultimately move our District on to a new developmental growth path”, said the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng

Central to his priorities and vision as he occupies the hot seat as the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng commits himself, the District Municipality and the ruling party, the African National Congress to the following objectives:

- **CONSOLIDATING GOVERNANCE** to prepare Sedibeng for a Single Authority that is the integral part of Gauteng as competitive global city region.
- Driving the current **REGIONAL SEWER SCHEME** toward completion so as to provide bulk infrastructure for the growth and development of Sedibeng.



- Investing substantially in a fibre optic network to ensure and enhance **ICT CONNECTIVITY** for Sedibeng in a smart province and to ensure that the people of Sedibeng do not lag behind the provincial, national and international competitiveness.
- Greater oversight of **BASIC SERVICES** at local level to ensure universal access and wall-to-wall coverage in water, electricity and sanitation provisioning.
- **SUPPORT FOR LOCALS** including Financial Viability for Emfuleni, social and economic inclusive programmes for Midvaal and catalytic economic development projects for Lesedi.
- **Vaal 21** – The cross border cooperation agreement with the Free State Provincial Government and its municipalities within the Fezile Dabi District to be executed to ensure accelerated development on both banks of the Vaal River.
- Increase our programme of improving **AIR AND WATER QUALITY**.
- Embark into a programme of **ZONING/REZONING** and servicing our identified Developmental Nodal nodes of R59 corridor and Vaal Marina Waterfront, the N3 – Zone of opportunity corridor, and the Vaal River and open industrial sites.

He invited all political parties and stakeholders to work together with the District Municipality to ensure the realisation of better and safer communities to enable the District Municipality to find practical solutions for the diverse range of developmental challenges facing Sedibeng as we move towards our vision to become a single authority municipality.

He highlighted the significant achievements under the previous council noting that with the clear vision as outlined above the Sedibeng District Municipality under his leadership will build on the already firm basis of strategic programmes.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng singled out the numerous successes of the current ANC led District Municipality which included but not limited to the successful rollout of precincts development in Sharpeville; five (5) consecutive UNQUALIFIED AUDIT opinions and the increasing economic development sector in Sedibeng as testimony to the ANC's ability and commitment to creating a better life for all.

"It has always been and it is still my intention to provide service all the people of the Sedibeng District Municipality with excellence, guided by the vision of the African National Congress to ensure that creation of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous Sedibeng and the country becomes a reality", said the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng.

"We will and are committed to provide services to our entire communities of Sedibeng, inclusive of all those who neither voted for the ruling party, or took the pain to vote or those who may be perceived to have voted for parties not represented in the Council today", added the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng.

In accepting his election as the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, he further announced his eight member Team of Members of Mayoral Committee introducing youthful new faces and integrating while splitting other portfolios to cater for National Government priorities, in an



effort to ensure gender parity, continuity and that all stakeholders' views were accommodated in the work of the District Municipality.

The former Transport, Infrastructure & Environment has been split into two portfolios. Cllr. Simon Maphalla is the MMC responsible for Roads & Transport while Cllr. Yusuf Mahomed will be responsible for Environment & Clean Energy.

Other MMCs are: Cllr. Johnny Tsotetsi, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Finance (***He moves from Local Economic Development Portfolio***); Cllr. Busisiwe Mncube, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Corporate Services (***She moves from Finance Portfolio***); Cllr. Zaza Raikane, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Sport, Recreation, Arts, Culture, Heritage and Public Safety; Cllr. Maipato Tsokolibane, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Local Economic Development (***She moves from the Social Services Portfolio***), Tourism and Planning; Cllr. Yusuf Mahomed, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Environment and Clean Energy; Cllr. Fetty Mnguni, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Health and Social Development; Cllr. Simon Maphalla, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Transport Infrastructure; and Cllr. Assistance Mshudulu, as a Member of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Human Settlement.

The Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng congratulated the new Team and thanked the previous Members of the Mayoral Committee, the Speaker and Chief Whip of Council and their families for the great legacy they have left.

"I have no doubt that you will fill their shoes and set standards much higher in view of the firm foundation which they laid. With you on my side, a winning team based on a firm foundation and footing, this is very much within reach", said the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng welcoming the new Team of MMCs.

*The inauguration will be held on **Tuesday, 14th June 2011 at the Sedibeng District Council Chambers in Vereeniging.*** At this Inauguration, the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality will expand on his priorities and vision committing himself, the District Municipality and the Council to the objectives outlined above.

Community members are invited to view the proceedings at the following satellite viewing sites / venues around the District are as follows: **Sicelo Stadium; Ratanda Community Hall; Bophelong Community Hall & Mphatlalatsane Theatre in Sebokeng**

At this inauguration, the Executive Mayor will further report on his 100 Days Plan in Office. This Plan will among other include Youth Month Plans; the Commemoration of the Boipatong Massacre; Nelson Mandela birthday month activities.

Ends!

**Issued by the External Communications Department
Sedibeng District Municipality**



For further information:

Dan Manoeli

Acting Director: External Communications

Telephone: +27(0)16 450 3960

Fax: +27(0)16 421 3182

Mobile: +27(0)82 672 8780

Email: danm@sedibeng.gov.za

