

# SOL PLAATJE

JUNE 2017

## *Calls/Roep*



## *Remarks by the* **EXECUTIVE MAYOR**



### ***Stop the Violence against Women and Children***

Dear rate payer,

Our nation and city has been in the grip of Violence against women and girls as was exemplified by the brutal killing of Karabo Mokoena recently. Women continue to be beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in their lifetime, with the abuser usually being someone known to her. The abuse may be a single act, but most often it occurs in a context where there is a pattern of assaultive and controlling behaviour. There may be a number of acts which appear minor when viewed in isolation, but collectively form a pattern that amounts to abuse. Typically, abuse escalates in frequency and severity. Once an abuser uses physical violence, they are likely to intensify their assaults and increase the woman's risk of harm and serious life-threatening injury. It is perhaps the most pervasive human rights violation that we know today, it devastates lives, fractures communities, and stalls development. Unfortunately despite our most progressive constitution that guarantees gender equality, yet the violence against women and children persists. With the escalation of women and children abuse in society, government in partnership with community based organisations must create a conducive platform for dialogue on masculinity and what it actually means.

Our city has also had its fair share of this scourge, I urge all of us to be proactive and help prevent the abuse of women and children. We should advise those in distress to seek help, no human being has the right to deny others their human rights. We should assist the police and all other agencies that deal with domestic violence, while we make a clarion call to our courts to punish the abusers very harshly. Those men that pose this danger must be exposed and shamed. We should equally be part of the fundamental change in the structure, systems, institutions and patterns of ownership, management and control of the economy in favour of all South Africans, especially the poor, the majority of whom are African and women.

Combatting women abuse can also be achieved through the radical transformation of the productive structures of our economy. As long as women continue to be marginalised and discriminated, the cycle will continue to be perpetuated. We welcome the sentencing of serial rapist, Christian Cornelius Julius, who was sentenced to seven life terms as well a further 388 years imprisonment. This will serve as a major deterrent and send a strong message to others.



*New Housing Development, Lerato Park,  
that will soon be occupied*

**The Editorial Team** | Sello Matsie (Editor) | Thokozile Riet | Ann Jansen

**SMS 44204 FOR ALL YOUR SERVICE DELIVERY ENQUIRIES**

## The landfill site development is nearing completion

Work is progressing well and a designated drop off area has been constructed for the members of the public with bakkies and trailers and they would not be required to drive to the top of the landfill site where the dumping takes place. This is part of enhancing the security features which includes the entire landfill site being closed off with high tensile steel fence. The upgrades also include access control with a guard house which will be operational and staffed with security officers.



## The Public Transport Network Upgrade for City

Several roads in Roodepan and Galeshewe are being paved including walkways. Some of these roads have never been tarred or paved and this project will enhance the township infrastructure. The Galeshewe Public Transport Network Upgrade is funded by National treasury under Urban Network Strategy. The project started last year November 2016 and will end mid-June 2017. About six kilometres in length is being constructed and the project progress is at 60% due to delays as a result rain. The streets that are to be paved/walkways are Galeshewe road, Tyson, Royal, Seochoareng, and Nobengula Street. The budget for this project is just over R7 million and has been able to provide forty four ward base labourers with employment.



## Boosting our Municipal fleet



Several vehicles and machines to the value of four million were recently procured by the municipality to be used in different operations. A four ton crew cab, 4 ton crew cap with crane, a panel van, a light commercial van, a refuse compactor truck including a sewer bucket cleaning machine was part of the purchase. All these will greatly enhance our ability to deal with service delivery especially refuse collection in the expanding areas. All these vehicles will be operated by the municipal staff and under strict supervision.



Africa Day was commemorated last month. Speaking in Pretoria, President Jacob Zuma reminded the country that the day also marked the founding of the Organisation of the African Unity, which championed unity and the struggles for the decolonisation of our beautiful continent.

It also marked the formation of its successor, the African Union which was launched on 9 July 2002 in Durban.

The celebration of Africa Day was an affirmation of our love for our continent and our commitment to ensure that Africa succeeds in all her endeavours.

He said we should take stock of progress we have made in building an Africa whose inhabitants have hope for a better and brighter future, an Africa without despair.

The theme for 2017 was The Year of OR Tambo: Building a Better Africa and a Better World. The celebration was in honour of our liberation stalwart and selfless hero, the former President of the ANC, Mr Oliver Reginald Tambo, who would have turned 100 years old this year, had he lived.

A selfless Pan-Africanist, he led the ANC during a difficult period in exile, and shaped this country's foreign policy through forging strong links and solidarity with many countries on the continent and the world.

President OR Tambo and President Nelson Mandela attended the founding conference of the OAU.

He said President OR Tambo gave us clear a direction on our relationship with Africa and the world at the First Congress of the Angolan ruling party, the MPLA in Luanda in 1977.

He stated: "We seek to live in peace with our neighbours and the peoples of the world in conditions of equality, mutual respect and equal advantage."