

We've undone the colonial era damage

DURBAN is well on track to meeting its vision of becoming Africa's most caring and livable city.

In just under 15 years we, as City fathers, have been able to undo the damage done by the colonial and apartheid regimes over more than 300 years.

Of course, it is important to emphasise the crucial point that our successful leadership was beehived up by support from local communities as well as our partners from further afield.

In this short era of our democracy, we have been able to make the city a true home for all living in it.

We are not quite there yet, but clearly the milestones are something of note.

Where else in the world can you find a diverse range of cultures harmoniously mixed in one pot?

Where else will you find a variety of sporting codes in one basket for all to enjoy, a broad mixture of world-class infrastructure developments and some of the world's most perfect beaches.

Our rural areas are improving so quickly and to such an extent that their residents shall never again regret living there.



Obed Mlaba
eThekweni Mayor

Development in these previously neglected areas gain momentum each day. Soon all of them will have clean running water, electricity, proper road networks, adequate schools and health care facilities.

And, as the cherry on top, all rural folk are getting the opportunity to make a proper living through locally-based formal employment, or local businesses.

This is thanks to our partnership with our counterparts in other spheres of government and the strategic guidance of our President, Jacob Zuma.

This sterling work and our achievements mean that we have every reason to celebrate. And what better time to do this than during September, the month when the whole country reflects on its bravura heritage.

It's also the month when we traditionally highlight all the features that make our city stand out.

And so, we warmly invite those outside of the city to come join us as we stroll across the eThekweni Municipality to enjoy the splendour of our "choice assorted" in keeping with the spirit of the Celebrate Durban festival.

Few municipalities are investing more

IN HIS State of the Nation Address in June, President Jacob Zuma stressed that service delivery to our people should be accelerated by ensuring that our system of local government operate effectively in discharging its responsibilities towards its citizens.

In effect, our President was recognising how important our sphere of government is in delivery.

The eThekweni Municipality takes great pride in what we have achieved, while recognising that we still have some way to go.

We consistently spend almost all of our capital budget, which now exceeds R5-billion a year.

Few municipalities in the world have sustained such a high rate of capital expenditure to address backlogs and the achievements are there for all to see.

How many municipalities build and hand over to poor people more than 18 000 free houses each year? And this coming year we hope to increase that to almost 25 000 free houses. How many municipalities provide their residents, in our case more than 96 000 families, with free basic water?

And each year we are linking an additional 18 000 houses to our water reticulation system.

We connected more than 150 000 houses to the electricity grid in two



Michael Sutcliffe
eThekweni Manager

“ We build hundreds of kilometres of new and upgraded roads each year . . . and more than 100km of new sidewalks

years and provide refuse collection to more than 75 000 additional houses each year.

We build hundreds of kilometres of new and upgraded roads each year. Pedestrians are better off with more than 100km of new sidewalks and more than 15 new bridges each year.

But service delivery is also about how we communicate to our many different communities, not just what we are doing, but what we intend doing.

In spite of a fairly lengthy process of consultation around the budget, we still find many people don't know what we intend to do.

We have service delivery reportbacks,

ward committees, call centres, interactive websites and dozens of Regional Centres, all designed to improve the flow of information between residents and the council.

We do have much more to do, though. And as we assess service delivery, we are also reminded that our national and provincial health, education and welfare systems require much work to make them truly serve our people.

If these departments of government paid us the R700-million debt they owe us, and covered the cost of the R650-million in unfunded mandates we provide on their behalf, we would be able to significantly increase the rate and quality of our service delivery.

TAKES THE CAKE



A LITTLE piece of history, produced from the oven to mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Electric Theatre in Durban – one of Africa's oldest cinemas. The Royal Hotel Grill, which is also in its centenary year, did the baking. Mayor Obed Mlaba, Durban International Film Festival organisers, and film historian, Dr Mikhail Peppas attended the cake cutting ceremony at Medwood Gardens, site of the theatre

Picture: THEMBA KHUMALO

TENDER NOTICE

CONTRACT NO. 1A-4644: ETHEKWINI QUALITY OF LIFE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY

Tenders are hereby invited from suitable contractors to undertake a QUALITY OF LIFE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY to provide Municipal decision makers with a clear understanding of the residents' perceptions of their living conditions, their satisfaction with Municipal services and with their neighbourhoods, and their satisfaction with the quality of their own lives.

The broad scope of the work includes:

1. Review the questionnaire.
2. Finalize the spatial distribution of the sample.
3. Project preparation for household surveys.
4. Conducting household interviews.
5. Validation of questionnaires.
6. Development of a database.
7. Capture of survey data.

8. Validation of captured data.

9. Weighting of data.

10. Analysis of data results and preparation of report.

11. Submission of the electronic database and report.

Tender documents can be obtained from the Corporate Policy Unit Reception, 2nd floor, Rennie House, 41 Margaret Mncadi (Victoria Embankment) Avenue, Durban from 01 September 2009. Tender documents will only be released on the payment of a non-refundable charge of R100-00. This payment can be made in cash or by a bank guaranteed cheque made out to eThekweni Municipality. A compulsory briefing session will be held on the 11th September 2009 from 11:00 to 12:00, at Shell House, in The City View Boardroom, 8th floor, 221 Anton Lembede (Smith) Street. A formal attendance register will be taken and no proposals will be entertained from firms not having

attended the session.

Written enquiries only can be directed to Mr Brian O'Leary of the eThekweni Corporate Policy Unit on e-mail olearyb@durban.gov.za, or fax 031-311 4120. Tenders need to be placed in sealed envelopes, addressed to the eThekweni Corporate Policy Unit and clearly endorsed, "Tenders for the Quality of Life Household Questionnaire Survey 2009-2010 and must be placed in the tender box located on the Ground Floor, Municipal Building, 166 KE Masinga Road (formerly Old Fort Road), Durban, and not on any other municipal department, by no later than 11:00, on 25 September 2009. The eThekweni Corporate Policy Unit will accept no responsibility for the late delivery of tenders by courier services or any other means. The eThekweni Corporate Policy Unit reserves the right to not to necessarily accept the lowest or any tender.

CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

PRODUCTION OF RADIO PROGRAMMES

The eThekweni Municipality's Communication Unit intends to produce 30 minutes radio programmes for the following Community Radio Stations: Inanda FM, Durban Youth Radio, Izwilomzansi, Highway, and Imbokodo. The Unit is therefore calling service providers capable of producing radio programmes to submit proposals and quotations. The closing date for submissions is 11 September 2009. For more information please contact Mandla Nsele on 031 311 2276 or email nselem@durban.gov.za

CALLS FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

SERVICE PROVIDERS TO PLACE ADVERTS IN THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

The eThekweni Municipality Communications Unit invites interested service providers to register onto the Municipality's procurement database so that business can be conducted. For enquires and more information related to this, kindly contact: Ms Premilla Hariganesh on Tel: 031 311 2353 Email: HariganeshP@durban.gov.za Address: Communications Unit, City Hall Ground Floor, Church Walk Entrance, Durban.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Business Support and Markets Unit is embarking on procuring goods and services for the 2009 Main SMME Fair which is scheduled to take place on 25 – 27 September 2009 at the Durban Exhibition Centre. Interested service providers in the following industries are invited to attend a compulsory briefing session: -

Promotional material
Infrastructure i.e. marquee & furniture hire
Multimedia
Audio visual technical equipment and Corporate gifts.
A compulsory briefing session will be held on the 2nd of September 2009, at 10h00, in the Council Chamber, at

City Hall. Specifications of each item are obtainable from the 11th Floor, 75 Dr. Langalibalele Dube (Winder) Street on 28 August 2009 from 09:00. For more information and further enquiries, please contact Nonku Mthembu, mthembunonkululeko@durban.gov.za; tel: 031- 311 4456.