

2026

STATE — OF THE — METRO ADDRESS

*“Decisive action to fix the metro and ensure
inclusive economic growth”*

ONS WERK
SIYASEBENZA
WE ARE WORKING

NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



Cllr Eugene Johnson
Speaker of Council



Cllr Babalwa Lobishe
Executive Mayor



Cllr Gary van Niekerk
Deputy Executive Mayor

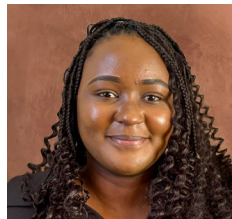


Cllr Wandisile Jikeka
Chief Whip of Council

MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE



Cllr Bassie Kamana
Economic Development,
Tourism & Agriculture



Cllr Sinebhongo Kwatsha
Sports, Recreation,
Arts & Culture



Cllr Buyelwa Mafaya
Infrastructure &
Engineering



Cllr Khanya Ngqisha
Budget & Treasury



Cllr Luyanda Lawu
Safety & Security



Cllr Lorna Makwetu
Corporate Services



Cllr Thembinkosi Mafana
Human Settlements



Cllr Thsonono Buyeye
Public Health



Cllr Yolisa Pali-Jongilanga
Roads & Transport



Cllr Ziyanda Mnqokoyi
Electricity & Energy



OVERVIEW OF NELSON MANDELA BAY



A metropolitan city of more than **1,27 million people**.



Over **369 663 households**.



93% of households live in formal housing.



37% live in RDP or state-subsidised housing.



NMBM covers over **1959m²**.



Two significant ports: **Port of Ngqura and Port of Gqeberha**



Contribute to **34,9%** of the Eastern Cape's GDP and **2,6%** of South Africa's GDP.



Coega Special Economic Zone is a major economic asset for the Nelson Mandela Bay which covers approximately **110km²**.



100% reservoirs currently holding water.



FOREWORD: SPEAKER OF COUNCIL

It is my privilege, as the Speaker of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, to present this foreword at a time when our city continues to navigate both significant challenges and meaningful opportunities for renewal and growth.

At the heart of our local democracy is a simple but powerful principle: the people must have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives. Democracy is not only exercised at the ballot box. It is strengthened every day through meaningful public participation, robust debate, effective oversight and an ongoing partnership between Council and the communities we serve.

The State of the Metro Address provides an important opportunity to reflect on the progress of our Municipality, but it also reminds us of the work that remains before us. As Council, our responsibility extends beyond debating and adopting policies and budgets. We have a constitutional and moral duty to exercise effective oversight, to scrutinise the performance of the administration, to promote accountability and to ensure that municipal resources are used responsibly and in the best interests of our residents.

Our Council structures, including the Section 79 committees and Ward Committees, are important instruments through which this responsibility is exercised. The establishment of 60 Ward Committees has strengthened the connection between communities and the Municipality, creating platforms for residents to raise concerns, share ideas and contribute to the development of their wards.

However, public participation must never become a mere procedural requirement. It must be meaningful. As the Executive Mayor rightly emphasised, participation is not simply about government speaking to communities; it is about government listening to communities and ensuring that listening leads to action.

This is the essence of democracy in action.

As the Speaker, I am committed to ensuring that the Council remains a forum where diverse views can be expressed, where robust debate is respected and where differences can be addressed through constructive democratic processes. Political differences are an inherent part of our democracy, but they must never prevent us from placing the interests of Nelson Mandela Bay and its residents first.

Our residents expect their elected representatives to work. They expect us to ask difficult questions, to hold the administration accountable and to ensure that commitments made to communities translate into tangible outcomes.

Accountability, therefore, cannot be selective. It must be continuous, transparent and rooted in the public interest. Council must remain vigilant in exercising

oversight over service delivery, financial management, governance and the implementation of programmes and projects. Where shortcomings arise, they must be confronted honestly and addressed decisively.

At the same time, accountability is a shared responsibility. Building a better Nelson Mandela Bay requires more than the efforts of elected representatives and municipal officials. It requires residents, civic organisations, businesses, community leaders and all spheres of government to work together. The Executive Mayor's call for partnerships rather than silos speaks directly to this reality.

As Councillors, we are elected representatives of the people. This places upon us a profound responsibility to put the interests of our communities above political differences and to work collectively on the issues that matter most — water, jobs, infrastructure, safety, service delivery and the future of our children.

The State of the Metro is therefore not only an account of where our Municipality stands. It is also an invitation to every resident to participate in shaping where Nelson Mandela Bay goes next.

Let us continue to strengthen the relationship between Council and our communities. Let us create greater opportunities for residents to participate in the affairs of their Municipality. Let us uphold the principles of transparency, accountability and good governance. And let us ensure that the voice of every community is heard, respected and reflected in the work of Council.

The road ahead will not always be easy. But through democracy in action, effective oversight, meaningful public participation and a genuine commitment to working together, we can build a Municipality that earns the confidence of its residents and delivers on its responsibilities.

The people of Nelson Mandela Bay are not spectators in the development of their city. They are its partners, its stakeholders and its future.

Let us therefore continue to work together, with courage, accountability and purpose, to build a Metro in which every resident can proudly say: This is my city. This is my future. And I have a stake in making it better.

CLLR EUGENE JOHNSON
SPEAKER OF COUNCIL



FOREWORD: EXECUTIVE MAYOR

The State of the Metro Address provides an opportunity to reflect honestly on where we stand as a Metro, the progress we have made together, the challenges that remain, and the actions we must take to secure a better future for all who call Nelson Mandela Bay home.

When this administration assumed office, we inherited a city facing significant challenges. Years of drought, ageing infrastructure, financial pressures, governance concerns, economic uncertainty and increasing demands for municipal services required decisive leadership and a clear programme of action. We recognised that restoring stability, rebuilding public confidence and strengthening the foundations of our Municipality would not happen overnight. It would require commitment, partnership and a collective determination to place the interests of residents first.

Over the past three years, our focus has been on building a capable, responsive and developmental municipality. We have worked to strengthen service delivery, improve governance, invest in critical infrastructure, support economic growth and create opportunities for our residents. While challenges remain, we can point to tangible progress in many areas of municipal service delivery and institutional performance.

Water security remains one of our highest priorities. Through significant investment in drought mitigation projects and water infrastructure upgrades, we have strengthened the Metro's resilience and protected communities from the devastating prospect of Day Zero. We have expanded access to basic services, upgraded infrastructure and continued to invest in long-term solutions that will secure water for future generations.

We have also continued to invest in electricity networks, roads, stormwater systems, public spaces, housing delivery and waste management services. Across the Metro, projects are improving community infrastructure, enhancing service reliability and contributing to a cleaner, safer and more dignified living environment for residents.

At the same time, we remain focused on positioning Nelson Mandela Bay as a city of opportunity. Through investment facilitation, tourism development, support for small businesses and strategic partnerships, we are working to build a more inclusive and competitive local economy. Our city continues to attract visitors, investors and major events that contribute to economic activity, job creation and confidence in our future.

Yet we are under no illusion about the challenges that confront us. Unemployment remains unacceptably high, particularly among young people. Infrastructure vandalism, maintenance backlogs, financial pressures and growing service demands continue to place strain on municipal resources. These realities require honesty, accountability and a renewed commitment to finding practical solutions.

This booklet reflects not only on what has been achieved, but also on the work that still lies ahead. It outlines the investments being made to strengthen the foundations of our city, improve service delivery, support economic growth and build a municipality that is financially sustainable, accountable and capable of meeting the needs of its residents.

Most importantly, the future of Nelson Mandela Bay cannot be built by government alone. Meaningful and lasting progress depends on strong partnerships between government, business, labour, civil society, faith-based organisations, community leaders and residents. The challenges we face as a city must rise above political differences and unite us around a common purpose: creating a Metro that works for all.

As we look ahead, let us remain guided by the values of courage, resilience, accountability and service. Let us continue building a city where infrastructure is maintained, services are reliable, communities are safe and clean, businesses can thrive, young people can realise their potential and every resident can share in the opportunities that our Metro has to offer.

Together, we can continue moving Nelson Mandela Bay forward.

CLLR BABALWA LOBISHE
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



DECISIVE ACTION TO FIX THE METRO

The message coming through the State of the Metro is clear: the challenges facing Nelson Mandela Bay are being confronted with action.

The Municipality's response is focused on fixing the fundamentals — securing water, strengthening infrastructure, improving financial sustainability, building a capable institution and creating an environment where the local economy can grow.

Water security is one of the biggest priorities. Approximately R1.3 billion has already been invested in drought mitigation projects to avert the threat of Day Zero. This includes the Impofu Dam barges, Grassridge Temporary Water Treatment Works, Phase 3 of Nooitgedacht Water Treatment Works, booster pump stations, the Kwanobuhle Supply Pump Station, the Bloemendal-Kwanobuhle Pipeline and wellfield developments. Work is also continuing on the East-to-West Bulk Water Transfer Pipeline, while telemetry, SCADA, treatment works and reservoirs are being upgraded.

The Metro is also fixing and protecting its infrastructure. During the past two financial years, 8.4 kilometres of gravel roads were tarred in 2024/25 and a further 8.6 kilometres in 2025/26. More than 23,500 potholes were repaired, while stormwater canals, catchpits and pipes were cleaned and 27.7 kilometres of roads were resurfaced and resealed. Disaster-damaged infrastructure, including the Matanzima Bridges and Cat Canal, has also been rehabilitated under a “build back better” approach.

And the commitment is backed by the current MTREF, which allocates R1.7 billion for roads and stormwater infrastructure, R1.4 billion for water and sanitation augmentation and upgrades, R1 billion for electricity infrastructure, R452 million for human settlements, and R131 million for solid waste management facilities.

Financial sustainability is another area where decisive intervention is being taken. A Revenue War Room has been established, with measures including the Blitz Programme, debt relief, adverse listing, debtor tracing and enhanced collection mechanisms. The Municipality is intensifying action against illegal connections and tampering, improving billing, reducing water and electricity losses and strengthening debt collection.

Importantly, R105 million has been budgeted in the current MTREF for an mSCOA-compliant ERP system — an investment intended to improve the quality, reliability and transparency of financial information and ensure that every rand delivers greater value.

The Municipality is also taking action to strengthen accountability and governance. A Clean Audit Steering Committee and Audit Action Plan have been established, while a Disciplinary Board has been put in place to investigate financial misconduct. The Municipality is also strengthening consequence management.

At an institutional level, 825 positions have been filled in critical functions over the past two financial years. The Municipality has also approved a reviewed macro staff establishment and is strengthening its Trading Services Reform Programme, while engaging National Treasury and CoGTA to address organisational and regulatory challenges.

And fixing the Metro also means fixing the conditions for economic growth and job creation.

The Municipality has adopted the Economic Development and Growth Strategy and Tourism Master Plan, facilitated approximately R1.45 billion in investment, supported approximately 3,500 MSMEs and entrepreneurs annually, and is moving to accelerate investment incentives, ease-of-doing-business reforms, enterprise development, incubation and youth employment programmes.

So, the approach is not simply to manage the problems of today.

It is to fix what is broken, protect what works, modernise the systems that support service delivery and invest in the infrastructure that will carry Nelson Mandela Bay into the future.

The direction is clear:

Fix the finances.

Fix the infrastructure.

Secure the water.

Strengthen the institution.

Protect municipal assets.

Grow the economy.

Create opportunities.

And restore the confidence of residents.

Because fixing the Metro is not one project.

It is a sustained programme of action — backed by budgets, infrastructure investment, institutional reform and accountability.

The work continues. And the objective is clear: a Metro that delivers more reliably, manages its resources better, protects its infrastructure and creates opportunities for all its people.



STATE OF THE METRO ADDRESS 2026 DELIVERED BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

Programme Director,
The Speaker of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality,
Members of the Mayoral Committee,
Honourable Councillors,
Members of Parliament and Members of the Provincial Legislature,
Representatives of National and Provincial Government,
Leaders of business and organised labour,
Leaders of civic, religious and community organisations,
Traditional and community leaders,
Our development partners and stakeholders,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening.

It is both an honour and a privilege to deliver the 2026 State of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro Address under the theme: “Decisive action to fix the metro and ensure inclusive economic growth”.

This Address focuses on amongst others, the progress we have made, and the journey we have undertaken together, during the tenure of the current coalition administration.

Tonight is not merely an occasion to celebrate achievements. It is an opportunity to take stock of where we have come from, to acknowledge the challenges we inherited, to reflect on the progress we have made, to confront what remains unresolved, and, most importantly, to chart a clear course for the future.

When this coalition administration assumed office, we inherited a city confronted by significant challenges including years of prolonged drought, ageing infrastructure, financial pressures, economic uncertainty, governance concerns and growing demands for services, which have placed an immense strain on the Municipality and the communities we serve. Yet, in the face of these challenges, we made a commitment to restore stability, rebuild public confidence, strengthen governance and lay the foundations for a capable developmental state that works for all our people.

Nelson Mandela Bay is a city of enormous potential. It is strategically positioned on the shores of the Indian Ocean and the only metropolitan municipality in South Africa with two ports (the Port of Ngqura and the Port of Port Elizabeth) supported by a strong industrial and manufacturing base, blessed with remarkable natural assets, a rich sporting and cultural heritage, and, above all, a resilient and enterprising people.

Nelson Mandela Bay remains one of the most significant urban centres in the Eastern Cape. Our population is currently estimated at 1.3 million people, constituting 18% of the total population of the Eastern Cape Province. It is projected that the metro’s population will

exceed 1.4 million by 2030. This growth reinforces the need for proactive infrastructure planning, sustainable resource management and long-term economic development.

Over the past three years, our collective focus has been on translating the metro’s potential into measurable progress, improving the quality of life of our residents, rebuilding investor confidence and positioning Nelson Mandela Bay as a city that is resilient, inclusive, competitive and ready for the future.

While we recognise that much work still lies ahead, tonight we can confidently reflect on the strides we have made together and the solid foundation that has been laid for the continued renewal and growth of our metro.

The development and growth of Nelson Mandela Bay is intertwined with the growth of national and global economies. To this end, our local priorities must be linked to national and global priorities. The achievements highlighted in this State of the Metro Address goes some way to support the realisation of the 3 core priorities of the 7th Administration (i.e. Inclusive Growth and Job Creation; Reducing Poverty and the High Cost of Living; and Building a Capable, Ethical, and Developmental State).

As a participant in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Nelson Mandela Bay seeks to translate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) into local actions by aligning our planning, budgeting and service delivery systems with the 2030 Agenda. Through this work, the Municipality contributes directly to the global United Nations 2030 Agenda, the Continental African Union Agenda 2063, and South Africa’s National Development Plan 2030.

1. A CITY THAT HAS FACED AND OVERCOME SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES

The period under review has not been without difficulty.

We have had to contend with ageing infrastructure, increasing demands for services, vandalism of municipal assets, financial pressures, institutional capacity challenges, economic uncertainty and the devastating effects of severe weather events.

In the 2025/26 financial year alone, the Municipality was devastated by 2 severe flood incidents (in May and June 2026) destroying a number of infrastructure estimated at R1.5 billion. Our Joint Operations Centre was activated to respond to the effects of the flood disasters. Approximately 10 000 people were affected across high-risk informal settlements. A total of 4 282 people were displaced and 2 857 households were evacuated to shelters.

We have also had to manage the consequences of a prolonged drought and the very real threat of a “Day Zero” scenario.

Yet, despite these pressures, Nelson Mandela Bay has continued to move forward.

Our response has been to invest, to repair, to modernise, to reform and to build partnerships.

The results are visible across the metro.

- They are visible in communities receiving water and electricity connections.
- They are visible in gravel roads being tarred.
- They are visible in infrastructure rebuilt after flooding through build back better approach.
- They are visible in new and rehabilitated public spaces.
- They are visible in investment entering our economy.
- And they are visible in the thousands of people who have accessed work opportunities, skills programmes and economic opportunities.

Although the story of Nelson Mandela Bay is not without challenges, it is a story of a city confronting its challenges while continuing to build.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I will now focus on key achievements and challenges across the different Key Performance Areas of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.

2. WATER AND SANITATION

Although the metro continues to face significant challenges in the area of water and sanitation provision, some strides have been achieved in this regard.

About 98% of households have access to water, while 95.7% have access to improved sanitation facilities. During the period under review, 2 089 households were connected to water and sanitation, while 285 standpipes were installed across informal settlements. We have also replaced 23 570 water meters, repaired 1 186 leaks at indigent households, and reduced bucket usage by 1 100, although approximately 4 692 buckets are still in circulation.

The proliferation of informal settlements poses a severe challenge in providing water and sanitation to all residents. The Municipality continues to identify newly created informal settlements and extend water and sanitation provision to those settlements, to ensure that all residents in Nelson Mandela Bay have access to potable water supply and dignified sanitation.

The most important intervention has been our investment in securing the future of the metro’s water supply.

To-date, the metro has successfully implemented approximately R1.3 billion in drought mitigation projects to avert the threat of “Day Zero”. These include the Impofu Dam barges, the Grassridge Temporary Water

Treatment Works, Phase 3 of the Nooitgedacht Water Treatment Works, booster pump stations at Motherwell and Stanford Road, the Kwanobuhle Supply Pump Station, the Bloemendal-Kwanobuhle Pipeline, and a number of wellfield developments.

We have completed Phase 4 of the Coegakop Wellfields, while work continues on the East-to-West Bulk Water Transfer Pipeline. To augment water supply, 30 boreholes have been commissioned which produce approximately 20 to 30 megalitres of water per day into the supply system.

We have also invested in telemetry and SCADA technology to effectively monitor our water infrastructure systems. In addition, we have refurbished 14 water treatment works, 8 wastewater treatment works and rehabilitated 10 reservoirs. Furthermore, 8 Water Management Zones have been created and 2 remote measuring metering stations have been established to measure non-revenue water.

These are not simply infrastructure upgrades but an investment in the future prosperity and socio-economic development of Nelson Mandela Bay.

3. ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY

Our work in electricity and energy has followed the same principle: secure the basics while preparing for the future.

About 94% of households have access to electricity, and 472 households were connected during the period under review. We installed 297 new public lights, retrofitted 3 708 existing public lights and refurbished 26 power transformers. The Municipality continues to implement the informal settlements electrification programme to provide basic electricity to households in unproclaimed informal settlements.

We have also undertaken maintenance and refurbishment of key high-voltage transmission lines to improve network reliability and resilience.

At the same time, we are looking beyond the traditional electricity model.

Two major renewable energy projects are currently in development: the 15MW Greenbushes Solar Farm and the 25MW Parsons Power Park Solar Farm.

We are also negotiating with major prospective power users, including the proposed Hive Hydrogen 1 250MW site in Coega and the Vexsa 556MW data centre site.

These opportunities are important because they demonstrate that Nelson Mandela Bay can participate in the new energy economy.

We must position this metro not merely as a consumer of electricity, but as a producer, facilitator and strategic partner in the energy transition.

4. ROADS AND STORMWATER

Our residents deserve roads that are safe, functional



and accessible. During the two financial years, we tarred a total of 17 kilometres of gravel roads and constructed 6.8 kilometres of sidewalks across various Wards.

We have repaired 23 565 potholes, cleaned 27.9 kilometres of stormwater canals and approximately 35 000 stormwater drain catchpits. In addition, a total of 1 021 kilometres of road markings were completed.

We have also completed significant disaster-related infrastructure projects.

The Matanzima Bridge in KwaNobuhle was rehabilitated, together with associated river-course upgrades. The Cuyler Bridge was rehabilitated, while the Cat Canal and De Miss Canal were restored as part of our commitment to “build back better” following disasters. In addition, the Municipality built a new footbridge in Jabavu, Kwanobuhle for students and residents crossing the Brakrivier.

In partnership with SANRAL, we also commenced the metro’s first solar/wind traffic signal pilot project at the R74/Mati/N2 interchange, incorporating state-of-the-art CCTV and associated infrastructure.

The Municipality continues to implement Phase 1A of the of the IPTS Starter Service in the Cleary Park Area. It is envisaged that the Kariega routes will be operational in November 2026 subject to the approval by the National Department of Transport.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES

A city is judged not only by its major infrastructure projects, but by the condition of the neighbourhoods in which people live.

At the end of June 2026, 98.7% of recognised informal settlements were receiving basic waste removal services. We have acquired 16 new refuse compactor trucks at a cost of approximately R60 million to improve our waste collection capacity and reliability.

The Municipality currently operates 2 landfill sites (Arlington and Koedoeskloof) and 19 drop-off sites, although majority of them require upgrade. During the review period, the Municipality upgraded the Arlington waste disposal facility and the Verwoerd Drop-off Site in Kariega. In addition, 33 public open spaces were upgraded including a major upgrade of St George’s Park as well as the upgrading of 13 cemeteries.

In an attempt to address illegal dumping and improve beautification, the Municipality launched the Cleaning and Greening Programme in August 2025. During Phase 1 of the Programme, 40 illegal dumping hotspots were cleared with a further 11 hotspots during Phase 2. One of the sites in Ward 29 has since been transformed into a park and beautified as Kingston Park.

This is precisely the kind of transformation we want to see.

- A dumping site becoming a park.
- A neglected space becoming an asset.
- A problem becoming an opportunity.

Government alone cannot address the issue of illegal dumping. Residents, businesses, civic organisations and communities must become partners in protecting the places in which we live.

Nelson Mandela Bay has a proud sporting and cultural identity. In this regard, the Municipality hosted a number of major national and international sporting events such as the ISUZU IRONMAN African Championship, SANZAAR U20 Rugby Championship, Home of Legends Football Cup and the South Africa vs. India and Sri Lanka International Cricket amongst others. Furthermore, in November and December this year, Nelson Mandela Bay will host the Lifesaving World Championships.

The Municipality continues to invest in sport infrastructure. During the review period, the Zwide Stadium and Jabavu Stadium as well as the Gelvandale Swimming Pool were upgraded.

Our beaches continue to demonstrate that environmental quality and tourism can coexist.

Five municipal beaches continue to participate in the internationally recognised Blue Flag Programme. Kings Beach, Humewood Beach and Hobie Beach retained full Blue Flag status, while Wells Estate Beach and Bluewater Bay maintained Pilot Blue Flag status during the period under review.

The Municipality has a constitutional mandate to create a safe and healthy environment for all its residents. The NMBM has a fully operational Metro Police Department that has specific duties and functions related to the prevention of crime in the city.

A number of initiatives have been implemented to address crime and improve urban safety.

Through the signing of a collaborative agreement with the South African Police Service (SAPS), the city demonstrates its intention to facilitate and promote urban safety.

In addition, the city collaborates with other entities such as the Eastern Cape Liquor Board, the Department of Home Affairs, the Business Chamber and the South African Revenue Service to fight crime.

Through the resuscitation of the CCTV network within Nelson Mandela Bay, as well as the technological crime fighting initiatives such as the deployment of the Mobile Surveillance Vehicle, and the launch of a dedicated Safety and Security WhatsApp Line, the city is demonstrating a commitment in reducing lawlessness and creating a safer city for all.

6. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The demand for housing remains enormous.

Our figures show that 94% of households reside in formal dwellings. During the term, approximately 626 state subsidised housing units were constructed, 1 606 sites were serviced and 1 615 title deeds were registered.



But we know that the housing challenge cannot be solved through houses alone.

- It requires land.
- It requires bulk infrastructure.
- It requires serviced sites.
- It requires integrated settlements.
- And it requires addressing the realities of backyard dwellers and informal settlements.

The launch of a programme focused on the registration of backyard dwellers is an important intervention as we seek to better understand and manage this growing challenge and address land invasion.

Our approach must increasingly be about building communities, not merely building houses.

7. LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ladies and gentlemen,

Our economic story contains both encouraging signs and difficult realities.

Nelson Mandela Bay remains the economic hub of the Eastern Cape Province. Our metro generates around one-third of the Province's economic output and contributes an estimated R194 billion to the regional economy each year. As one of South Africa's leading industrial centres, we have a responsibility to create an enabling environment for investment and growth.

We have adopted an Economic Development and Growth Strategy and approved a Tourism Master Plan. During the period under review, approximately R1.45 billion in investments was facilitated including developments involving Shoprite, CHC Cold Storage, Shatterprufe and Capital Hotels. Altogether 1 240 new permanent jobs were created through various investment facilitation initiatives during the period under review. Furthermore, the Municipality created 16 492 work opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and Public Employment Programmes (PEP).

Nelson Mandela Bay is uniquely positioned to drive the economic growth of the Eastern Cape Province. While 62.5% of the Eastern Cape population is of working age, our metro's working-age population is even higher at approximately 65%. This provides us with one of the largest labour pools in the Province. Our task now is to harness this potential by creating the jobs, developing the skills and attracting the investment necessary to transform this demographic dividend into inclusive economic growth and shared prosperity.

Over the past two years, Nelson Mandela Bay has demonstrated that it can operate on the global stage.

We hosted the inaugural G20 Employment Working Group meeting in February 2025, bringing together global leaders, labour experts and representatives of organisations including the International Labour Organisation, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank.

In October 2025, the metro and the Boardwalk Convention Centre hosted the G20 Trade and Investment Working Group and Ministerial meetings.

Between 29 September and 2 October 2026, the city will be hosting the 2026 Skål International World Congress, which is a professional global network connecting leaders across the travel, tourism, and hospitality industries. These are not just events.

- They create business opportunities.
- They fill hotels.
- They support restaurants.
- They showcase our beaches.
- They promote our city internationally.
- And they create a platform from which to attract future investment.

We must use our position as a global city to improve the lives of local citizens.

Since 2024, we have supported 15 business events with over 6 000 delegates yielding economic impact of approximately R204.5 million.

The metro has further demonstrated its commitment to local entrepreneurship development through support provided to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Annually we support approximately 3 500 MSMEs and other entrepreneurs. In our effort to ensure food security, the Municipality provides support to local emerging farmers. During the period under review, 650 farmers received support in the form of training and equipment.

Our Fresh Produce Market also generated R243 million in sales during the 2025/26 financial year.

Tourism has been particularly significant.

Our metro hosted 40 cruise liner calls, welcoming approximately 79 421 passengers and generating an estimated R129.6 million in direct economic benefit to our local economy.

Nelson Mandela Bay welcomed approximately 476 697 foreign tourists during 2024 and 2025, representing 73% of foreign tourist arrivals in the Eastern Cape, as well as approximately 2.7 million domestic tourists.

Tourism contributed approximately R12.8 billion directly to the local economy during this reporting period.

We have made progress in making the city easier to do business in. As at 30 June 2026, residential building plan applications for development below 500 square metres were being processed on an average of 11 days against a target of 30 days.

Whilst we recognise these achievements, we must not become complacent.

8. THE CHALLENGE OF JOBS AND INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

We must speak honestly about unemployment.



Our unemployment rate remains high at 33.1%, with young people particularly affected. At the same time, we face limited access to funding for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, slow economic growth, investor uncertainty and declining manufacturing competitiveness. This has resulted in many of our young and skilled residents having to seek economic opportunities elsewhere. Reversing this trend requires us to create an economy capable of retaining and attracting talents through meaningful employment and investment opportunities.

We have also experienced the departure of major manufacturing companies from Nelson Mandela Bay, including the closure of the Goodyear manufacturing plant in Kariega.

Nelson Mandela Bay remains one of the Eastern Cape's major manufacturing and industrial centres. Manufacturing remains the backbone of our local economy, contributing approximately R44 billion annually and accounting for more than a quarter of all economic activity in the metro. Importantly, Nelson Mandela Bay generates more than 62% of the manufacturing output of the Eastern Cape Province, underscoring our position as South Africa's automotive and industrial hub. The future prosperity of our city depends on retaining and expanding this industrial base while positioning ourselves to attract new investment in renewable energy, logistics, advanced manufacturing and the digital economy.

The economic downturn has been further exacerbated by global crises, particularly the instability in the Middle East and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, both of which have had significant repercussions for the global economy. Furthermore, the increased tariffs imposed by the United States on South African exports have had an adverse impact on economic growth and trade, affecting both the national and local economy.

These developments demonstrate that Nelson Mandela Bay is not isolated from national and global economic trends, and that developments in the global economy inevitably have an impact on the local economy.

We must work with business, organised labour, provincial and national government, the Coega Special Economic Zone and other strategic partners to defend existing investment while aggressively pursuing new ones.

The metro must be investment-ready, infrastructure-ready and skills-ready and we must ensure that local people benefit from the economic opportunities created in their own city, particularly women, youth and people with disabilities.

During the 2025/26 financial year alone, contracts to the value of R363 million were awarded to women-owned enterprises through projects funded under the Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG) and the Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUPG).

9. INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATION AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

No city can succeed without a capable municipality. A capable city requires capable people, clear accountability and professional administration.

Our Municipality is challenged by a high vacancy rate, primarily due to natural attrition. The high level of acting appointments at senior management level has placed pressure on the institution, while regulatory requirements have complicated the completion of the organisational review and appointment processes. We will continue engaging National Treasury and CoGTA to resolve these challenges, while fully automating our recruitment processes.

Over the past two financial years, 825 positions were filled in critical functions. We placed 136 graduates and 19 experiential learners during the 2025/26 financial year, while 237 people benefited from apprenticeships, learnerships, Recognition of Prior Learning and skills programmes. Approximately R30.8 million was spent on training interventions during the period under review.

Council has also approved a new macro staff establishment to give effect to National Treasury's Trading Services Reforms. Three Executive Director positions for Water and Sanitation, Electricity and Energy, and Solid Waste Management Services have been advertised.

The institution has also strengthened governance and accountability through strategies aligned to Single Point of Management Accountability, while work continues on the service compact, delegations and organisational model.

10. FINANCIAL VIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

At the core of every successful municipality lies a foundation of financial viability and sustainability, without which service delivery, infrastructure investment, and economic development cannot be sustained.

The Municipality has been experiencing low revenue collection rates since the COVID pandemic. To address the low revenue collection rates, a number of interventions have been implemented which include the establishment of a Revenue War Room, the Blitz Programme, debt relief, adverse listing, debtor tracing and enhanced collection mechanisms.

The above measures have resulted in slight improvement in the revenue collection rate. Our monthly collection rate improved from 76.6% in June 2026 to 78.3% in July 2026.

Other financial viability challenges include arrear debt, water and electricity losses, underfunded mandates, poor conditional grant performance and slow implementation of mSCOA.

We therefore have to make a fundamental commitment:

In an environment of constrained resources, every Rand entrusted to this Municipality must be leveraged to achieve the greatest possible impact.



- We must improve billing.
- We must collect what is legitimately owed.
- We must combat illegal connections and tampering.
- We must reduce water and electricity losses.
- We must improve conditional grant expenditure.
- And we must strengthen financial management.

To accelerate the implementation of mSCOA, an amount of R105 million has been budgeted in the current MTREF for the acquisition of an mSCOA-compliant ERP system. This is not simply about technology. It is about improving the quality, reliability and transparency of municipal financial information. It is about better decision-making and ultimately ensuring that the Municipality gets maximum value from every available Rand.

11. GOOD GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The introduction of coalition in local government has presented a number of challenges to political stability and leadership. Whilst many municipalities in the country continue to suffer from frequent coalition breakdowns, Nelson Mandela Bay has enjoyed a stable coalition for the past 3 years. In addition, Council structures including Section 79 committees, have remained functional. Furthermore, all our 60 Ward Committees remain functional to strengthen grassroots participation.

We have established a Clean Audit Steering Committee and continue to implement the Audit Action Plan in our efforts to improve audit outcomes. In addition, a Disciplinary Board has been established to investigate financial misconduct as part of consequence management.

Public participation plays a vital role in municipal planning, budgeting and other processes. We acknowledge that participation is not merely about government speaking to communities, but also government listening to them. To this end, public participation has been expanded through physical ward meetings, the IDP App, interactive radio sessions, social media, WhatsApp, print media, the municipal website and other communication platforms.

12. THE CHALLENGES WE CANNOT IGNORE

Ladies and gentlemen,

A credible State of the Metro Address cannot merely be a catalogue of achievements. We must also be honest about the challenges that remain and the work that still lies ahead. While some of these challenges have already been highlighted, their significance warrants further emphasis.

Our infrastructure is ageing. Vandalism continues to damage municipal assets. Maintenance backlogs remain significant. Funding does not always match the scale of infrastructure needs and demand for services continues to increase.

We face a high vacancy rate at key strategic positions

and institutional transformation still remains a challenge. Our economy faces slow growth, investor uncertainty and declining manufacturing competitiveness and unemployment remains too high. Furthermore, our financial position is under pressure and we face increasing arrear debt, revenue constraints and grant performance challenges.

Furthermore, we continue to confront a number of governance challenges, including audit qualifications and government debt.

13. FROM CHALLENGES TO ACTION

The Municipality is implementing a number of interventions to address the aforementioned challenges.

To protect infrastructure, we are strengthening collaboration with security agencies and other partners to combat vandalism.

Council has approved the establishment of a Centralised Project Management Unit to improve conditional grant performance.

We are strengthening the Trading Services Reform Programme to improve our trading services, such as water and sanitation, electricity and energy and solid waste management.

We are engaging continuously with National Treasury and CoGTA to address the multiple directives affecting the finalisation of the new staff establishment.

On the economic front, we will accelerate implementation of the Economic Development and Growth Strategy, the Investment Incentive Policy and Ease of Doing Business reforms. In addition, we will expand enterprise development, incubation, youth employment and informal economy programmes.

We will strengthen coordination between government departments, state-owned entities and strategic partners through our Integrated Development Planning and District Development Model processes.

On financial sustainability, we will intensify credit control, expand our revenue base, address water and electricity losses through tampering and illegal connection control mechanisms, pursue outstanding debt through legal processes and the use of transversal tenders for debt collection.

On governance, we will strengthen consequence management and continue implementation of the Audit Action Plan for improved audit outcomes.

14. THE CURRENT MTREF: WHERE WE ARE GOING

The current Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework provides us with an opportunity to translate our commitments into tangible outcomes.

We have allocated:

- R453 million towards Human Settlement



Development projects, including the servicing of sites;

- R1.7 billion towards the development and upgrading of roads and stormwater infrastructure;
- R1.4 billion towards water and sanitation augmentation and upgrades;
- R1 billion towards the refurbishment and upgrading of electricity infrastructure; and
- R197 million towards the upgrading of solid waste management facilities.

These allocations represent a clear statement of our priorities in terms of socio-economic development of our residents.

15. A CALL TO PARTNERSHIP

And this brings me to the reason why tonight's audience is so important.

Government cannot do this alone.

To our colleagues in National and Provincial Government: we need continued cooperation, alignment of programmes and investment in the infrastructure that supports our Metro and the wider Eastern Cape economy. We therefore encourage your continued participation in the implementation of the Council adopted DDM One Plan.

To the business community: we need you to invest, to employ, to innovate and to partner with us in building a competitive city.

To our civic organisations: we need your vigilance, your ideas and your participation.

To our religious leaders: we need your continued work in strengthening families, communities and social cohesion.

To our community leaders and residents: we need you to help us protect public infrastructure, keep our neighbourhoods clean and participate actively in the development of your communities.

And to the Councillors of Nelson Mandela Bay: our responsibility is profound. We are the elected representatives of the people. Our political differences may be real, and robust debate is part of democracy, however, there must be issues on which the interests of Nelson Mandela Bay rise above party politics.

16. CONCLUSION

Ladies and gentlemen,

Nelson Mandela Bay carries a name that imposes a particular responsibility upon us.

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela taught the world about courage, reconciliation, resilience and the power of ordinary people to change the course of history.

- Our city cannot simply carry his name.
- We must carry his example.
- We must have the courage to confront our challenges.
- The humility to acknowledge where we have fallen short.
- The discipline to fix what is broken.
- The imagination to pursue new opportunities.
- And the determination to ensure that progress reaches every community.

The achievements of the past two financial years show that progress is possible.

The challenges before us remind us that there is still much work to do.

And the current MTREF provides us with a platform from which to accelerate that work.

So tonight, as we celebrate Nelson Mandela Bay, let us also recommit ourselves to it.

- Let us build partnerships instead of silos.
- Let us build infrastructure instead of excuses.
- Let us build businesses instead of barriers.
- Let us build skills instead of dependency.
- Let us build communities instead of divisions.
- And let us build a city in which every resident can say:
 - o This is my city.
 - o This is my future.
 - o And I have a stake in making it better.

The State of Nelson Mandela Bay is therefore one of progress under pressure, opportunities amidst challenges, and a city that refuses to stand still.

Our work continues.

Our responsibility continues.

And our confidence in the future of Nelson Mandela Bay must continue.

Together, we can fix the metro and ensure inclusive economic growth.

I thank you.

CLLR BABALWA LOBISHE
EXECUTIVE MAYOR







METRO-REDE GELEWER DEUR DIE UITVOERENDE BURGEMEESTER

Programmdirekteur,
Die Speaker van die Raad,
Lede van die Burgemeesterskomitee,
Agbare Raadslede,
Lede van die Parlement en Lede van die Provinsiale
Wetgewer,
Verteenwoordigers van die Nasionale en Provinsiale
Regering,
Sakeleiers en georganiseerde arbeid,
Leiers van burger-, godsdiens- en
gemeenskapsorganisasies,
Tradisionele en gemeenskapsleiers,
Ons ontwikkelingsvennote en belanghebbers,
Hooggeplaastes,
Dames en here,

Goeienaand.

Dit is beide 'n eer en voorreg om die 2026 Metro-rede van die Nelson Mandelabaai Munisipaliteit die lewer, onder die tema: "Beslissende optrede om die Metro te herstel en inklusiewe ekonomiese groei te verseker".

Hierdie rede fokus onder andere op die vordering wat ons gemaak het, en die pad wat ons saam gestap het gedurende die termyn van die huidige koalisie-administrasie.

Vanaand is nie net 'n geleentheid om prestasies te vier nie. Dit is 'n geleentheid om terug te kyk na waar ons vandaan kom, om die uitdagings wat ons geërf het te erken, om ons vordering in oënskou te neem, om dit wat onopgelos bly aan te spreek, en belangrikste van alles, om 'n duidelike toekomsplan uit te stippel.

Hierdie koalisie-administrasie het met die aanvangs van sy termyn 'n stad ontvang wat deur aansienlike uitdagings in die gesig gestaar is, insluitend jare van erge droogte, verouderende infrastruktuur, finansiële druk, ekonomiese onsekerheid, kommer oor regering en 'n groeiende vraag na dienste, wat ongelooflike druk geplaas het op die Munisipaliteit asook die gemeenskappe wat ons dien. Tog het ons in die aangesig van hierdie uitdagings onself daartoe verbind om stabiliteit te herstel, openbare vertroue te herwin, regering te versterk en die grondslag te lê vir 'n bekwame ontwikkelingsstaat wat vir al ons mense werk.

Nelson Mandelabaai is 'n stad met enorme potensiaal. Dit is strategies geleë aan die Indiese kuslyn en die enigste metropolitaanse munisipaliteit in Suid-Afrika met twee hawens (Ngqura- en Port Elizabeth-hawe) gesteun deur 'n sterk industriële en vervaardigingsbasis, geseënd met pragtige natuurlike bates, 'n ryk sport- en kulturele erfenis, en bowenal, aanpasbare en vernuftige inwoners.

Nelson Mandelabaai bly een van die belangrikste stedelike sentrums in die Oos-Kaap. Ons bevolking word tans geraam op 1.3 miljoen mense, en maak 18% van die totale bevolking van die Oos-Kaap uit. Die Metro se bevolking sal na raming 1.4 miljoen oorskry teen 2030. Hierdie groei noodsaak die behoefte vir proaktiewe infrastruktuurbeplanning, volhoubare hulpbronbestuur en langtermyn ekonomiese ontwikkeling.

Ons gesamentlike fokus die afgelope drie jaar was om die Metro se potensiaal in meetbare vordering te omskep, die lewensgehalte van ons inwoners te verbeter, beleggersvertroue te herstel en Nelson Mandelabaai te posisioneer as 'n stad wat veerkragtig, inklusief, mededingend en gereed vir die toekoms is.

Terwyl ons erken dat daar steeds baie werk is wat voorlê, kan ons vanaand met vertroue terugkyk op die vordering wat ons saam gemaak het en die stewige grondslag wat gelê is vir die voortgesette hernuwing en groei van ons Metro.

Die ontwikkeling en groei van Nelson Mandelabaai is verweef met die groei van nasionale en globale ekonomieë. Ons plaaslike prioriteite moet dus gekoppel wees aan nasionale en globale prioriteite. Die prestasies wat in hierdie Metro-rede uitgelig word onderstreep die aansienlike vordering wat gemaak is in die verwesenliking van die 3 kernprioriteite van die 7de Administrasie (d.w.s. Inklusiewe Groei en Werkskepping; Verligting van Armoede en Hoë Lewenskoste; en die Bou van 'n Bekwame, Etiese en Ontwikkelende Staat).

As deelnemer van die Verenigde Nasies se 2030 Agenda vir Volhoubare Ontwikkeling, streef Nelson Mandelabaai daarna om die Volhoubare Ontwikkelingsdoelwitte ('SDG') te omskep in plaaslike optrede deur ons beplanning, begroting en diensleweringstelsels in lyn met die 2030 Agenda te bring. Die Munisipaliteit dra deur hierdie werk direk by tot die globale 2030 Agenda van die Verenigde Nasies, die 2063 Agenda van die Kontinentale Afrika-unie, en Suid-Afrika se 2030 Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan.

1. 'N STAD WAT AANSIENLIKE UITDAGINGS IN DIE GESIG GESTAAR EN TE BOWE GEKOM HET

Die oorsigtydperk was nie maklik nie.

Ons moes worstel met 'n toenemende vraag na dienste, vandalisering van munisipale bates, finansiële druk, institusionele kapasiteitsuitdagings, ekonomiese onsekerheid en die vernietigende impak van erge weerstoestande.



Die Munisipaliteit is in die 2025/26 finansiële jaar alleen deur twee ernstige vloede getref (in Mei en Junie 2026) wat heelwat infrastrukturele skade (na raming R1.5 miljard) aangerig het. Ons Gesamentlike Noodsentrum is in werking gestel om op die impak van die vloedrampe te reageer. Ongeveer 10 000 mense in hoërisiko informele nedersettings is geraak. Altesaam 4 282 mense is onthoem en 2 857 huishoudings is na skuilings ontruim.

Ons moes ook die gevolge van 'n voortslepende droogte en die moontlikheid van 'n "Dag Zero"-scenario bestuur.

Tog, ten spyte van hierdie druk, het Nelson Mandelabaai steeds vorentoe beweeg.

Ons reaksie was om te belê, te herstel, te moderniseer, te hervorm en vennootskappe te bou.

Die resultate kan reg oor die Metro gesien word.

- Dit kan gesien word in gemeenskappe wat water en elektrisiteitsverbinding ontvang.
- Dit kan gesien word in gruispaaie wat geteer word.
- Dit kan gesien word in infrastruktuur wat na vloede herbou word deur die "herbou beter"-benadering.
- Dit kan gesien word in nuwe en gerehabiliteerde openbare ruimtes.
- Dit kan gesien word in nuwe beleggings in ons ekonomie.
- En dit kan gesien word in die duisende mense wat toegang het tot werksgeleenthede, vaardigheidsprogramme en ekonomiese geleenthede.

Alhoewel die verhaal van Nelson Mandelabaai nie sonder uitdagings is nie, is dit 'n verhaal van 'n stad wat sy uitdagings konfronteer terwyl dit voortgaan om te bou.

Dames en here,

Ek sal nou fokus op sleutelprestasies en uitdagings reg oor die verskillende Sleutelprestasiegebiede van die Nelson Mandelabaai Munisipaliteit.

2. WATER EN SANITASIE

Alhoewel die Metro voortgaan om aansienlike uitdagings op die gebied van watervoorsiening en sanitasie te ervaar, is heelwat vordering in hierdie opsig gemaak.

Ongeveer 98% van huishoudings het toegang tot water, terwyl 95.7% toegang tot verbeterde sanitasiegeriewe het. Altesaam 2 089 huishoudings het gedurende die oorsigtydperk water- en sanitasieverbindings ontvang, terwyl 285 staanpype reg oor informele nedersettings geïnstalleer is. Ons het ook 23 570 watermeters vervang, 1 186 lekkasies by behoeftige huishoudings herstel, en emmergebruik met 1 100 verminder, alhoewel ongeveer 4 692 emmers steeds in sirkulasie is.

Die toenemende groei in informele nedersettings hou 'n ernstige uitdaging in om water en sanitasie aan alle inwoners te verskaf. Die Munisipaliteit gaan voort om nuwe informele nedersettings te identifiseer en die verskaffing van water en sanitasie na daardie

nedersettings uit te brei om sodoende te verseker dat alle inwoners van Nelson Mandelabaai toegang tot drinkbare water en waardige sanitasie het.

Die belangrikste ingryping was ons belegging om die toekoms van die Metro se watervoorraad te verseker.

Die Metro het tot op hede ongeveer R1.3 miljard in droogteverligtingsprojekte suksesvol geïmplementeer om die bedreiging van "Dag Zero" af te weer. Dit sluit die Impofudam-vragskuite, die Grassridge Tydelike Waterbehandelingswerke, Fase 3 van die Nootgedacht Waterbehandelingswerke, stupompstasies by Motherwell en Stanfordweg, die Kwanobuhle-toevoerpompstasie, die Bloemendal-Kwanobuhle-pyplyn, en 'n aantal bronwaterontwikkelings in.

Ons het Fase 4 van die Coegakop-bronwaterveld voltooi, terwyl werk voortgaan op die Oos-na-Wes-grootmaat-wateroordragpyplyn. Dertig boorgate, wat ongeveer 20 tot 30 megaliter water per dag lewer, is in diens gestel om die watervoorraad aan te vul.

Ons het ook belê in telemetrie en SCADA-tegnologie om ons waterinfrastruktuurstelsels doeltreffend te monitor. Daarbenewens het ons 14 waterbehandelingswerke en 8 afvalwater-behandelingswerke opgeknop, en 10 reservoirs gerehabiliteer. Verder is 8 Waterbestuursones geskep, en 2 afstandmeting-meterstasies op die been gebring om nie-inkomste water te meet.

Hierdie is nie slegs die opgradering van infrastruktuur nie, maar 'n belegging in die toekomstige welvaart en sosio-ekonomiese ontwikkeling van Nelson Mandelabaai.

3. ELEKTRISITEIT EN ENERGIE

Ons werk in elektrisiteit en energie is geskoei op dieselfde beginsel: verseker die basiese fondasie terwyl ons voorberei vir die toekoms.

Ongeveer 94% van huishoudings het toegang tot elektrisiteit, en 472 huishoudings is gedurende die oorsigtydperk aan die netwerk verbind. Ons het 297 nuwe openbare ligte geïnstalleer, 3 708 bestaande openbare ligte retro-monteer en 26 kragtransformators opgeknop. Die Munisipaliteit gaan verder voort met die elektrifiseringsprogram in informele nedersettings om basiese elektrisiteit aan huishoudings in ongeproklameerde informele nedersettings te verskaf.

Ons het ook die instandhouding en opknapping van sleutel-hoogspanning-transmissielyne onderneem om die betroubaarheid en veerkragtigheid van die netwerk te verbeter.

Ons het terselfdertyd verder as die tradisionele elektrisiteitsmodel gekyk.

Twee groot hernubare-energieprojekte word tans ontwikkel: die 15MW Greenbushes-sonplaas en die 25MW Parsons Power Park-sonplaas.

Ons is ook in onderhandelings gewikkel met groot voornemende kraggebruikers, insluitend die voorgestelde Hive Hydrogen 1 250MW perseel in Coega



en die Vexsa 556MW datasentrumperseel.

Hierdie geleentheid is belangrik aangesien dit bewys dat Nelson Mandelabaai 'n aktiewe deelnemer in die nuwe-energie-ekonomie kan wees.

Ons moet hierdie Metro nie slegs as 'n verbruiker van elektrisiteit posisioneer nie, maar as 'n vervaardiger, fasiliteerder en strategiese vennoot in die energie-oorgangsfase.

4. PAAIE EN STORMWATER

Ons inwoners verdien paaie wat veilig, funksioneel en toeganklik is. Ons het gedurende die twee finansiële jare altesaam 17 kilometer se gruispaaie geteer en 6.8 kilometer se sypaadjies in verskeie wyke gebou.

Ons het 23 565 slaggate herstel, en 27.9 kilometer se stormwaterkanale en ongeveer 35 000 stormwater-rioolvangputte skoongemaak. Daarbenewens is altesaam 1 021 kilometer se padtekens voltooi.

Ons het ook belangrike rampverwante infrastruktuurprojekte voltooi.

Die Matanzima-brug in KwaNobuhle is gerehabiliteer, tesame met verwante rivierloop-opgraderings. Die Cuyler-brug is gerehabiliteer, terwyl die Cat- en De Mist-kanaal herstel is as deel van ons verbintenis om “beter te herbou” na rampe. Daarbenewens het die Munisipaliteit 'n nuwe voetbrug in Jabavu, Kwanobuhle gebou sodat studente en inwoners die Brakrivier kan oorsteek.

Ons het ook, in vennootskap met SANRAL, die Metro se eerste son/wind-verkeersein-loodsprojek by die R74/Mati/N2-verkeerswisselaar, met ultra-moderne CCTV en verwante infrastruktuur, opgerig.

Die Munisipaliteit gaan voort met die implementering van Fase 1A van die IPTS-beginnerdiens in die Clearypark-gebied. Die Kariëga-roetes sal na verwagting in November 2026 in bedryf wees, onderworpe aan goedkeuring deur die Nasionale Departement van Vervoer.

5. GEMEENSKAPSDIENSTE

'n Stad word nie slegs gemeet aan sy groot infrastruktuurprojekte nie, maar ook aan die toestand van die woonbuurte.

Altesaam 98.7% van erkende informele nedersettings het teen die einde van Junie 2026 basiese rommelverwyderingsdienste ontvang. Ons het 16 nuwe rommelverdigtingsvragmotors teen 'n koste van ongeveer R60 miljoen aangeskaf om ons rommelverwyderingskapasiteit en betroubaarheid te verbeter.

Die Munisipaliteit bedryf tans 2 stortingsterreine (Arlington en Koedoeskloof) en 19 afvalterreine, alhoewel die meerderheid opgegradeer moet word. Die Munisipaliteit het gedurende die oorsigtydperk die Arlington-afvalverwyderingsfasiliteit en die Verwoerd-afvalterrein in Kariëga opgeknap. Daarbenewens is

33 openbare oop ruimtes opgegradeer, insluitend 'n aansienlike opgradering van St George-park sowel as die opgradering van 13 begraaiflase.

In 'n poging om onwettige storting aan te spreek en verfraaiing te verbeter, het die Munisipaliteit die Opruiming-en-vergroeningsprogram in Augustus 2025 van stapel gestuur. Altesaam 40 onwettige stortingspersele is gedurende Fase 1 van die program opgeruim, met 'n verdere 11 persele gedurende Fase 2. Een van die persele in Wyk 29 is sedertdien in 'n park (Kingston Park) omskep en verfraai.

Dit is die tipe transformasie wat ons graag wil sien.

- 'n Stortingsterrein wat in 'n park omskep word.
- 'n Verwaarloosde ruimte wat 'n bate word.
- 'n Probleem wat in 'n geleentheid omskep word.

Die regering kan nie die vraagstuk van onwettige storting op sy eie aanspreek nie. Inwoners, besighede, burgerorganisasies en gemeenskappe moet ons vennote word om die plekke waar ons woon te help beskerm.

Nelson Mandelabaai het 'n trotse sport- en kulturele identiteit. Die Munisipaliteit het in hierdie opsig gasheer gespeel vir 'n aantal groot nasionale en internasionale sportgebeurtenisse, waaronder die ISUZU IRONMAN Afrika-kampioenskap, SANZAAR o.20 Rugby-kampioenskap, Home of Legends Football-beker en Suid-Afrika se krieketwedstryde teen Indië en Sri Lanka. Nelson Mandelabaai sal verder in November en Desember vanjaar die Lewensredding-wêreldkampioenskappe aanbied.

Die Munisipaliteit gaan voort om in sportinfrastruktuur te belê. Die Zwide- en Jabavu-stadion sowel as die Gelvandle-swembad is gedurende die oorsigtydperk opgegradeer.

Ons strande is 'n toonbeeld dat omgewingsgehalte en toerisme sy aan sy kan floreer.

Vyf munisipale strande maak steeds deel uit van die internasionaal erkende Blouvlagprogram. Koningstrand, Humewoodstrand en Hobiëstrand het hul volle Blouvlagstatus behou, terwyl Wells Estate-strand en Blouwaterbaai steeds hul Loods-Blouvlagstatus gedurende die oorsigtydperk geniet.

Die Munisipaliteit het 'n grondwetlike mandaat om 'n veilige en gesonde omgewing vir al sy inwoners te skep. Die NMBM het 'n volle operasionele Metropolisie met spesifieke pligte en funksies rakende misdaadvoorkoming in die stad.

'n Aantal inisiatiewe is geïmplementeer om misdaad aan te spreek en stedelike veiligheid te verbeter.

Die stad het, deur die ondertekening van 'n samewerkingsooreenkoms met die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie (SAPD), sy voorneme duidelik gemaak om stedelike veiligheid te fasiliteer en te bevorder.

Verlate geboue dien as skuilplek vir misdadigers, wat tot misdaad in die stad bydra. Ons sal voortgaan om



geleenthede te ondersoek vir die herontwikkeling en hergebruik van onderbenutte en verwaarloosde geboue as deel van groter pogings om stedelike vernuwing te steun, veiligheid te verbeter en behuisingsgeleenthede uit te brei.

Daarbenewens werk die stad saam met ander entiteite, soos die Oos-Kaapse Drankraad, die Departement van Binnelandse Sake, die Sakekamer en die Suid-Afrikaanse Inkomstediens, om misdaad te beveg deur gereelde gesamentlike operasies.

Die herlewing van die CCTV-netwerk binne Nelson Mandelabaai, sowel as die tegnologiese misdaadbestedingsinisiatiewe soos die ontplooiing van die Mobiele Waarnemingsvoertuig, en die bekendstelling van 'n toegewyde Veiligheid & Sekuriteit WhatsApp-lyn, onderstreep die stad se verbintenis om wetteloosheid te verminder en 'n veiliger stad vir almal te skep.

6. MENSLIKE NEDERSETTINGS

Die vraag na behuising bly enorm.

Ons syfers toon dat 94% van huishoudings in formele wonings bly. Gedurende die termyn, is ongeveer 626 staatgesubsidieerde behuisingeenhede gebou, 1 606 persele is van dienste voorsien en 1 615 titelaktes is geregistreer.

Ons weet egter dat die uitdaging wat behuising betref nie deur huise alleen opgelos kan word nie.

- Dit vereis grond.
- Dit vereis grootmaat-infrastruktuur.
- Dit vereis gedienste persele.
- Dit vereis geïntegreerde nedersettings.
- En dit vereis dat die werklikhede van agterplaasbewoners en informele nedersettings aangespreek word.

Die bekendstelling van 'n program wat fokus op die registrasie van agterplaasbewoners is 'n belangrike ingryping terwyl ons poog om hierdie groeiende uitdaging beter te begryp en te bestuur, en grondbesetting aan te spreek.

Ons benadering moet toenemend fokus op die bou van gemeenskappe, nie slegs huise nie.

7. PLAASLIKE EKONOMIESE ONTWIKKELING

Dames en here,

Ons ekonomiese verhaal bevat beide bemoedigende tekens en moeilike realiteite.

Nelson Mandelabaai is steeds die ekonomiese kern van die Oos-Kaap. Ons Metro genereer ongeveer een-derde van die provinsie se ekonomiese produksie en dra jaarliks 'n geskatte R194 miljard tot die streekseksie by. Ons het, as een van Suid-Afrika se voorste industriële sentrums, 'n verantwoordelikheid om 'n gunstige omgewing vir belegging en groei te skep.

Ons het 'n Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling- en Groei-strategie aangeneem en Toerisme-meesterplan

goedgekeur. Ongeveer R1.45 miljard se beleggings is gedurende die oorsigtydperk gefasiliteer, insluitend ontwikkelings deur Shoprite, CHC Cold Storage, Shatterprufe en Capital Hotels. Altesaam 1 240 nuwe permanente werksgeleenthede is geskep deur verskeie beleggingfasiliteringsinisiatiewe gedurende die oorsigtydperk. Die Munisipaliteit het verder 16 492 werksgeleenthede deur die Uitgebreide Openbare-werke-program ('EPWP') en Openbare Indiensnemingsprogramme ('PEP') geskep.

Nelson Mandelabaai is uniek geposisioneer om 'n voorloper te wees in die ekonomiese groei van die Oos-Kaap. Terwyl 62.5% van die Oos-Kaapse bevolking van werkende ouderdom is, is ons Metro se werkende ouderdom selfs hoër op ongeveer 65%. Dit laat ons met een van die grootste arbeidspoele in die provinsie. Ons taak is nou om hierdie potensiaal te ontgin deur werk te skep, vaardighede te ontwikkel en die beleggings te lok wat benodig word om hierdie demografiese dividend te omskep in inklusiewe ekonomiese groei en gedeelde welvaart.

Ons strategiese posisie word verder versterk deur voortgesette belegging in die Chief Dawid Stuurman Internasionale Lughawe. Ons gaan deur ons vennootskap met die Lughawensmaatskappy van Suid-Afrika en die Airlift-komitee voort om lugverbinding, passasiervolumes en beleggingsgeleenthede uit te brei. Die bekendstelling van 'n nuwe roete tussen Gqeberha en Kruger Mpumalanga vanaf November 2026, tesame met voortgesette vordering rakende die Lughawestad en Aerotropolis-program, sal Nelson Mandelabaai se posisie as poort tot toerisme, handel, logistiek en belegging verder versterk.

Nelson Mandelabaai het oor die afgelope twee jaar gewys dat dit sy plek op die globale verhoog kan inneem.

Ons het die eerste G20 Indiensnemingswerkgroep-vergadering in Februarie 2025 aangebied, wat globale leiers, arbeidskundiges en verteenwoordigers van organisasies soos die Internasionale Arbeidsorganisasie, die Organisasie vir Ekonomiese Samewerking en Ontwikkeling en die Wêreldbank byeen gebring het.

Die Metro en die Boardwalk-konvensiesentrum het in Oktober 2025 gasheer gespeel vir die G20 Handel-en-beleggingswerkgroep en Ministeriële vergaderings.

Die Stad sal tussen 29 September en 2 Oktober 2026 die 2026 Skål Internasionale Wêreldkongres aanbied, wat 'n professionele globale netwerk is wat leiers in die reis-, toerisme- en gasvryheidsbedryf verbind. Hierdie is nie slegs geleenthede wat aangebied word nie.

- Dit skep sakegeleenthede.
- Dit vul hotelle.
- Dit ondersteun restaurante.
- Dit bemark ons strande.
- Dit bemark ons stad oorsee.
- En dit skep 'n platform van waar toekomstige beleggings gelok kan word.

Ons moet ons posisie as 'n globale stad gebruik om die lewens van plaaslike burgers te verbeter.



Ons het sedert 2024 altesaam 15 sakegeleenthede met meer as 6 000 afgevaardigdes ondersteun, wat 'n ekonomiese inspuiting van ongeveer R204.5 miljoen beloop het.

Die Metro het verder sy verbintenis tot die ontwikkeling van plaaslike entrepreneurskap bewys deur steun aan mikro-, klein- en medium ondernemings ('MSMEs'). Ons ondersteun jaarliks ongeveer 3 500 'MSMEs' en ander entrepreneurs. Die Munisipaliteit verskaf ook hulp aan plaaslike opkomende boere in 'n poging om voedselsekerheid te bewerkstellig. Altesaam 650 boere het gedurende die oorsigtydperk steun ontvang in die vorm van opleiding en toerusting.

Ons Varsproduktemark het ook gedurende die 2025/26 finansiële jaar R243 miljoen se verkope gegenereer.

Ons sal voortgaan om steun aan township-ondernemings, opkomende entrepreneurs en jeugontwikkelingsinisiatiewe uit te brei. Ons moet ook die geleenthede wat deur die oseaan-ekonomie gebied word aggressief nastreef. As die enigste metropolitaanse munisipaliteit in Suid-Afrika wat deur twee kommersiële hawens bedien word, is Nelson Mandelabaai uniek geposisioneer om 'n toonaangewende maritieme, logistieke en Blou Ekonomie-sakekern te word, wat nuwe geleenthede vir belegging, industrialisering, vaardigheidsontwikkeling en indiensneming sal skep.

Ons werk ook nou met bedryfsvennote saam om Nelson Mandelabaai as 'n toonaangewende Vlak-2 Globale Sakedienste-bestemming te vestig. Ons sal deur samewerking met sake- en provinsiale belanghebbende voortgaan om beleggingsaantreklikheid, vaardigheidsontwikkeling en ekostelselgereedheid te ondersteun om werkseleenthede vir jongmense te ontsluit in die snelgroeiende sakedienste- en digitale ekonomiese sektor.

Die toekomstige ekonomie sal toenemend deur tegnologie, innovering en digitale vaardighede aangedryf word. Ons is daarom van voorneme om vennootskappe te versterk wat digitale vaardigheidsontwikkeling, tegnologie-entrepreneurskap en Slimstad-innovering uitbrei sodat jongmense 'n betekenisvolle rol kan speel in die digitale ekonomie en plaaslike besighede oplossings kan ontwikkel wat munisipale en gemeenskapsuitdagings aanspreek.

Toerisme is van besondere belang.

Ons Metro, wat deur 40 passasierskepe besoek is, het ongeveer 79 421 passasiers verwelkom en 'n geskatte direkte ekonomiese inspuiting van R129.6 miljoen ontvang.

Nelson Mandelabaai het gedurende 2024 en 2025 ongeveer 476 697 oorsese toeriste, wat 73% van oorsese toeriste in die Oos-Kaap uitmaak, sowel as ongeveer 2.7 miljoen plaaslike toeriste verwelkom.

Toerisme het ongeveer R12.8 miljard tot die plaaslike ekonomie bygedra gedurende die oorsigtydperk.

Ons erken dat toerisme een van die mees inklusiewe

sektore van ons ekonomie bly, wat geleenthede vir vroue, die jeug, township-ondernemings en klein besighede skep. Ten einde hierdie groei vol te hou, sal ons voortgaan om saam met ons toerismevennote te werk om die bestemmingsbemarking uit te brei, die Konvensieburo te versterk, lugverbinding deur die Lughawestad en Aerotropolis-program te verbeter en Nelson Mandelabaai as 'n prima bestemming vir toerisme, sakegeleenthede en sporttoerisme te posisioneer.

Ons erken ook die groeiende rol van die kreatiewe bedryf, insluitend filmproduksie, as bydraers tot toerisme, vaardigheidsontwikkeling en entrepreneurskap. Ons sal voortgaan om geleenthede te verken om die plaaslike film-ekostelsel te versterk en Nelson Mandelabaai as 'n filmvriendelike bestemming te bemark.

Ons het vordering gemaak met die skep van 'n gunstige sake-omgewing. Residensiële bouplanaansoeke vir ontwikkelings kleiner as 500 vierkante meter is, teen 30 Junie 2026, teen 'n gemiddeld van 11 dae teenoor die teiken van 30 dae verwerk.

Terwyl ons hierdie prestasies vier, moet ons nie oorgerus word nie.

8. DIE UITDAGING VAN WERKSGELEENTHEDE EN INDUSTRIËLE MEDEDINGENDHEID

Ons moet eerlik wees oor werkloosheid.

Ons werkloosheidskoers bly hoog op 33.1%, met spesifiek jongmense wat daardeur geraak word. Ons staan terselfdertyd beperkte toegang tot die befondsing van mikro-, klein en medium ondernemings, traë ekonomiese groei, beleggersonsekerheid en 'n afname in vervaardigingsmededingendheid in die gesig. Dit het daartoe gelei dat baie van ons jong en geskoolde inwoners elders ekonomiese geleenthede moes soek. Ten einde hierdie neiging om te keer, moet ons 'n ekonomie skep wat talent kan lok en behou deur betekenisvolle indiensnemings- en beleggingsgeleenthede.

Ons het ook die vertrek van groot vervaardigers in Nelson Mandelabaai, insluitend die sluiting van die Goodyear-vervaardigingsaanleg in Kariega, ervaar.

Nelson Mandelabaai bly een van die Oos-Kaap se groot vervaardiging- en industriële sentrums. Vervaardiging is steeds die ruggraat van ons plaaslike ekonomie, dra jaarliks ongeveer R44 miljard by en behels meer as 'n kwart van alle ekonomiese aktiwiteit in die Metro. Van kritieke belang, is die feit dat Nelson Mandelabaai meer as 62% van die vervaardigingsproduksie van die Oos-Kaap genereer, wat ons posisie as Suid-Afrika se motor- en industriële kern onderstreep. Die toekomstige welvaart van ons stad hang grootliks af van die behoud en uitbreiding van hierdie industriële basis, terwyl ons onself moet posisioneer om nuwe beleggings in hernubare energie, logistiek, gevorderde vervaardiging en die digitale ekonomie te lok.

Die ekonomiese afswaai is vererger deur globale krisis, veral die onstabiliteit in die Midde-Ooste en die



voortslepende konflik tussen Rusland en Oekraïne, wat beide aansienlike nagevolge vir die globale ekonomie gehad het. Die verhoogde tariewe op Suid-Afrikaanse uitvoere deur die Verenigde State het 'n verdere negatiewe impak op ekonomiese groei en handel gehad, en het beide die nasionale en plaaslike ekonomie geraak.

Hierdie ontwikkelings is 'n bewys dat Nelson Mandelabaai nie geïsoleerd van nasionale en globale ekonomiese neigings staan nie, en dat ontwikkelings in die globale ekonomie ongetwyfeld 'n impak op die plaaslike ekonomie sal hê.

Ons moet kragte saamsnoer met die sakesektor, georganiseerde arbeid, provinsiale en nasionale regering, die Coega Spesiale Ekonomiese Sone en ander strategiese vennote om bestaande beleggings te beskerm en nuwe beleggings aktief na te streef.

Die Metro moet verseker dat dit gereed is wat beleggings, infrastruktuur en vaardighede betref en verseker dat plaaslike mense voordeel trek uit die ekonomiese geleenthede wat in hul eie stad geskep word, veral vroue, die jeug en persone met gestremdhede.

Kontrakte ter waarde van R363 miljoen is gedurende slegs die 2025/26 finansiële jaar aan ondernemings in vrouebesit toegeken deur projekte wat onder die Stedelike Nedersetting-ontwikkelingstoelae ('USDG') en die Informele Nedersetting-opgraderings-vennootskaptoelae ('ISUPG') befonds is.

9. INSTITUSIONELE TRANSFORMASIE EN ORGANISATORIESE ONTWIKKELING

Geen stad kan sonder 'n bekwame munisipaliteit floreer nie. 'n Bekwame munisipaliteit vereis bekwame mense, duidelike aanspreeklikheid en professionele administrasie.

Ons Munisipaliteit ondervind 'n hoë vakaturekoers, hoofsaaklik vanweë natuurlike erodering. Die hoë vlak van waarnemende aanstellings op senior bestuursvlak plaas druk op die instelling, terwyl regulatoriese vereistes die voltooiing van die organisatoriese oorsig- en aanstellingsproses gekompliseer het. Ons voortgaan om met Nasionale Tesourie en 'CoGTA' te beraadslaag om hierdie uitdagings op te los, terwyl ons werwingsprosesse ten volle geoutomatiseer word.

Altesaam 825 poste in kritieke funksies is die afgelope twee finansiële jare gevul. Ons het 136 gegradueerdes en 19 ervaringsleerders gedurende die 2025/26 finansiële jaar geplaas, terwyl 237 mense voordeel getrek het uit vakleerlingskappe, leerlingskappe, Erkenning van Vorige Studie en vaardighedsprogramme. Ongeveer R30.8 miljoen is gedurende die oorsigtyderk op opleidingingrypings gespandeer.

Die veiligheid en gesondheid van ons munisipale werknemers is van kardinale belang. Ons sal voortgaan om beroepsgesondheid- en veiligheidsmaatreëls te versterk, die toestand van werksplekke verbeter en verseker dat ons werknemers toegerus is om dienste

doeltreffend te lewer.

Ons sal ook voortgaan om in munisipale geriewe, toerusting en vlootbates te belê om te verseker dat werknemers hul pligte veilig en doeltreffend kan verrig.

Die Munisipaliteit sal daarbenewens die afhandeling van alle uitstaande arbeidsverwante sake bespoedig.

Die Raad het ook 'n nuwe makro-personeelsamestelling goedgekeur om uitvoering te gee aan Nasionale Tesourie se Handelsdienstehervorming. Drie poste vir Uitvoerende Direkteur (Water en Sanitasie, Elektrisiteit en Energie, en Vaste Afvalbestuursdienste) is geadverteer.

Die instelling het ook staatsbestuur en aanspreeklikheid versterk deur strategieë wat in lyn met Enkelpunt-bestuursaanspreeklikheid is, terwyl werk voortgesit word op die dienskompak-, afvaardigings- en organisatoriese model.

10. FINANSIËLE LEWENSATBAARHEID EN VOLHOUBAARHEID

Die kern van elke suksesvolle munisipaliteit behels 'n grondslag van finansiële lewensvatbaarheid en volhoubaarheid, waarsonder dienslewering, infrastruktuurbelegging en ekonomiese ontwikkeling nie volgehou kan word nie.

Die Munisipaliteit het sedert die COVID-pandemie 'n lae invorderingskoers ervaar wat inkomste betref. 'n Aantal ingrypings is geïmplementeer om die lae inkomste-invorderingskoers aan te spreek, insluitend die vestiging van 'n Inkomstekrygskamer, die Blits-program, skuldverligting, ongunstige lysplasing, opsporing van skuldenaars en verbeterde invorderingsmeganismes.

Die bogemelde maatreëls het tot 'n effense verbetering in die inkomste-invorderingskoers gelei. Ons maandelikse invorderingskoers het van 76.6% in Junie 2026 tot 78.3% in Julie 2026 verbeter.

Ander uitdagings wat finansiële lewensvatbaarheid betref, sluit in agterstallige skuld, water- en elektrisiteitsverliese, ondergefundeerde mandate, swak prestasie wat voorwaardelike toelae betref en die stadige implementering van 'mSCOA'.

Ons moet dus 'n fundamentele verbintenis maak.

In 'n omgewing met beperkte hulpbronne, moet elke Rand wat aan die Munisipaliteit toevertrou word aangewend word om die grootste moontlike impak te verseker.

- Ons moet berekening verbeter.
- Ons moet invorder wat wettiglik geskuld word.
- Ons moet onwettige verbindings en peutery hoksla.
- Ons moet water- en elektrisiteitsverliese verminder.
- Ons moet die besteding van voorwaardelike toelae verbeter.
- En ons moet finansiële bestuur versterk.

Ten einde die implementering van 'mSCOA' te



bespoedig, is 'n bedrag van R105 miljoen in die huidige 'MTREF' begroot vir die verkryging van 'n 'mSCOA'-aanpasbare 'ERP'-stelsel. Hierdie behels nie net tegnologie nie, maar die verbetering van die gehalte, betroubaarheid en deursigtigheid van munisipale finansiële inligting. Dit sal lei tot beter besluitneming en uiteindelik verseker dat die Munisipaliteit maksimum waarde uit elke beskikbare Rand kry.

11. GOEIE REGERING EN OPENBARE DEELNAME

Die bekendstelling van koalisies in plaaslike regering het 'n aantal uitdagings tot gevolg gehad wat politieke stabiliteit en leierskap betref. Terwyl baie munisipaliteite in die land gebukgaan onder gereelde mislukte koalisies, het Nelson Mandelabaai die afgelope drie jaar 'n stabiele koalisie geniet. Daarbenewens het Raadstrukture, insluitend Artikel 79-komitees, met hul werk voortgegaan. Al 60 wykskomitees is verder steeds funksioneel en versterk deelname op voetsoolvlak.

Ons het 'n Skoon Oudit-bestuurskomitee op die been gebring en gaan voort om die Oudit-aksieplan in werking te stel in ons pogings om audit-uitkomst te verbeter. Daarbenewens is 'n Dissiplinêre Raad gestig om finansiële wangedrag as deel van gevolgbestuur te ondersoek.

Openbare deelname speel 'n uiters belangrike rol in munisipale beplanning, begroting en ander prosesse. Ons erken dat deelname nie slegs behels dat die regering met gemeenskappe kommunikeer nie, maar dat die regering ook na hulle moet luister. Openbare deelname is gevolglik uitgebrei deur fisiese wyksvergaderings, die IDP App, interaktiewe radiosessies, sosiale media, WhatsApp, die gedrukte media, die munisipale webtuiste en ander kommunikasieplatforms.

12. DIE UITDAGINGS WAT ONS NIE KAN IGNOREER NIE

Dames en here,

'n Geloofwaardige Metro-rede kan nie slegs 'n lys van prestasies bevat nie. Ons moet ook eerlik wees oor die uitdagings wat onopgelos bly en die werk wat op ons wag om dit reg te stel. Terwyl sommige van hierdie uitdagings reeds uitgelig is, regverdig hul belangrikheid verdere ondersoek.

Ons infrastruktuur is verouderd. Vandalisme rig steeds groot skade aan munisipale bates aan. Daar is steeds 'n aansienlike agterstand wat instandhouding betref. Fondse skiet tekort wat die skaal van infrastruktuurbehoefte betref en die vraag na dienste is steeds aan die toeneem.

Ons staan 'n hoë vakaturekoers in die sig wat sleutel-strategiese poste betref en institusionele transformasie bly steeds 'n uitdaging. Ons ekonomie groei stadig, beleggers is onseker, vervaardigingsmededingendheid is aan die afneem en werkloosheid bly steeds te hoog. Ons finansiële posisie is daarbenewens onder druk en ons staan toenemende agterstallige skuld, inkomstebepelings en toelaagprestasie-uitdagings in die gesig.

Ons gaan verder voort om 'n aantal regeringsuitdagings te konfronteer, waaronder ouditkwalifikasies en staatskulde.

13. VAN UITDAGINGS NA OPTREDE

Die Munisipaliteit is besig om 'n aantal ingrypings te implementeer om die bogemelde uitdagings aan te spreek.

Ten einde infrastruktuur te beskerm, versterk ons samewerking met sekuriteitsagentskappe en ander vennote om vandalisme hok te slaan.

Die Raad het die vestiging van 'n Gesentraliseerde Projekbestuurseenheid goedgekeur om die prestasie van voorwaardelike toelae te verbeter.

Ons versterk die Handelsdienste-hervormingsprogram om ons handelsdienste soos water en sanitasie, elektrisiteit en energie, en vaste-afvalbestuur te verbeter.

Ons beraadslaag voortdurend met Nasionale Tesourie en 'CoGTA' om die menige voorskrifte aan te spreek wat die finalisering van die nuwe personeelsaestelling affekteer.

Op die ekonomiese front sal ons die implementering van die Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling- en Groeistrategie en die Beleggingsaansporingsbeleid, sowel as hervormings om 'n gunste sake-omgewing te skep, versnel. Daarbenewens sal ons ondernemingontwikkelings-, inkubasie-, jeugindiensnemings- en informele ekonomie-programme uitbrei.

Ons sal koördinerende tussen regeringsdepartemente, entiteite in staatsbesit en strategiese vennote versterk deur ons Geïntegreerde Ontwikkelingsbeplanning- en Distrikontwikkelingsmodel-prosesse.

Wat finansiële volhoubaarheid betref, sal ons kredietkontrole verskerp, ons inkomstebasis uitbrei, water- en elektrisiteitsverliese deur peutery en onwettige verbindings deur kontrolemeganismes aanspreek, en uitstaande skuld deur regsprosesse hanteer en die gebruik van transversale tenders vir skuldinvordering.

Wat regering betref, sal ons gevolgbestuur versterk en voortgaan met die implementering van die Oudit-aksieplan vir verbeterde audit-uitkomst.

14. DIE HUIDIGE 'MTREF': WAARHEEN IS ONS OP PAD

Die huidige Mediumtermyn-inkomste-en-uitgaweraamwerk bied ons 'n geleentheid om ons verbintenisse in tasbare uitkomst te omskep.

Ons het die volgende toegeken:

- R453 miljoen vir Menslike Nedersettings-ontwikkelingsprojekte, insluitend om persele van dienste te voorsien;
- R1.7 miljard vir die ontwikkeling en opgradering van paaie en stormwater-infrastruktuur;
- R1.4 miljard vir die uitbreiding en opgradering van water- en sanitasie-infrastruktuur;



- R1 miljard vir die opknapping en opgradering van elektrisiteitsinfrastruktuur; en
- R197 miljoen vir die opgradering van vaste-afvalbestuursgeriewe.

Hierdie toekennings verteenwoordig 'n duidelike weerspieëling van ons prioriteite met betrekking tot die sosio-ekonomiese ontwikkeling van ons inwoners.

15. 'N BEROEP OM SAAM TE WERK

En dit bring my tot die rede waarom vanaand se gehoor so belangrik is.

Die regering kan dit alleen vermag nie.

Aan ons kollegas in die Nasionale en Provinsiale Regering: ons benodig jul voortgesette samewerking, koördinerende van programme en belegging in die infrastruktuur wat ons Metro en die wyer Oos-Kaapse ekonomie ondersteun. Ons moedig dus jul voortgesette deelname aan met die implementering van die DDM Een Plan soos goedgekeur deur die Raad.

Aan die sakegemeenskap: ons benodig jul beleggings, indiensneming, innovasie en vennootskap om 'n mededingende stad te bou.

Aan ons burgerorganisasies: ons benodig jul waaksaamheid, jul idees en jul deelname.

Aan ons godsdiensteleiers: ons benodig jul voortgesette werk om families en gemeenskappe te versterk en maatskaplike kohesie te bewerkstellig.

Aan ons gemeenskapsleiers en inwoners: ons benodig julle om ons te help om openbare infrastruktuur te beskerm, ons woonbuurte skoon te hou en aktief deel te neem aan die ontwikkeling van jul gemeenskappe.

Aan die Raadslede van Nelson Mandelabaai: ons het 'n enorme verantwoordelikheid. Ons is die verkose verteenwoordigers van die mense. Ons politieke verskille mag eg wees, en robuuste debat is deel van demokrasie, maar daar moet vraagstukke wees waar die belange van Nelson Mandelabaai van groter waarde as partypolitiek is.

16. TEN SLOTTE

Dames en here,

Nelson Mandelabaai dra 'n naam wat 'n besondere verantwoordelikheid behels.

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela het die wêreld geleer van moed, versoening, veerkragtigheid en die krag van gewone mense om die loop van die geskiedenis te verander.

- Ons stad kan eenvoudig nie slegs sy naam dra nie.
- Ons moet sy voorbeeld uitleef.
- Ons moet die moed hê om ons uitdagings te konfronteer.
- Die waardigheid om te erken waar ons tekort skiet.
- Die dissipline om dit wat gebreek is te herstel.

- Die verbeelding om nuwe geleenthede na te streef.
- En die deursettingsvermoë om te verseker dat vordering elke gemeenskap bereik.

Die prestasies van die afgelope twee finansiële jare toon dat vordering moontlik is.

Die onopgeloste uitdagings herinner ons dat daar steeds baie te doen is.

En die huidige 'MTREF' gee ons 'n platform van waar ons daardie werk kan versnel.

So terwyl ons vanaand Nelson Mandelabaai vier, laat ons onself opnuut daartoe verbind.

- Laat ons vennootskappe pleks van silo's bou.
- Laat ons infrastruktuur bou pleks van verskonings aanbied.
- Laat ons besighede pleks van hindernisse bou.
- Laat ons vaardighede pleks van afhanklikheid bou.
- Laat ons gemeenskappe pleks van skeiding bou.
- En laat ons 'n stad bou waarin elke inwoner kan sê:
 - o Dit is my stad.
 - o Dit is my toekoms.
 - o En ek het 'n aandeel daarin om dit beter te maak.

Die stand van Nelson Mandelabaai is dus een van vordering onder druk, geleenthede te midde van uitdagings, en 'n stad wat weier om stil te staan.

Ons werk duur voort.

Ons verantwoordelikheid duur voort.

En ons vertroue in die toekoms van Nelson Mandelabaai moet voortduur.

Saam kan ons die Metro herstel en inklusiewe ekonomiese groei verseker.

Ek dank u.

**RAADSLID BABALWA LOBISHE
UITVOERENDE BURGEMEESTER**









COUNCIL EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



Cllr Eugene Johnson
Speaker of Council



Cllr Babalwa Lobishe
Executive Mayor



Cllr Gary van Niekerk
Deputy Executive Mayor



Cllr Wandisile Jikeka
Chief Whip of Council

MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE



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Economic Development,
Tourism & Agriculture



Cllr Sinebhongo Kwatsha
Sports, Recreation,
Arts & Culture



Cllr Buyelwa Mafaya
Infrastructure &
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Cllr Khanya Ngqisha
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Cllr Thsonono Buyeye
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Cllr Yolisa Pali-Jongilanga
Roads & Transport



Cllr Ziyanda Mnqokoyi
Electricity & Energy

Thank you to all our residents, stakeholders who made the Nelson Mandela Bay tick.
You made the State of the Metro a reality. Together, we can!

—ONS WERK—
SIYASEBENZA
—WE ARE WORKING—

