



OR TAMBO

1917 - 2024

COMMEMORATING OR TAMBO'S LEGACY OF BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH DIALOGUE, RECONCILIATION, AND COOPERATION

EKURHULENI COMMEMORATES THE LEGACY OF OLIVER REGINALD TAMBO



The City honoured the life and legacy of Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo, the longest-serving president of the African National Congress (ANC) and an icon in South Africa's struggle against apartheid, with a series of events held on 27 October 2024.

The commemorations began with a church service, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony, and concluded with a memorial lecture at the Birchwood Conference Centre in Boksburg. These activities form part of the City's annual observance of OR Tambo Month, a time dedicated to reflecting on Tambo's values and contributions to a just and equitable society.

During the events, the City's Executive Mayor, Ald Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, lauded Tambo as a towering figure

in the global fight for freedom and one of Africa's most respected leaders.

Mayor Xhakaza recalled the City's 2004 decision to bestow the Freedom of the City upon both OR Tambo and his late wife, Adelaide Tambo, in recognition of their profound impact on South Africa's journey to democracy.

"Every October, we reaffirm our commitment to building a City that reflects OR Tambo's vision of unity, community upliftment, and opportunity for all," said Mayor Xhakaza.

He said that Tambo's legacy is an enduring reminder of the importance of justice, freedom, and equality.

"The City of Ekurhuleni is honoured to carry forward the vision and values of OR Tambo, reflecting his dedication to a South Africa where all may live in unity and dignity."

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CITY CONCLUDES IDP CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS WITH WARD COUNCILLORS

The 2024 Integrated Development Plan (IDP) consultation meetings with ward committees and councillors have been concluded.

These meetings, which kicked off from 8 to 17 October, are an essential part of the City's efforts to assess and fine-tune priorities for each ward ahead of the 2025/26 IDP cycle.

This process is essential in updating the City's strategic plan and aligning development goals and priorities with the current needs of its residents. By engaging key local communities and

stakeholders such as ward councillors and committees through these reviews, the City ensures that the IDP remains relevant and responsive.

As a five-year strategic framework, the IDP guides municipal planning and development, covering sectors such as transport infrastructure, environmental sustainability, and health services. By fostering public participation, aligning governmental policies, and linking the IDP to the municipal budget, the City ensures that resources are used efficiently to meet the needs of its citizens and support sustainable

growth.

Key aspects such as sustainability, intergovernmental cooperation, and a structured system for monitoring and evaluating progress, ensure that the IDP not only serves immediate needs but also lays the groundwork for long-term development.

Following these sessions, the draft IDP and Budget for 2025/26 will be put together for approval and include a public participation session that takes place in the new year.

CITY AND PUBLIC PROTECTOR ENTER INTO LANDMARK RESPONSE PROTOCOL AGREEMENT



The City and the Public Protector of South Africa have taken a significant step forward in reinforcing governance and service delivery through the signing of a ground breaking Response Protocol agreement. The collaboration is aimed at streamlining the handling of complaints and allegations related to service delivery, maladministration, corruption, and other improper conduct within the City.

This protocol establishes clear roles and responsibilities for both parties, ensuring that complaints received by the Public Protector are referred directly to the City Manager or designated officials for swift internal resolution. Allegations of corruption or maladministration involving public funds will be promptly addressed to ensure transparency and accountability.



Dr Imogen Mashazi, City Manager, emphasised the importance of this protocol, stating: *“This agreement reinforces the City’s commitment to effective governance and service delivery. We are proud to partner with the Public Protector in fostering accountability and ensuring that the concerns of our citizens are addressed in a transparent and timely manner.”*

This protocol underscores Ekurhuleni’s dedication to upholding the highest standards of governance and service to its communities. By fostering closer cooperation between the City and the Public Protector, this partnership strengthens the City’s ability to address public concerns and maintain accountability.

EMPOWERING WOMEN TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE



A transformative women's roundtable discussion was hosted by the City at the Dumisani Masilela Theatre in Germiston in October. Officiating the discussions was MMC for Community Services, Cllr Bridgett Thusi.

The roundtable served as a platform for participants to share success stories of women-led programmes that have made a tangible impact in the communities in which they live. It featured various panel discussions and networking opportunities, encouraging women to stand up and take the lead in their communities.

"We are committed to creating spaces where women can collaborate, share their stories as well as build networks that allow them to thrive," said MMC Thusi.

Women have long been at the forefront of driving community development and the event celebrated women's enduring resilience, innovation, and compassion in shaping sustainable and thriving environments while focusing on empowering them to take on more leadership roles in community development.

Beyond celebrating past achievements, the session sought to lay the foundation for future collaborations. The discussions centered on fostering inclusivity, empowering women to lead and promoting sustainable development at the grassroots level.

MMC Thusi mentioned that one of the strategies for empowering women is for private sector companies to offer mentorship programmes, sponsor women, and ensure diversity within their leadership structures. She emphasised the importance of creating partnerships with women-led community organisations and offering pro bono services. These efforts, she said, can help upscale women-led initiatives and ensure their long-term sustainability.

"Empowering women to lead is not just a women's issue but a societal one that requires men as allies," MMC Thusi said. This means advocating for women's leadership by challenging gender stereotypes and creating spaces where women's voices are heard and respected. Men can play a critical role in supporting women by sharing responsibilities and actively championing women's leadership.

This event marked another significant step in the City's ongoing commitment to women's empowerment, shining a light on the vital role women play in building thriving, sustainable communities.

By fostering dialogue and sharing experiences, the roundtable created a space where women's leadership can continue to flourish, driving positive change and fostering sustainable growth for the benefit of all.



MMC MSANE CONTINUES TO CHECK PROGRESS ON WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Site visits to check progress on a number of water and sanitation infrastructure programmes were carried out by the MMC of Water and Sanitation Cllr Thembi Msane during October.

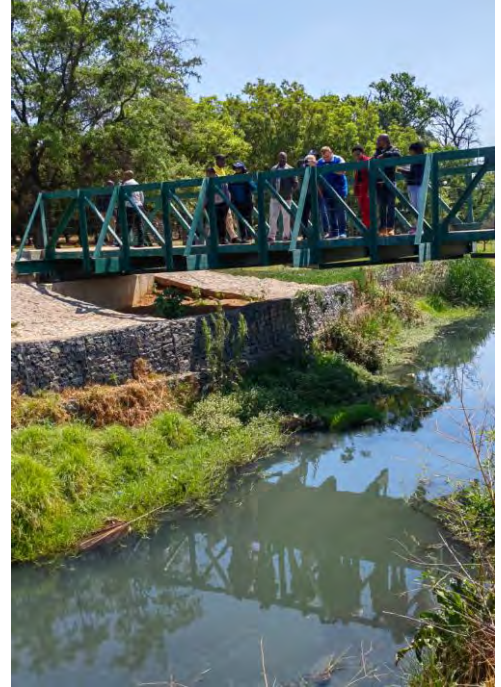
This included the construction of water and sewerage infrastructure phase 2 and 3 in Pomona in Kempton Park and the Almac bulk water pipeline in Mackenzieville.

The 9.5km sewer line in Pomona was started in June 2023 and expected to be completed by the end of December, provided no unforeseen issues come to the fore that may hinder its progress. Once completed it will serve both Pomona and Serengeti communities.

“The Pomona bulk sewer project serves to be an extension for future projects and will assist with the economic development of the City and its infrastructure,” said MMC Msane.

Next stop was Mackenzieville at the Almac reservoir and the construction of the 2.2km bulk water supply pipeline. Started in February 2024, it will supply the communities of Alra Park and Mackenzieville on completion.

These projects come as part of the development of the City to provide better basic services.



GOVERNMENT SPHERES JOIN HANDS AGAINST CRIME



More than 212 illegal immigrants, three suspects found in possession of unlicensed firearms and three suspects found dealing with drugs were among those arrested during the first two days of this co-operation agreement.

Executive Mayor Xhakaza said that greater co-operative interventions are required to effectively tackle the sophisticated crimes taking place.

“This proves that the signing is not a public relations exercise, but we mean business. These operations will continue across the City until we root out crime from in communities,” said Mayor Xhakaza.

General Anna Sithole, Executive Mayor Nkosindiphile Xhakaza and EMPD Acting Police Commissioner, Julius Mkhwanazi combing the streets of Germiston.

More than 200 suspects were arrested over two days after the City, together with national and provincial governments, signed a co-operation agreement to combat crime in the region.

Executive Mayor Nkosindiphile Xhakaza and City Manager Dr Imogen Mashazi led the City’s delegation while Premier Panyaza Lesufi led the Gauteng Province and joined by Minister of Police Senzo Mchunu signed on behalf of the national government.

This agreement saw all law enforcement agencies including the SAPS, EMPD, national and provincial traffic police, private security and other agencies join hands to fight crime. Operations were held in Tsakani, Germiston, Alberton, Benoni, and Boksburg.

The City is the first municipality from four provinces to sign a crime-fighting co-operation agreement on Tuesday, 8 October 2024, at Faranani Hall in Tsakani.

Police Minister Mchunu said the agreement pulls all resources together from the three spheres of government and will help rapidly eradicate crime in the region.

As the law enforcers data and resources, including intelligence, are shared said the minister.

“We want to bring back confidence to our communities and the investors that criminals are not in charge, but we are.”



ARE YOU LOOKING TO CHANGE THE ZONING OF YOUR PROPERTY?



HERE'S A QUICK GUIDE ON HOW TO APPLY:

1 Get the application forms from the City of Ekurhuleni's City Planning office or download them from the website.

2 Pre-consultation: Meet with City Planning officials to understand the requirements and see if your application is viable.

3 Prepare your documents: Include the completed form, title deed, zoning certificate, motivation letter, and any other required paperwork.

4 Submit your application: Drop off your documents at your local City Planning office and pay the necessary fees. You will receive a reference number for tracking.

5 Public Participation: Advertise your application in local newspapers and put up a site notice. The public has 28 days to comment or object.

6 City Review: The Town Planning Department and other city departments will review your application based on the city's development frameworks and regulations.

7 Decision Time: You will be notified of the approval or rejection of the application. If the rezoning application is rejected, you can lodge an appeal.

NOTE: Failure to obtain rezoning approval before resuming operations may result in serious legal consequences, including penalties or enforcement actions.

Visit the City of Ekurhuleni's website or contact your local Customer Care Centre for detailed info.

#Ekurhuleni #Zoning #PropertyDevelopment #TownPlanning



City of Ekurhuleni

MAYOR MEETS GERMISTON COMMUNITY



The Dinwiddie and Germiston Central communities met the City's Executive Mayor at Dinwiddie Hall and Germiston City Hall during his visit to the areas on 3 and 16 October 2024, respectively.

Executive Mayor Ald Nkosindiphile Xhakaza visited the areas accompanied by MMC of Energy Cllr Mzayifani Ngwenya, MMC of Water and Sanitation Cllr Thembi Msane, and MMC of Community Services Cllr Bridget Thusi.

Service delivery challenges and issues raised by the communities ranged from safety concerns due to the lack of visibility of EMPD officers in their areas, non-operational traffic and streetlights, electricity interruptions, illegal dumping as well water scarcity.

Mayor Xhakaza assured residents that he would look into the issues raised, and further advised about the importance of reporting any illegal activities to assist the City in rooting out these elements.

"These challenges are taken very seriously and are getting speedy attention. It is important for us, together with yourselves, to constantly have engagement such as these so that there is



improvement in service delivery," said Mayor Xhakaza.

Residents are urged to pay for their services to make it easier for the City to provide basic services such as electricity, water, and sanitation and avoid lights being cut off due to non-payment.

Community members are also urged to report any criminal activity that may hamper service delivery to 0860 543 000.



HOME SWEET HOME



It was an emotional day when Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Human Settlements, Cllr Kgopelo Hollo, handed over 16 houses to deserving recipients on the waiting list as far back as 2019.

Beneficiaries are from Lindelani informal settlement in Benoni who now form part of the 1 639 houses built since 2019 to cater for eligible beneficiaries from Alliance Extension 7 and surrounding areas.

Shedding tears of joy the mother of two, who had been living in a shack in Lindelani, said, "Today my dream of owning a house has become reality, and from today I will

sleep better and feel safer as I no longer have to go out at night if I need the bathroom," said Olivia Ntsibanyoni.

Handing over the house, MMC Hollo said, "We are here to ensure within the available resources, that deserving citizens have access to adequate housing. A household is more than a roof above a family's head, but is a source of dignity and pride."

MMC Hollo said more beneficiaries will be allocated houses in other housing projects across the City. He called on those who are yet to receive their houses to please be patient.

DEBT RELIEF AND INCENTIVE SCHEME ROADSHOWS



The businesses and communities of Ekurhuleni are experiencing a wave of engagements with the Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) responsible for Finance in the City of Ekurhuleni, Alderman Jongizizwe Dlabathi.

These engagements aim to rescue the City from its

financial woes and assist both businesses and residents in alleviating the burden of outstanding rates and taxes owed to the municipality.

This initiative comes in the form of debt relief and incentive scheme, offering up to a 70% debt write-off on the portion of debt that is over 12 months old. The remaining 30% will be written off within 36 months, provided a payment arrangement is made with the council.

Speaking at a recent roadshow held in Thokoza's Sam Ntuli community hall, MMC Dlabathi stated, "This initiative is designed to assist businesses and residents in managing their municipal debt." The roadshows have been conducted across the city, with a few areas still to be engaged. MMC Dlabathi also announced that qualifying businesses will benefit from 100% interest write-off, contingent upon a 36-month payment arrangement plan.

Businesses and the community are encouraged to approach their nearest Customer Care Centre's Finance division to make payment arrangements and benefit from this scheme.

PROGRESS ON BOKSBURG BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION AFTER DEVASTATING EXPLOSION



Member of the Mayoral Committee for Roads and Transport Planning Cllr Andile Mngwevu recently visited the Boksburg bridge alongside officials from the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) to assess the progress of reconstruction efforts.

This comes after a fuel tanker carrying liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) exploded beneath the bridge on 24 December 2022 causing widespread devastation.

The explosion resulted in numerous fatalities, injuries,

and severe damage to nearby road infrastructure, homes, and the Tambo Memorial Hospital.

MMC Mngwevu expressed the City's commitment to working closely with Prasa to restore the damaged bridge to resume full passenger rail operations.

The inspection aimed to ensure that the reconstruction efforts remain on track, contributing to the community's recovery by rebuilding critical infrastructure.



SERVICE DELIVERY ACCELERATED



Living up to the commitment made that with additional equipment procured service delivery will be accelerated, Mayoral Committee member Cllr Leshaka Manamela led a clean up operation on Benoni recently.

Heading the portfolio Environmental Resources and Waste Management, the team cut grass and pruned trees at the open space next to the Benoni Muslim School and the park in Actonville in Benoni.

The programme continues throughout the City.





WORLD POLIO DAY

The 24th of October is known as the World Polio Day on the international health calendar. This day is commemorated annually to educate mothers and the community at large on what polio is as well as raising awareness about signs and symptoms, and challenges faced by children not vaccinated against it.

The highly infectious virus called poliovirus infects your throat and intestines and can sometimes cause flu-like symptoms which can spread to the brain and spine causing paralysis. Polio, also called poliomyelitis, is preventable by polio vaccine. When children are born, they are given a polio vaccine orally, followed by a vaccine at six-weeks - this vaccine can only be given to children until they are six-months old.

“When a child has polio you will notice signs such as fever, vomiting, fatigue and when the disease progresses the child might have pain of the lower limbs, stiffness of the neck and back. We advise parents to visit their nearest healthcare facility and make sure that their children are vaccinated at birth and six-weeks,” said Sister Chauke from Khumalo Clinic in Katlehong.



A mother from Katlehong making sure her child receives polio vaccine doses.



DID YOU KNOW?

A hosepipe uses up to 30 litres of water a minute. A half hour weekly watering uses about 4Kl of water a month. Rather use greywater collected from bathroom basins, showers, baths and washing machines to water your garden.

ALWAYS BE WATER WISE

Talk to us!

DEPARTMENT OF WATER & SANITATION

0800 200 200

RAND WATER

0860 10 10 60

JOHANNESBURG WATER

0860 562 874

CITY OF EKURHULENI

0860 543 000

CITY OF TSHWANE

080 111 1556



ACT NOW | SAVE WATER | EVERY DROP COUNTS