

Executive Mayor's Foreword

The quest for Buffalo City to be a people-centred place of opportunity where the basic needs of all are met in a safe, healthy and sustainable environment can only be achieved through good planning driven by political and technical visionaries and informed by community-wide consultation.

Our first Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is premised on the proud vision of a development plan that will create a caring and livable City characterised by peace, prosperity and harmony.

However, the IDP must be assessed against the background of our legacy of unacceptable planning processes which could not address shortcomings inherent in ideological social engineering. We had to transform the planning processes and align them with democratic local government that promotes economic and social development.

Moreover, the IDP must be contextualised within the sharp learning curve and severe time constraints in which it was formulated as well as the novel approaches to the concept of the newly-formulated developmental local government.

We have not allowed such constraints to impede our quest for a plan that will guide and direct us in development that is aligned to our budget in the best possible way to address our long menu of needs.

Crucial to the success is the collective ownership of the IDP as an expression of the will of all our people, the passion of our technocrats to achieve our noble vision, and the commitment and will of our political leadership to pilot the plan through all its stages.

In presenting our IDP, I wish to take this opportunity in paying tribute to the IDP Steering Committee led by Mr. Zilindile Gijana, the Mayoral Committee for the political overseeing of this crucial document; to our City Manager, Mr. Mxolisi Tsika, and his officials for its formulation; and to our communities and stakeholders for their participation.

Sincerely

Sindisile Maclean
EXECUTIVE MAYOR
May 2002.