



OPENING REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF THE DR JS MOROKA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION HELD AT THE PREMIER HOTEL OUTSIDE PRETORIA ON THE 06 – 08th APRIL 2022.

Speaker of Council

Council Whip

Members of the Mayoral Committee present here this morning:

The Chairperson of MPAC

Chairpersons of our Section 79 Committees

All Councilors present here today

The newly appointed Municipal Manager of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality

All acting Section 56 Managers and Assistant Managers

Representatives of Sector Departments, (Provincial Treasury, STATS SA, MISA, Auditor General)

Sepflour and Vergenoeg mine representatives.

Support staff, employees of our municipality

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning,

Lotjhani,

Dumelang

The facilitator/Programme Director

We have gathered here today following on of the most progressive provincial ANC Conference at Witbank Dam in Emalahleni to elect the new provincial leadership, which went well smooth.

And this strategic planning session is the first and unique, following last year's local government elections, in that it's the first Strategic Planning for this current term of Council.

In addition to the above, we are reminded that our gathering here today comes at good timing where we have just appointed the Municipal Manager as of 1st April 2022, that is last week Friday, Ms Monica Mathara Mathebela. Her appointment was approved by Council at its sitting of the 29th March 2022. Let us welcome here.

Speaker, Council Whip, MMCs, Councilors, ladies and gentlemen, Ms Mathebela is not new to this institution, she once steered the administration arm of this Municipality as the Municipal Manager years back. She therefore joins this Municipality with years of vast extensive knowledge and experience in local government. As Council we have confidence in Ms Mathebela's capabilities to exercise her duties with utmost attention and diligence and we are looking forward to working with her.

The Facilitator, today's engagement is very imperative and it flows positively with the aims and the objectives of this strategic planning session, as a platform to self-introspection using the tools of analysis as captured as SWOT. And we are therefore called upon to analyse the narrative our people have in order to give concrete expression on how we have fared thus far and where we need to take our Municipality forward.

All of us here as a collective are aware that our Municipality is been in turmoil, to an extent where it was even placed under the Section 139 intervention by the Province. It is us as this collective it that we need to steer this Municipality in the right direction and that should start with this very same engagement we are having here at Premier Hotel for 3 days.

So in whatever assessment we have as our yardsticks, it should be in the recognition that the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality is ANC-run municipality therefore we should not add the narratives that do not align with the directives of the ANC. We will make our Municipality a better place to be, there is a lot to be done, to get where we want to be. As elected leaders we are dependent on you as appointed officials to implement the strategic objectives and/or goals we are going to set after this session, we are here to work with you as the implementing agents. And we commit ourselves to give you undivided support at all times.

All of us gathered here we are aware of the audit outcomes we have received in the past financial years are we are going to improve from such outcomes, we should all ask ourselves as to where do we really want to go, don't we need to have a clean audit opinion, together we can make it.

Let us make this Strategic Session to be fruitful. Facilitator/Programme Director, lastly allow me to borrow words of encouragement from Lee Bolman that "A vision without strategy is like an illusion" close quote.

With those words, let us put fly the Dr JS Moroka Flag High.

I THANK YOU