



## EKURHULENI HOSTS INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

developing critical infrastructure, and investing in education. It attracted over the two days a diverse group of stakeholders, including government leaders, industry experts, and private sector representatives.

Discussions on the first day centred on Airport City and Aerotropolis Development, as well as the creation of Industrial Clusters, all aimed at positioning Ekurhuleni as a hub for global trade and investment.

Topics of discussion on the second day dealt with Critical and Catalytic Infrastructure, the Township Economy, and CBD and Industrial Estate Revitalization.

Executive Mayor Nkosindiphile Xhakaza led the discussions and highlighted the transformative role of infrastructure in addressing service delivery challenges and spurring economic development.

“By prioritising strategic projects, we are addressing immediate community needs, stimulating economic growth, and paving the way for sustainable and equitable development,” said Mayor Xhakaza.

(Cont on page 3)

The Ekurhuleni Investment Conference, which was held from 26 to 27 November at Emperors Palace, was themed “*Ekurhuleni Economic Partnerships: Unlocking Opportunities, Building a Sustainable Future.*”

The conference underscored the City’s commitment to fostering economic growth,

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## FOREWORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR



As the festive season approaches, a notable surge in reckless behaviour is observed, rendering many individuals susceptible to various risks. This period is marked by an increase in acts of criminality, scams and irresponsible driving, which pose significant dangers to the public.

In response, Road Traffic Management in conjunction with the EMPD and South African Police Service (SAPS) have intensified their efforts to enhance safety. The EMPD recently launched the Festive Season Road Safety campaign with the sole purpose of ensuring road safety and a crime free festive season.

Many will be commuting across the country's roads to enjoy their Christmas holidays culminating in a surge in traffic on the roads. History has shown that this increased surge leads to more accidents on the roads leading to fatalities and people incurring life changing injuries.

Residents must remain vigilant as we have seen that criminals tend to harass communities at this time of the year. You must also keep to all the regulations of the road as you travel to various destinations.

Take this time to rest and recharge for the upcoming year. May we all be merry during our holidays spreading love and unity and extend a helping hand to the less fortunate.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year ahead.

**Executive Mayor**  
**Ald Nkosindiphile Xhakaza**

The City's offices close at  
**13h00 on 24 December 2024**  
and will reopen on **Thursday, 2 January 2025.**

Essential services will continue throughout the festive season and for all service related issues, please log a call with the Call Centre on:

 **0860 543 000**

 **callcentre@ekurhuleni.gov.za**

 **@CoE\_Call\_centre**

 **My CoE App**

*The City wishes you and yours a  
Festive Season of note and prosperous New Year!*



**City of  
Ekurhuleni**

# EKURHULENI HOSTS INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

*(From page 1)*

He emphasized the importance of collaboration between the municipality and private sector stakeholders to achieve these goals.

The City also signed an economic partnership co-operation agreement with six stakeholders on the last day of the conference. This public-private partnership is to pave the way to revitalize and stabilize the local economy.

The conference culminated in the Ekurhuleni Mayoral Charity Golf Day on the third day, 28 November, at the

Glendower Golf Club.

Mayor Xhakaza, alongside Ekurhuleni City Manager Dr Imogen Mashazi, participated in the tournament to raise funds for the City's bursary scheme. The Mayor personally donated R50 000, joining other individuals and businesses in supporting the fund, which raised over R8 million within a few days.

Speaking at the tournament, Mayor Xhakaza reiterated the need for public-private partnerships to drive meaningful change in the City.

“We cannot improve people's lives alone as government. Jobs, skills and opportunities can be created when municipalities and businesses of all sizes work hand-in-hand,” he said.

The City has opened its doors for donations towards the bursary scheme, aiming to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Additionally, plans are advancing for the establishment of a university in Ekurhuleni, with a second symposium scheduled for early next year to refine the initiative.



# NEW CHAPTER OPENS FOR ALRA PARK LIBRARY



Alra Park community now have their very own library to make use of.

This follows the official opening of the Alra Park Library on 22 November in Nigel by Executive Mayor Ald Nkosindiphile Xhakaza together with Gauteng MEC of Education Matome Chiloane. They were joined by MMC of Community Services Cllr Bridget Thusi as well as MMC of Environmental Resources and Waste Management Cllr Leshaka Manamela.

The newly established library is valued at R16 million and will serve the local community as well as nearby communities such as Mackenzieville and is equipped with a children's, computer and reference books sections.

Some of the programmes that will be offered in this library include career guidance, born to read and spelling bees to enhance reading skills as well as book clubs to foster a love for literature. It will also provide access to digital services, making a valuable resource for the entire community at large.

"This is a momentous occasion for the community, and

we would like to urge and encourage you as the community here to own and look after this library for the sake of your children," said MEC Chiloane.

Community members, and more especially the youth in Alra Park and surrounding areas, were encouraged to take their education seriously and to take advantage of the library services offered.

"We are very grateful for the Provincial Government for having funded this state-of-the-art library, and we would also like to caution the community from any form of vandalism of this library and other City buildings," said Mayor Xhakaza.

It took a period of two years for this library to be built and during that period close to 35 members of the community were employed.

The library's operating hours are as follows:  
 Monday – Friday: 08h00 – 16h30  
 Saturday: 08h00 – 16h30  
 Sunday: Closed  
 Public Holidays: Closed



# BE SAFE THIS FESTIVE SEASON

The City of Ekurhuleni launched its Festive Season Safety Campaign in Boksburg at the end of November.

Led by Executive Mayor Alderman Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, he was joined by the Member of the Executive Committee for Community Safety, Ald Sizakele Masuku, and the Acting Chief of Police, Julius Mkhwanazi.

Mayor Xhakaza called on residents not to lower their safety guards.

"The festive season is the time when most people are travelling across the country and beyond. We urge everyone to be vigilant on the roads and their properties. Accidents on the road affect both motorists and pedestrians," said the first citizen.

He added that members of the EMPD will not only be deployed on the busy roads of the City but also in the shopping centres, as well as residential and recreational centres to fight crime.

Ekurhuleni is a transit area with main routes connecting different national and provincial routes, coming or exiting Gauteng Province.

The Mayor added that highly trained officers will be monitoring hot spots.

As part of the crime fighting, EMPD shared the following safety tips:

- Do not drink and drive.
- Always wear your seatbelt – even when sitting at the back when the vehicle you are in is in motion.
- Take a break every two hours when travelling long distances.
- If involved in a car or pedestrian accident, when it is safe to do so stop and call for assistance.
- If involved in an accident, and there are no injuries sustained or the cars are not causing any obstruction on the roadway, parties involved should report the matter either at the nearest SAPS or EMPD precinct.

Before you embark on your long-distance journey:

- Check if the tyres are in good condition.
- Check tyre pressure to suit the load you are carrying.
- Make sure the windshield wipers are in good condition in case it rains.
- Check if the spare wheel is in good condition.

In an emergency, contact the fire and rescue line on 011 458 0911.



# DON'T overlook the risks that come with a heatwave.

## Heat Exhaustion:

*Definition:* Heat exhaustion is a condition where symptoms include heavy sweating and a rapid pulse because of the body overheating. It's one of three heat-related syndromes, with heat cramps being the mildest and heatstroke being the most severe.

## Signs and symptoms:

- Confusion
- Dark coloured urine
- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Fatigue
- Headaches
- Muscular or abdominal cramps
- Nausea and Vomiting or diarrhoea
- Pale Skin
- Profuse sweating
- Rapid pulse rate

## Treatment:

- Get out of the heated environment and rest in a **COOL AREA**.
- **DRINK** plenty of fluids, especially sport drinks to replace lost salt. **AVOID** caffeine and alcoholic drinks.
- **REMOVE** any tight or unnecessary clothing.
- Take a **COOL SHOWER**, bath or sponge bath.
- Apply other **COOLING MEASURES** such as fans and cool, damp towels.

**NB:** If such measures **don't work within 15 minutes**, seek emergency medical interventions because untreated heat exhaustion can lead to **heat stroke**.

**For life threatening emergencies, please contact:**

• **112** (cellphone) • **011 458 0911** (landline)

• Gauteng Department of Health's Mpilo App for ambulance e-hailing





## PAY YOUR RATES THIS FESTIVE SEASON

With the festive season around the corner, the City of Ekurhuleni encourages its ratepayers to budget accordingly and not overspend which could lead to the non-payment of municipal rates and services.

The City pleads with customers to make sure that their municipal accounts are paid on time to avoid any possible disconnection for non-payment.

Here are some tips to avoid the above:

- Visit your nearest Customer Care Centre if your account is in arrears to make payment arrangements.
- Pay your account by the due date.
- Account payments can be made via the City's online platform Siyakhokha or through major retail stores, like Spar, Checkers, Shoprite, Makro, PEP and Boxer.

Residents are also encouraged to switch off all electrical appliances like your geyser, pool motor and/or any other gadgets that may use electricity when going on vacation.

## MMC NKOSI ENGAGES COMMUNITY ON FOOD SAFETY

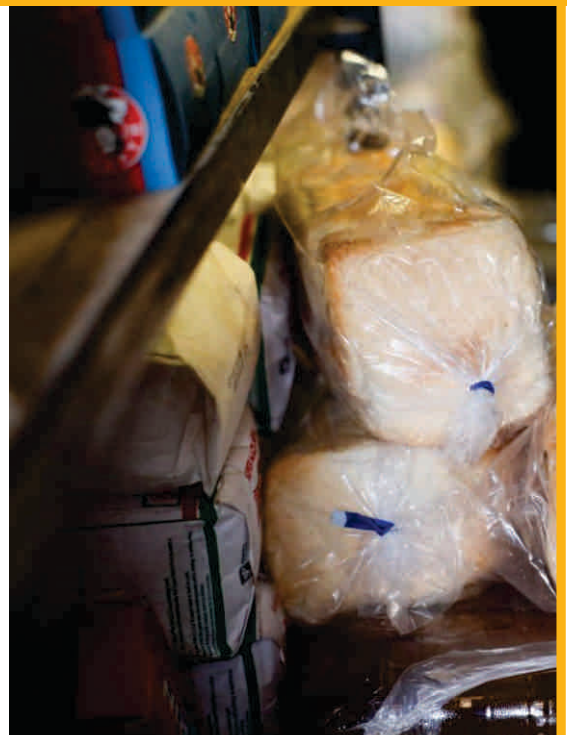
Given the alarming food poisoning incidences around the province, the MMC for Developmental Planning and Real Estate Ald Nomadlozi Nkosi engaged with communities, including in Katlehong, Vosloorus, Edenpark and Thokoza at the DH Williams Hall in Katlehong on 14 November 2024.

The engagement was to ensure the health and safety of residents and compliance by spaza shop owners operating in the region.

Addressing the communities, MMC Nkosi said that non-compliant spaza shops will be shut down, adding that the City is also working closely with SAPS to clamp down on illegal immigrants. She asked for unity among communities and urged no one to take the law into their own hands.

"To ensure safety in our areas spaza shops must have a valid business license and a zoning certificate, as well as a certificate of acceptability from the environmental health department. Spaza shops without these certificates must close with immediate effect," said the MMC.

Community members are urged to make sure that they check things like the expiry dates of every product that they buy.



# STARTING A SPAZA SHOP: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR EKURHULENI ENTREPRENEURS



Starting a business in the City of Ekurhuleni is an exciting venture, but it requires a **solid understanding** of *local zoning laws, building regulations, and health and safety standards*. Ensuring legal compliance not only protects your business but also contributes to the safety and well-being of the community.

## Zoning Laws and the City's Land Use Scheme 2021 (CELUS)

The Land Use Scheme 2021 (CELUS) **outlines the zoning laws** governing the use of land and property within the City. They dictate **what type of business activities** can occur in specific areas.

Each property is assigned a specific zoning classification that determines its allowable uses. Business owners must familiarize themselves with the zoning regulations applicable to their properties to avoid violations. For instance, a residential property cannot be used for commercial purposes unless the zoning permits it. Violating these zoning laws can result in fines or the forced termination of operations, which can be detrimental to any business.

## The Role of Spaza Shops in Local Economies

Spaza shops, small informal convenience stores primarily found in South Africa, play a significant role in local economies, especially in communities where access to larger retail outlets is limited. For property owners and tenants interested in venturing into this business, understanding the registration processes and licensing is crucial.

## Who Must Register: Property Owner vs Tenant?

The responsibility for registering a spaza shop primarily lies with the property owner. A common concern among property owners is the potential eviction of tenants operating spaza shops or other rental properties. It is important to note that **business licenses or Certificates of Acceptability (COA) are issued to businesses, not individuals**.

As the licence holder, the property owner is required to register and obtain the necessary licences for the business. If the property owner feels that the tenant is not compliant, they have the right to evict them from the property. After eviction, the property owner may rent the same property again; however, if the new tenants wish to conduct a different type of business, the owner must apply for a new license specific to that business.

## Requirements for Successful Business Registration

**To successfully register your business in Ekurhuleni, you will need the following:**

1. **Identification Document:** A valid ID document for South African citizens, or a passport and visa or refugee permit for foreign nationals.
2. **Application Form:** Obtain the application form from the municipality's website <https://www.ekurhuleni.gov.za> or office.
3. **Proof of Residence:** Provide documentation such as a municipal bill statement, lease agreement, or a letter confirming the shop's address.
4. **Affidavit of Compliance:** An affidavit stating that the business complies with all relevant regulations.

Starting a business in Ekurhuleni **requires careful navigation of zoning laws, licensing, and compliance regulations**. By understanding the responsibilities associated with property ownership and the specific requirements for registering a spaza shop, prospective business owners can set themselves up for success. Engaging with local authorities and staying informed about regulatory changes will further enhance the likelihood of a thriving and compliant business in the community.



# MMC MSANE ENGAGES IMPACT IN WATER SAVING

As part of the #SaveEveryDrop initiative, MMC of Water and Sanitation Cllr Thembi Msane engaged with management of the Mpac company in Springs.



The 'Save Every Drop' awareness campaign is to be rolled out across the City to both businesses and the community.

A water shortage faces the City and community and businesses need to be made aware as well as educated about the importance of saving every little drop of water to make a difference.

"The City plans that industries are to be provided with water from different reservoirs from those of communities and we have already started with this in Germiston area," said MMC Msane.

Level one restrictions have been implemented by Rand Water, which means the following in the City to ensure that we all #SaveEveryDrop:

Between 6am and 6pm you may not:

- Water your garden with municipal water.
- Wash your vehicle with municipal water.
- Use a hosepipe to clean paved areas and driveways with municipal water.
- Fill the swimming pool with municipal water.

Join us in saving water by following these simple tips, every drop counts, and let us conserve water together.

An appeal goes out to report any leaks to the City's call centre via the following platforms:

- 0860 543 000
- My CoE App
- Call.Centre@ekurhuleni.gov.za
- X on @CoE\_Call\_Centre

## SWIMMING POOLS AND SAVING WATER TIPS

Swimming pools consume a large amount of water and there is a critical need to save water in any way possible.

Below are some water saving tips for swimming pools:

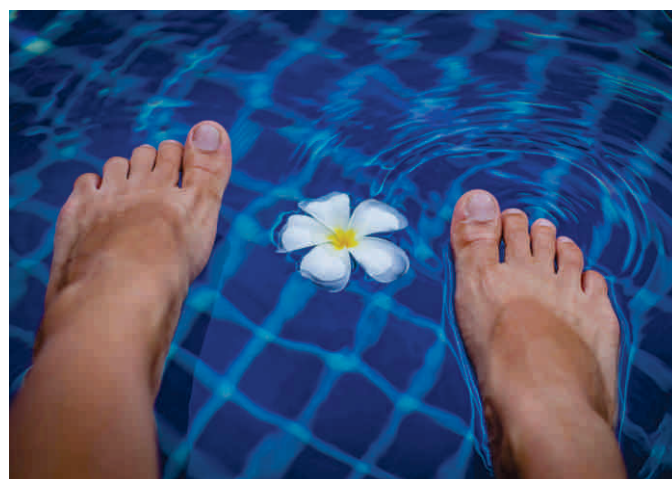
- **Use a swimming pool cover** – a cover can help to conserve heat which ultimately leads to preventing more than half of the water in the pool from evaporating in a year by almost 90% to 95%.
- **Check for leaks** – It is important from time to time to check for any possible leak in your swimming pool, and this can be detected by taking note of the damp spots downstream of the pool, water-saturated soil near the pool; pumps or pool-plumbing equipment, leaking pipes, valves or joiners, cracks, or gaps in the bond beam.
- **Lowering water levels** – Keeping a low water level in the pool helps reduce water loss from extreme splashing, among other things.
- **Lowering the temperature on heated pools** – Make sure that you reduce the temperature of your pool heater during summer, so water evaporation does not occur.
- **Backwashing pool filters** – backwash pool filters only when it is necessary because it uses extra water in that process.
- **Strategic poolside landscaping** – Make sure to plant pool area shrubs and use fences or privacy screening as barriers or to help reduce water loss from wind

evaporation.

- **Monitoring of water and utility bills** - Constantly monitor your water and utility bill for any changes that might be due to leaks or other problems that may need further investigation.
- **Draining a pool** – Drain your pool only when it is necessary. Speak to an expert on when it is necessary to drain the pool.

Water is precious, let's work together as a community and businesses in the City to conserve it.

Make a difference today for a better tomorrow.



# CITY CONDUCTS PREPAID METER AUDITS

Work to normalise all prepaid meters across Ekurhuleni started in earnest with the City's technicians conducting audits ahead of the looming deadline for the upgrading of prepaid meters known as Key Change, scheduled for 24 November 2024.

The prepaid meters audit process started in Boksburg last year, with the aim of ensuring that all prepaid meters would be KRN 2 compliant by the 24 November 2024 deadline.

In an event where a prepaid meter is not upgraded to KRN2 key change, the customer will not be able to purchase and load electricity units for that meter.

Eskom supplied areas whose meters were either damaged or tampered with, had until 13 December 2024 after which the R12 000 fine applied.

For those meters that have not yet been upgraded, they will be normalised by resetting the prepaid meter and upgrading it on site during the ongoing audits.

Meanwhile, customers are advised to be cautious of bogus officials purporting to be working for the City and disconnecting prepaid meters in exchange for money. Such criminal activities must be reported to law enforcement or the City's energy department on 011 999 5671 or the call centre on 0860 543 000.



# SPIRIT GAMES HELD AT JOHN BARRABLE IN BENONI



In partnership with the Gauteng Sports Department, the City held the Spirit Games at John Barrable Hall in Benoni on 22 November 2024.

This event, which was for the physically disabled, was held during Disability Rights Awareness Month which runs from 3 November to 3 December annually.

Several games were lined up for the day including golf, bowling, ball throwing, target shooting, chess, snakes and ladders.

The theme for 2024 is a 'Disability-inclusive society that promotes a better quality of life and protects the rights of persons with disabilities'.

Enoch Tompa, Divisional Head for Sports and Recreation in the City encouraged the participants to enjoy themselves saying it is a day to promote and educate the community at large about the importance of the rights of people with disabilities.

Northmead Clinic was also on hand to provide health services such as testing for diabetes, blood pressure, TB as well as family planning.

Occupational therapists from the clinic assisted people attending the day with the likes of walking aids, wheelchairs and spectacles.





# OPENING OF THE CHANCE CHILDREN'S HOME IN NIGEL

The Chance children's home in Dunnottar, Nigel, was officially reopened by MMC for Developmental Planning and Real Estate Ald Nomadlozi Nkosi on 15 November 2024.

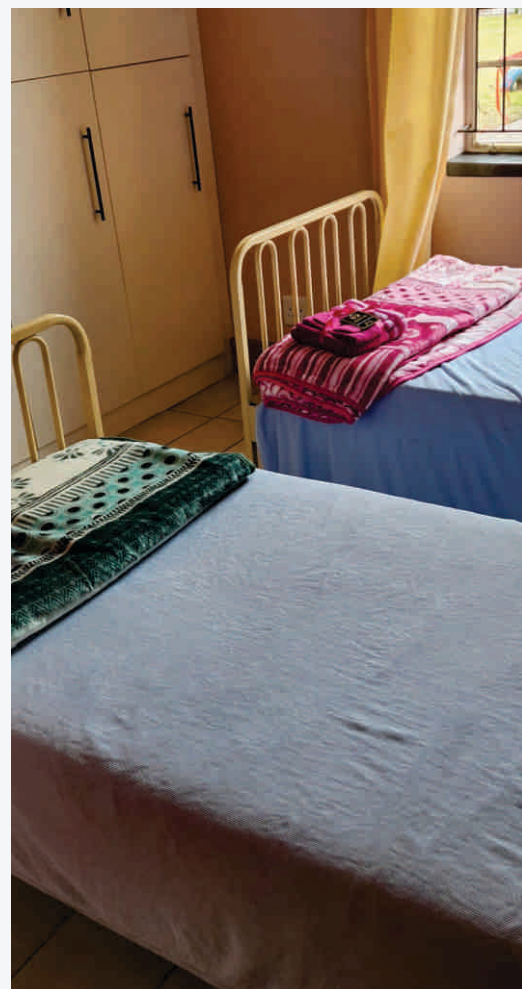
This is home to 90 children aged six to 18. When the home was forced to close, Alstom Ubunye came forward and donated R1.2 million to refurbish it.

"I urge all of you gathered here witnessing this reopening as a beacon of hope. It is also the responsibility of all of us here and mostly the community around here to do their part in protecting and nurturing this centre," said MMC Nkosi.

The children's home and nurturing centre accommodates children in need, including orphans and those abused and sexually abused.

It offers the young residents a computer room, sleeping rooms as well as a play area.

"I am very excited and feel grateful to be one of the children who grew up in this facility. I arrived here when I was 11 years old and now, I am in matric and this is all because of Chance Children's home who took me in when I didn't have anywhere to go to," said Ntombi Mduli, one of the children at the home.



## MMC HOLLO HANDS OVER HOUSES

Member of the Mayoral Committee Cllr Kgopelo Hollo, who heads the Human Settlements portfolio, recently handed over houses to deserving recipients in Mayfield (Daveyton) Extension 34.

A heart-moving moment was when the MMC handed over a house to an emotional mother of a physically challenged 12-year-old.

Her home included a ramp erected for her child to be able to move in and out of the house with ease using his wheelchair.

When handing over the keys to the excited new homeowners, the MMC urged them to please look after their properties and to refrain from renting or selling them.



You can drown in just a few centimetres of water!

### Always be alert to possible dangers

- **TEACH CHILDREN TO SWIM**, including survival skills like floating and treading water.
- Always **SUPERVISE CHILDREN** and never let them swim alone.
- **IF A CHILD CANNOT SWIM**, stay away from places where they can drown.
- Buoyancy aids like inflatable wings and tubes are **ONLY AIDS**. Do not rely on them to protect your child from drowning.
- Warn against boisterous **PLAY IN OR NEAR WATER**, such as riding bicycles or running on dam walls or around swimming pools.
- Teach your child **HOW TO STAY AFLOAT** in water with their clothes on.
- Never let children dive or jump into water **THEY DON'T KNOW**, or when people are in the way.

### WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD DROWNS

- Take the child **OUT OF THE WATER**.
- Call for **HELP**.
- **CHECK** for breathing and responsiveness.
- If the child is not breathing, start **RESCUE BREATHING**.
- Begin chest **COMPRESSIONS**.
- **REPEAT** the process.

**Call for help**  
In case of emergency:

<p> <b>Life Threatening Emergency</b> Line for fire and rescue <b>011 458 0911 /</b> <b>10177 / 112</b> <small>(from mobile phones)</small></p>	<p> <b>For medical emergencies</b> <b>011 564 2210/11 /</b> <b>10177 / 112</b></p>
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Gauteng Department of Health's  
Mpilo App for ambulance e-hailing

# PREVENTING DROWNING



City of  
Ekurhuleni