

SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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External Communications: Media Release

To all media houses, News Editors & Journalists

Tuesday, 27th November 2012

Sedibeng Executive Mayor hosts meeting of Mayoral Investment Council & Sedibeng Business Forum

The Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality: Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng hosted a joint meeting of the Sedibeng Mayoral Investment Council and Sedibeng Business Forum in Vanderbijlpark on the 27th November 2012.

This important meeting was attended by the Executive Mayor of the Emfuleni Local Municipality, Cllr. Greta Hlongwane, Members of Mayoral Committees of both the Sedibeng District and Emfuleni Local Municipalities, Members of the Mayoral Investment Council and Sedibeng Business Forum and officials from the Department of Corporative Governance and the Sedibeng District Municipality.

The Council and Forum were established by the Executive Mayor to advise him on matters related to the investment opportunities and programmes in and beyond our Region. These are but some of the available platforms which the Sedibeng District Municipality uses in its endeavour to pursue its commitment to deepening democracy in order to create a responsive, accountable, effective and efficient smart City in the context of the envisaged competitive Gauteng Global City Region.

In his opening remarks, the District Executive Mayor discussed how Stats SA census report affected Sedibeng with specific focus on employment, unemployment, economic growth & development, population.

The Investment Council received reports and presentations on the establishment and the functions of the Sedibeng United Business Forum, the 20 years Sedibeng Growth & Development Strategy (2006/2011) with the focus on the following: The towards a metropolitan municipality process, Smart City & Progress on Regional Sewer and the Business Adopt a Municipality programme.

“We must collectively ensure that we work towards improving the rate of investments and refocus to areas such as the green economy, agro processing, tourism, labour absorbing



sectors of the economy and rebuilding and strengthening the manufacturing capability”, said the Executive Mayor: Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng.

The Investment Council recommitted itself to advocating for a ‘buy local programme’ to ensure local economic development, in particular for the upcoming businesses.

Flagship projects as outlined in the Sedibeng Growth & Development Strategy:

- Creation of Sedibeng Economic Development Agency to accelerate growth & development in the Region,
- Vaal freight & Logistics Hub to reduce the over usage of roads to rails transport,
- Implementation of the Transport Model such as the BRT to ensure quality of life for public transport users,
- Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (Sedibeng Maize Triangle): Assistance provided to the agricultural sector in an attempt to grow this sector together with the development of the Agricultural Cooperatives,
- Fibre Optic Connectivity & its Roll out,
- Heritage Commemorative Events as tourism,
- Regional Sewer Project,
- Establishment of the Single Regional Authority,
- Alternative Energy Generation through solar geysers, panels
- Vaal 21 Initiative

“We urge the business community to support the proposal to collapse the Emfuleni & Midvaal Local Municipalities into one metropolitan municipality during the process of seeking inputs from affected stakeholders by the Municipal Demarcation Board. This will assist us in speeding up service delivery in our area”, said the Executive Mayor: Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng.

Ends!

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Sedibeng District Municipality**

