



## **SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

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### **External Communications: Media Release**

To all media houses, News Editors & Journalists

**Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

#### **Sedibeng announces benefits of the fibre optic through State of the District Address**

The installation of fibre in Sedibeng is being installed and is informed by the objectives that seek to create data connectivity to every municipal office, library, clinic and youth centres across the district. This will, amongst other things, lower the cost of doing business for vital economic players and increase economic participation by the broader society.

The Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality will expand further on the benefits and plans in this regard while delivering the Sedibeng State of the District Address on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

In the long run, this will contribute towards reshaping the district's economy to be more inclusive and broad-based by opening up new opportunities for the marginalised communities. This strategy also takes into account being environmentally sensitive and can reduce Council's carbon footprint whilst at the same time ensuring economic growth and development.

- To provide connectivity to all of councils buildings to ensure access to systems and solutions to assist the citizens.
- To build the network infrastructure and information super-highway to encourage the development of an advanced workforce with better ICT silks.
- To enhance economic productivity through ICT infrastructure development in order to lower the cost of doing business and increase connectivity for companies especially SMMEs.
- To increase the ICT skills capacity within the public and the private sectors to create a pool of ICT practitioners and entrepreneurs.
- To improve service delivery by providing high quality ICT services through e-government.

- To build an economic and industrial sector with a focus on ICT.
- To ensure that innovation becomes part of the economic network in Gauteng Province in relation to ICT.
- To create employment in the ICT sector and the District.
- To create a safe and healthy environment for the citizens of the District

In pursuit of a **SMART CITY** vision, the Municipality has invested in a district-wide fibre optic installation program. The installation of the 33 Kilometres of fibre optic has so far created employment for 52 permanent local workers. More significantly it has laid the basis for a future Sedibeng economy that will be supported by broadband connectivity for E-Governance, for stimulating the Green Economy for recreation and entertainment and for fast efficient business.

The Sedibeng District Municipality has, amongst its ten flagship projects contained in its Growth and Development Strategy, begun laying down out a fibre optic backbone upon which many elements of a 'Smart City' will be developed.

Over a two year period from 2011, 47km of single mode fibre optic cable, at a cost of R29m, of has been laid to connect e-services between business, public administrations, consumers and communities. The infrastructure will link up with the Provincial wide G-Link initiative to accelerate the progress towards a Smart Province.

Ends!

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