



# **Welcome Address**

**Municipal Strategic Planning Session**

**21 to 23 February 2018**

**Masana lodge, Polokwane**

- Madam Speaker, Honourable Councillor Moreroa
- Chief Whip, Honourable Councillor Rathaha
- Members of the executive committee for Molemole municipality
- Fellow Councillors;
- Municipal Officials led by the Acting Municipal Manager - Mr. Ramogale;
- Representatives of Sector Departments;
- Ladies and gentlemen;

Let me start by congratulating Mr. Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa for being elected the fifth president of the democratic South Africa.

I must say I was particularly touched and inspired when he delivered his maiden state of the nation address;

More importantly, I got inspired when he remembered the song of the late great Bra Hugh Masekela;

SEND ME – was the song that the President recited to declare his availability to serve the people of South Africa;

Fellow Councillors;

You will recall that the community of Molemole municipality has already sent us;  
About 19 months ago - during the epic 2016 local government elections;  
Of course we accepted their requested to work together with them;  
To indeed accelerate delivery of basic services;

And in the spirit of continuing with that mandate of serving our people;  
As we gathered here today; with Management having gathered from yesterday;  
To review the IDP, being the strategic blueprint of our service delivery agenda;  
We need to determine responsive strategies and projects;

That will:

- Improve the roads we travel in as we traverse our 16 wards;
- Ensure a sustainable supply of potent water;
- Create job opportunities to improve our local economy;
- Support our local business sector to reach greater heights;

Of critical importance - my fellow colleagues;

Is that we need to be alive to the fact that it is only through a sustainable generation of revenue;

That we can realize our strategies;

For it will be worthless to come with “nice” strategies without implementing them;  
I therefore expect this strategic planning session to be dominated by practical ideas,  
views, strategies and tactics;  
For improving our revenue collection;

Of course we need to take pleasure in the fact that we once again attained an  
unqualified audit opinion for the 2016/17 financial year;  
And I want to congratulate the management and the municipal officials at large;  
For their relentless commitment during the audit period – we can only improve from  
here;

A credible audit opinion evokes confidence from the communities and our stakeholders;  
It assures the community that as municipal officials, both political and administrative –  
We are handling the resources of our municipality in a responsible and accountable  
manner;

But we must all acknowledge that a favourable audit opinion is not an end in itself;  
But a means to realize the aspirations of the people of Molemole municipality;

In his state of the nation address, President Ramaphosa cautioned the nation that  
*“We have entered a period of change; and while change in itself can lead to uncertainty;  
It may bring in great opportunities and progress;*

We will do well to embrace this change;

And that should be evidenced by active participation of everyone present for the subsistence of this strategic planning session;

**LE AMOGETŠWE!!!!**