





st. 2008 Edition 395 17 July - 23 July 2025 072 107 3042 www.sekdispatch.co.za

## EMLM Mayor donates digital tablets to deserving pupils

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#### GROBLERSDAL

he Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), Cllr David Tladi, in partnership with SYNTELL, have on Thursday 10 July 2025 donated 33 digital tablets to local schools. The donation was handed over at the EMLM offices in Groblersdal.

The benefiting schools included Loboli Secondary from EMLM Ward 19, Mang le Mang Secondary from EMLM Ward 29, O.R. Tambo Secondary from EMLM Ward 9, K.F. Tjiane Secondary from EMLM Ward 10 and Motjedi Secondary from EMLM Ward 28.

According to the municipality, the initiative aimed to bridge the digital divide and empower disadvantaged learners by providing them with the resources needed for modern learning.

The municipality said the effort to provide digital tools to students is a significant step towards ensuring that all learners have access to the educational resources necessary to thrive in a technology-driven world

The tablets, accompanied by data bundles, will provide access to a wealth of educational content and resources, improving student engagement and academic performance.

During the donation hand-over, a 17-year-old Grade 11 learner from Motjedi Secondary, Mosa Mothiba, expressed his gratitude for the tablets, stating: "The tablets will really help a lot."

He emphasized the importance of these digital tools in enhancing his learning experience and expressed his commitment to using them responsibly.

"I advise my peers to be responsible and safeguard these tablets by asking our parents and teachers to help to keep them safe so that we don't lose them," he said.

Delivering the gesture, Mayor Tladi said by equipping learners with digital skills, the municipality aims to prepare them for a future where technology plays an increasingly significant role in all aspects of life.

"This initiative closes the gap between public and private schools. Many students from public schools' struggle in their first year of university when they have to deal with ICT, digital education, and so on, because some of them have never come face to face with a computer," He added.

However, Tladi acknowledge that there is still a long way to go in achieving digital learning.

"The lack of reliable access to digital learning poses the greatest obstacle to our disadvantaged learners," he said.



Benefiting learners after they received digital tablets posing with some of EMLM employees after the donation hand-over.

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 $\textbf{EMLM Mayor, Cllr David Tladi, addressing the donation event at the municipality premises in Groblers dall addressing the donation of the municipality premises of the donation of t$ 

Info@sekdispatch.co.za The Sekhukhune Dispatch 17 July - 23 July 2025



#### Neoheights Aviation Airline Group founder and CEO, Neo Makgale, is making a mark in the commercial aviation sector providing services to over 80 destinations across the world.

#### Sekhukhune among Limpopo municipalities in financial crisis

**LIMPOPO** 

The Limpopo Provincial Government has intervened in the ongoing impasse between several municipalities, including Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), and the Lepelle-Northern Water Board.

According to the provincial government, the crisis arose after the National Treasury withheld disbursement of equitable shares and certain Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) allocations due to outstanding payments owed by the municipalities for bulk water supply.

The other affected municipalities include Vhembe District, Mopani District, and Letaba Local Municipality.

Considering these developments, Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba taken proactive measures and convened discussions the Departments of Provincial Treasury and Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs alongside representatives from the affected municipalities and the Lepelle-Northern Water Board.

Premier Ramathuba emphasized that the withdrawal of funds would have a catastrophic impact on the residents of Limpopo, particularly in rural municipalities like Greater Letaba, which lack targeted revenue streams to sustain their operations," she stated.

"This is why immediate intervention was necessary to prevent adverse consequences stemming from National Treasury decision," she said.

During the meetings, it was noted that financial viability of the municipalities is a critical priority for Limpopo Province.

"To this end, Limpopo Province



Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, says the Limpopo Provincial Government will ensure that payment disputes between municipalities and Limpopo Northern Water are resolved.

remains dedicated to providing support in situations involving payment disputes and adherence to financial agreements between municipalities and the water boards," informed Ramathuba.

She indicated that specific payment plans and responsibilities will be formalized in signed agreements and submitted to National Treasury, demonstrating the municipalities' commitment to settling their utility payment obligations.

Premier Ramathuba expressed confidence that the interventions made would lead to amicable solutions.

"We believe that by next week, this matter will be resolved, ensuring that municipalities adhere to the commitments outlined in the agreements signed," she

## Local entrepreneur takes to the skies with Neoheights Aviation

Makgale, a 42-yearold aviation entrepreneur from Lebowakgomo, has made waves in the commercial aviation sector with her company, Neoheights Aviation Airline Group.

Neoheights Aviation was a standout participant at the SMME Consultative meeting, and the official launch of the Sekhukhune TVET Rapid Incubator Centre held recently in Groblersdal.

Makgale's journey is an inspiration to many, especially women and youth in rural areas, as she breaks barriers in a traditionally male-dominated industry.

Makgale's company has successfully transitioned from operating private jets and cargo logistics to launching international commercial airline services. With over a decade of experience, Neoheights Aviation has expanded its operations to over 80 destinations across countries, including Korea, Australia, Japan, Canada, and the United States.

Makgale emphasized importance of partnerships in growing her business, stating: "We are engaging both the public and private sectors to grow our network.

This event allows us to connect with new stakeholders and fuel further arowth."

Sekhukhune Entrepreneurial Rapid Incubator served as a key platform for small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in the area, providing access to mentorship, funding pathways, business development training, and market access support.

Makgale believes that the initiative will unlock the full potential of rural-based entrepreneurs and disrupt traditional industries like aviation.

As a 100% female-owned business, Neoheights Aviation is breaking barriers in a high-impact and complex industry. Makgale

Minister of Small Business Development, Stella Thembisa Ndabeni, reaffirmed commitment to backing enterprises like Neoheights, saying her vision is to empower more women and youth in high-impact sectors.

The minister believes that the Sekhukhune TVET Entrepreneurial Rapid Incubator will become a beacon of hope for the community, providing opportunities for scale and sustainability.

#### **BADIRAMMOGO WATER USER ASSOCIATION**



Established in terms of Section 92(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36. of 1998) Government Gazette No 89/23053

**Electrician (Eastern Limb)** Badirammogo Water User Association (formerly Lebalelo) provides bulk raw water from the

**JOB ADVERTISEMENT** 

Olifants River to its members on the Eastern Limb of the Bushveld Igneous Complex, in Limpopo, South Africa. Through the Olifants Management Model Programme (OMMP), the Association is accelerating the development of bulk raw and potable water infrastructure in Limpopo. For more information on the Association, please visit https://lebalelo.co.za.

LWUA-25007 Reference No. Type of Contract Permanent Salary / Job Grade C Lower Location Havercroft, Modubeng, Limpopo

- **Location:** The position is based at the Association's Havercroft office in Modubeng. Limpopo, as well as the Olifants River bulk water supply scheme and associated reticulation network:
- Objectives: Drive continuity in electrical systems operations by providing technical and operational systems support, and ensure that all systems are maintained and optimised to increase the capacity of the production/distribution process
- Key Result Areas: Fix, replace and conduct routine maintenance to prevent electrical failures; compile water balance reports and configure all reports; maintain safety standards and ensure compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act; report incidents and accidents; manage and monitor stock; ensure record-keeping and supervise subordinates; liaise with internal and external stakeholders;
- Minimum Qualifications: N3 N6 in Electrical Engineering, a valid electrician trade certificate, a valid driver's license and a medical fitness certificate;
- Additional Qualifications: Telemetry-related short courses will be an added advantage; and
- **Minimum Work Experience:** 3 years of work experience in electrical systems.

**Application Process:** To apply, please submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae to: ommrecruitment@lebalelo.co.za. Please quote the reference number in the subject line.

Closing Date: 25 July 2025. Should you not have been contacted by 31 August 2025, please consider your application unsuccessful.

The Association subscribes to the promotion of equal opportunities through fair treatment of its workforce as well as applicants for employment. Only candidates with South African citizenship will be considered. Please note no deviations to minimum qualifications will be accommodated.

#### Suspects nabbed for hijacked vehicle and unlicensed firearm appear in court

PRAKTISEER - Two suspects, Thato Motau and Terrence Mongadi, have appeared before the Praktiseer Magistrate's Court in Tubatse on Friday 11 July 2025, facing charges of possession of a suspected hijacked motor vehicle and possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the suspects were arrested following a tip-off about suspicious motor vehicles in Extension 10, Burgersfort.

"The police responded to the intelligence information and found a white Volkswagen Polo with a Limpopo province registration number, which was later confirmed to have been hijacked in June 2025. The police's swift response to the tipoff and the subsequent arrests demonstrate their commitment to combating crime in the province," said Ledwaba.

He added that Motau was arrested on Thursday 10 July 2025, and charged with possession of a hijacked vehicle.

"He was remanded in police custody and his case was postponed for further investigation and possible bail application. Terrence Mongadi, who was arrested for possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition, was granted bail of R1, 500-00," explained Ledwaba.



The unlicensed firearm that was recovered in possession of Terrence Moganedi during his arrest.

#### **SDM Executive Mayor celebrates Ga-Mashabela initiation graduations**



SDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Minah Bahula, during her visit at the Ga-Mashabela Tribal Authority during the initiates' graduation event.

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENCE IN TERMS OF SECTION 28(1) (C)

Limpopo Liquor Act, 2009 (Act No. 5 of 2009)

FORM 8

**Regulation 8** 

I, the undersigned applicant hereby give notice in terms of S28(1)(c) that an application for liquor licence will be lodged with the Capricorn District Local Liquor Authority.

In terms of S28(1) (b) of the Act, you may lodge an objection to the application.

The objection form is obtainable from the above -mentioned Liquor Local Authority. Objections must be submitted to the aforesaid Local Liquor Authority within 21 days from the date of lodgement of the application.

- 1. Full names of Applicant: Matemane Pleasure Mmetse
- 2. Intended Trading name: Napogadi Liquor Restaurant
- 3. Identity number of applicant: 890127 5855 089
- 4.1. Full address and Location of the premises: Stand no. 118 Seokodibeng village, Makgalanoto Area, Farm: Waterkop "B" no. 113 KT, Sekhukhune.
- 4.2. Global positioning system(GPS) coordinates of the property where the retail operations are to be carried out.

LATITUDE: degrees, minutes, seconds

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LONGITUDE: degrees, minutes, seconds								
3	0	•	0	4	0	9	2	8

- 5. Type of licence applied for: On consumption -Food provision
- 6. List of Schools, places of worship etc. within a radius of 500m from the premises listed in paragraph 4.

School: None

Place of Worship: None

Public Transport Facility: None

Buildings where the public have access to public services: None

Filling Station: None

#### **GA-MASHABELA**

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Minah Bahula, has on Saturday 12 July 2025 honoured the rich cultural heritage of the region by attending a traditional female initiation graduation ceremony at Mošate wa Ga-Mashabela outside Jane Furse.

The graduation event, which was described as a vibrant victory of the initiates' cultural journey, was a celebration of the successful completion of weeks of traditional initiation for female initiates in the area.

During the event, Bahula joined Kgošigadi Mashabela, Hunadi a Bauba, and the community in welcoming the graduates.

In her address, Mayor Bahula commended the ongoing efforts to preserve the initiation school culture across the district.

She emphasized the municipality's commitment to supporting initiation schools through developmental initiatives that preserve, promote, and empower cultural heritage within communities.

The mayor highlighted that the municipality's involvement in cultural events such as this graduation ceremony is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen developmental relations with traditional authorities.

Bahula and her collective, commended the ongoing efforts of preserving initiation schools' culture across the district municipality, adding that they will be welcoming graduates in various communities in the following weeks.

This ongoing engagement with traditional authorities and communities is expected to have a positive impact on the district's cultural heritage.

#### **Burgersfort man gets 16** years jail term for raping 12-year-old neighbour



Sergeant Mahlatse Mangoale of the Burgersfort FSC conducted a thorough investigation that led to the conviction and sentencing of the suspect.

BURGERSFORT - A 28-year-old man was on Thursday 10 July 2025, sentenced to 16 years in prison by the Burgersfort Regional Court for raping a 12-year-old girl in Shushumela Section outside Burgersfort.

During the sentencing, the court found the accused, who cannot be named to protect the identity of the victim, guilty of rape after he also pleaded guilty to the rape charges.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the incident occurred on 8 November 2024, when the victim was threatened with a knife and dragged to an abandoned house where she was repeatedly raped.

"The victim managed to escape the following morning and reported the incident to her family, who immediately informed the police. The police launched a manhunt and arrested the accused on 9 November 2024. The case was later transferred to the Burgersfort Family Violence, Child Protection, and Sexual Offenses Unit (FCS) for further investigation, explained Ledwaba.

He said the accused was convicted and the court handed down a 16-year direct imprisonment sentence against him.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, welcomed the court's decision, stating that perpetrators of such heinous crimes do not deserve leniency.

"According to me, perpetrators like this one do not deserve any leniency from our courts, even if such person pleads guilty. Justice should not be done but must be seen to be done in order to put a stop to these heinous crimes perpetrated against the vulnerable, particularly the children of this country who are deprived of enjoying their childhood pleasure," she said.































































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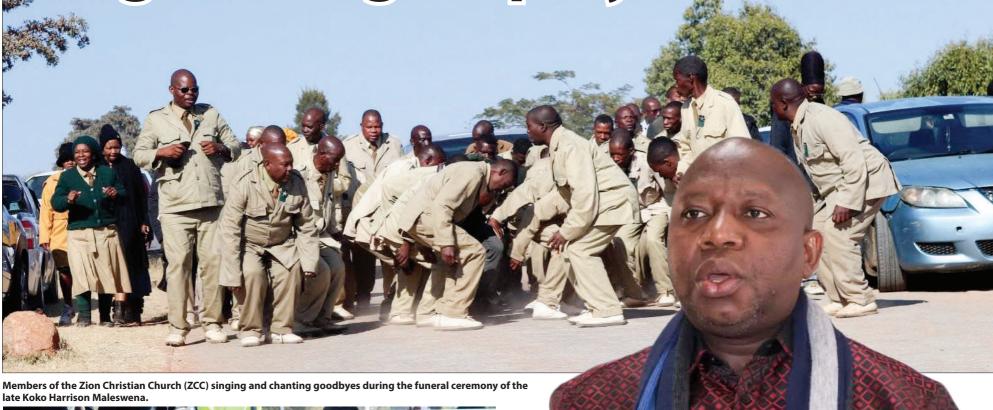


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AND FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN WIN!
VALID: 17 - 31 JULY 2025





## Municipality mourns dedicated long-serving employee





The late Koko Harrison Maleswena was laid to rest at his home village in Mamphokgo on Sunday 13 July 2025.

MARBLE HALL - Scores of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) residents, family members, colleagues and friends, have on Thursday 10 July 2025, converged at the Municipal Hall in Marble Hall to bid farewell to one of dedicated employees, Mr Koko Harrison Maleswena, who passed away after a short illness.

The late Maleswena, from Mamphokgo Village outside Marble Hall, was described as an employee who dedicated his life to ensuring that the community of Ephraim Mogale Municipality receive better services.

Maleswana was one of the longestserving employees in the municipality, being appointed in the Registration and Licensing unit under the Corporate Services Department of the local municipality where he worked as a cashier.

He was remembered by his colleagues as a committed and humble fellow who was dedicated to his duties.

The Mayor of EPMLM Cllr Given Moimana, EPMLM Municipal Manager Eric Moropa, colleagues, family members, friends, and municipal stakeholders, all

MARBLE HALL - Scores of Ephraim converged to remember the life of the ogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) fallen employee.

During the memorial service, Mayor Moimana gave words of comfort as he reflected on the personality of the late Maleswena.

"We are here to celebrate and honor the life lived by Maleswena. Let us celebrate a life well lived by a colleague and an activist," he said.

Moimana described the late Maleswena as a unifier, a man of his words who strived to seek justice, serve with honour and compassion.

"We must mourn the loss of a valuable person who was important in the institution and also in the society. This man was a unifier as a union leader, a man of his words who strived to seek justice, serve with honour and compassion. To the family, remain united and may your soul be healed," said the mayor.

Maleswena's final send-off took place on Sunday 13 July 2025 at Mamphokgo Village, where family, colleagues, councillors, and friends, gathered in numbers to pay a moving tribute to him.





Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

### FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY PUBLIC NOTICE: 2025/26 TOP LAYER SERVICE DELIVERY BUDGET AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SDBIP)

Notice is hereby given to all members of the public, Local Community and interested groups that the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality on its council sitting of the 30th of May 2025 has approved its 2025/26 IDP/Budget as per the council Resolution No. SC79/2025. The Mayor then approved 2025/26 Top Layer SDBIP on the 20th of June 2025.

This notice is in line with the directive from the provisions of section 53 (1) c (ii) of Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003 which stipulate that the Mayor of the Municipality must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Municipality's Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan is approved by the Mayor within 28 days after the approval of the budget. Copies are available on the municipal website: <a href="www.ftlm.gov.za">www.ftlm.gov.za</a>. For any question or enquiry regarding SDBIP, contact Tshilwane MJ at (013) 231 1186 during office hours.

Magooa RM Acting Municipal Manager



Scores of Luckau community members converged in numbers at Caltex Filling Station protesting to demand an immediate address of their poor service delivery complaints.

#### ΙΙΙCΚΔΙ

A tense standoff unfolded in Luckau Village, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) Ward 24, as residents took to the streets in protest against the municipality's persistent poor service delivery.

The protest began in the early hours of Monday 14 July 2025, with hundreds of demonstrators blocking the R574 Road with burning tires and rubble, bringing traffic to a standstill and disrupting local businesses.

They were demanding urgent intervention from Elias Motsoaledi Municipality to address key service delivery issues, including lack of proper internal roads infrastructure, lack of progress in

the electricity project, construction of V-Drain storm-water control system and a construction of a low-level bridge which is being requested to support school children crossing the nearest river.

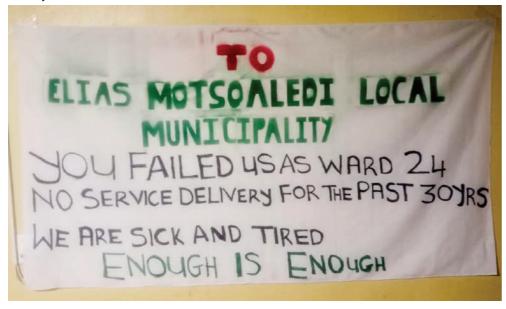
During the protest, residents stood firm in their demand for basic services, despite a police crackdown that saw them being shot at with rubber bullets. They refused to disperse even after the police used force to try and break up the gathering.

A delegation from EMLM was sent to address the demonstrators, however, they were turned away by the protesting community, citing that they could not provide clear answers to their demands.

A community leader, Mike



Luckau residents protesting and blockading the R574 Road demonstrating against poor service delivery in the area.



## Luckau residents defy police orders, vow to continue protest against poor services

Mokoana, said they were protesting because they are determined to have their voices heard and their demands met.

"We have been raising our issues in IDP meetings for over 15 years. We had different delegations engaging the Elias Motsoaledi Municipality. They chose to ignore us whilst other wards, particular in Tafelkop where the Mayor and Municipal Manager come from, have been getting allocations every financial year. Looking at the IDP for the past 10 years or so, you will see that Tafelkop wards combined were allocated in the region of R200M whilst Ward 24 got allocated only about R10M," said Mokoana.

He said residents of Luckau are determined to see change and are willing to continue protesting until their demands are met.

"The Mayor continues to enrich his friends and working for his own community at the expense of other communities. In short, they have not committed to anything," said Mokoana.

He said they will explore ways to intensify their actions including escalating their problems to higher authorities.

Another community leader, Mpho Magolego, said they were protesting because despite numerous attempts to engage with the municipality, the community's pleas for improved services have fallen on deaf ears.

"The municipality's failure to address the community's concerns has only served to galvanize the residents, who are now more determined than ever to fight for their rights," he said.

Magolego said they are tired of empty promises and decided to take immediate action to push the municipality to address service delivery challenges in their area.

"All we get is promises that are not delivered on, and we are sick and tired of the conditions that we are subjected to in this area. We will not back down until our demands are met," he said.

The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality has acknowledged the concerns raised regarding service delivery in Ward 24,

Simon Makua, EMLM Spokesperson, said the municipality acknowledged concerns raised by Luckau residents, adding that they are committed to transparency and wish to provide an update on the progress of capital projects implemented in Luckau Village for the 2024/2025 financial year.

"The municipality has completed the electrification project for 226 households in Luckau and Maganagobuswa Villages Phase 1. We are currently awaiting Eskom with connections. Additionally, work is ongoing for an extra 45 stands, which is at the final stage for completion," he said.

Makua indicated that in the 2025/2026 financial year, the municipality has approved a project for 65 stands in Luckau, which is currently in the planning stage to procure a contractor.

"The Hlogotlou Cluster, which includes Ward 24, has agreed on a two-day programme for re-gravelling and blading. Although the re-gravelling programme was temporarily halted from August



2024 until May 2025 due to machinery shortages and lack of borrow-pit areas, we prioritized emergency job card attendance across various wards," he said.

Makua said the municipality resumed the re-gravelling programme in Ward 24 between April and May after receiving four new graders, where eight streets, covering a combined distance of 5 km, were attended to be upgraded.

"Furthermore, on July 12, 2025, we initiated an intervention program in Ward 24, opening eight new streets in the new stand section," he said.

According to Makua, the municipality dispatched a team of infrastructure technicians to evaluate service delivery requests of the low-level bridge, which do not require capital expenditure budgets and to address it immediately.

"The other developments in the Luckau community include the Social Development Office which is providing essential services to the community. A high mast light has been installed in Luckau to enhance safety and visibility. Luckau has also boasted a state-of-the-art school, contributing to educational development in the area," informed Makua.

He added that the electrification of Posa Section has been made possible through the reallocation of funds originally designated for the Phooko project, demonstrating their commitment to improving services in Ward 24.

"Construction of 30 RDP houses is underway in the area, addressing housing needs. Road infrastructure improvements have been made from Legolaneng to Motwaneng, where there was previously no proper road," explained Makua.

He stressed that the municipality remains dedicated to improving service delivery in Ward 24 and appreciates the community's patience and support as they work to address these challenges.

"We encourage residents to engage with us and provide feedback as we continue to enhance the quality of life in Luckau," he said.

## FTLM mayor conducts site visit to Dresden road



#### **DRESDEN**

The Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality's mayor Cllr Eddie Maila flanked by the Executive Committee members (EXCO) visited the Dresden access road project on July 16 to monitor its progress.

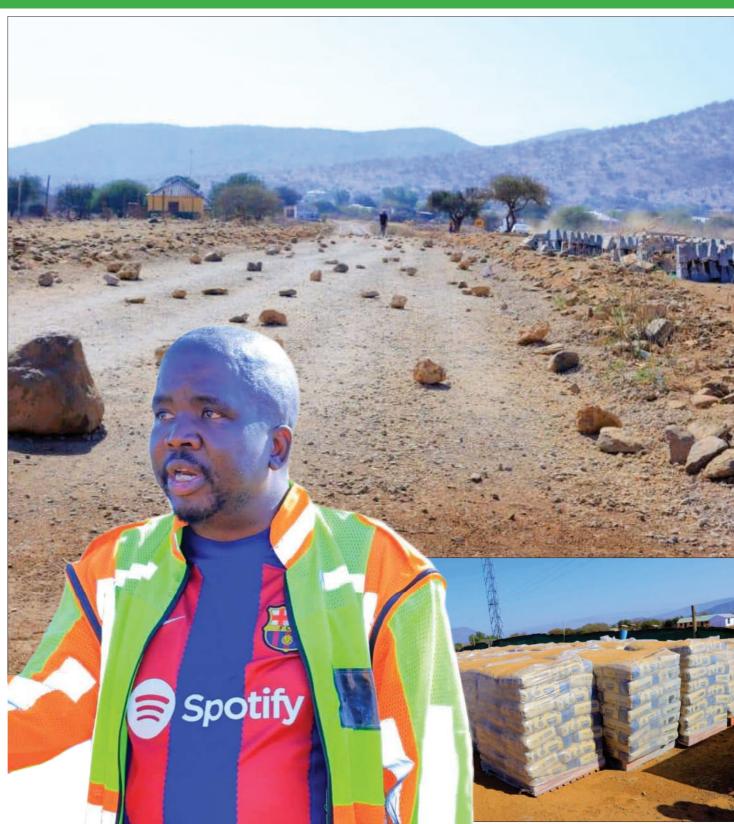
"The people of Fetakgomo Tubatse and the residents of Dresden have been promised a road and that must be implemented without any delays. The municipality has made a commitment that no money will be returned to Treasury due to non-spending and the allocation for the Dresden access road will be used for its intended purpose," said Maila. He said the Office of the Mayor will continue to intervene to ensure that the project is completed and handed over to the community as promised.

The contractor has been urged to put more effort in ensuring that the project is completed without further delays. "This spirit of cooperation must be displayed in all the projects that are in implemented in the municipality. Those disturbing progress will be dealt with harshly"

Maila reiterated his call that the Office of the Mayor is always available to engage the community to clarify issues and to address challenges and concerns as raised. Maila said the disturbances by community members on the Dresden road, dealt a major blow on it.

" I was given the mandate to deliver this project to the people and i will achieve that, i cannot succumb to intimidations, this project must be completed."

Speaking to the site contractor Maila said they expect a top-notch road, "The municipality is expecting quality project and contractors must ensure that the locals benefit in terms of employment and business opportunities through correct procedures. Not to disturb progress " He said social media reports that the project is failing are untrue. " I came here to check for myself, and my assurance to local communities, is that it will be completed. Under this administration we have no history of paying contractors that are behind with their projects. If a contractor is behind on the progress of the project, even the expenditure will be aligned with the progress on the ground, or you will find that the progress is ahead and the expenditure is behind." The Mayor and the Executive Committee will continue to visit all municipal projects for monitoring and ensuring that projects are completed within the prescribed period.



Access road project visit by Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality's mayor, Eddie Maila at Dresden

Some of the cements use to construct the road.



Mayor and the Executive Committee inspect the access road at Dresden.

# Sports





#### **INSIDE**

Municipality mourns dedicated long-serving employee

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DENNILTON - In a bid to promote a healthy lifestyle and support local businesses, a group of veteran football players in Dennilton have established a 5-aside football tournament.

The tournament, which features teams of older men aged 35 and above, has been gaining popularity since its inception in January 2025.

The sporting activity was founded by Freeman Mokwena and Hlabirwa Pholoto, who had a vision to create a platform where older men could come together, stay active, and socialize while supporting local businesses.

The tournament has been aptly named the "Old Croks Soccer Tournament," and it has already attracted 10 teams, including Fandoza FC, Black Door FC, Amazulu FC, The Branch FC, Nolenga FC, Corona FC, Stimeleng FC, Kia FC, Sfiso FC, and Bab FC.

According to Mokwena, the tournament features a unique format, with each team playing with only 5 players on the pitch.

"The games are played twice a month, on Sundays, during the week of the 15th and the week of the month-end. The tournament has been designed to be flexible, with teams playing on a smaller field, approximately 20 meters long," explained Mokwena.

He added that one of the key objectives of the tournament is to support local businesses, particularly taverns and street vendors.

"Each team affiliates R400, and after each game, the money is used to purchase drinks from the tavern hosting the game while also supporting street vendors who sell their goods during the games. This initiative has been well-received by local businesses, which have seen an increase in foot traffic and sales during the tournament," informed Mokwena.

He indicated that the tournament has also been instrumental in promoting a healthy lifestyle among older men in the community, adding that the players have reported benefits such as improved physical fitness, socialization, and stress relief.

"The tournament has helped us to live healthy and make friends. It is a great way to stay active and socialize while having fun. It has become a highlight of the month for many residents of Dennilton, who gather to watch the games and support their favourite teams," he said.

The organizers of tournament are calling on members of the community and local businesses to come forward and sponsor them with essential items such as soccer balls, jerseys, and first aid kits.

"These donations will go a long way in supporting the tournament and ensuring its continued success," Mokwena.

He said the tournament is expected to continue growing in popularity in the months to come.

## Dennilton "Old Croks Soccer Tournament" supports local businesses





Dennilton Old Croks Soccer Tournament co-founder, Freeman Mokwena, says the new sporting activity plays a pivotal role within his community by improving physical fitness, socialization, stress reliever and to support local businesses.



Black Door FC (Wearing yellow), with Corona FC (Wearing blue) just before they face each other during the Old Croks Soccer **Tournament in Dennilton**