

MEDIA RELEASE



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TO ALL MEDIA

For immediate release

Buffalo City
Municipality

PRESS RELEASE ON BCM'S METRO READINESS STATUS

Buffalo City Municipality is on track towards its establishment as a Metro after 2011 Local Government Elections. The preparedness follows a Provincial Gazette No. 2421 where the Member of the Executive Council of the Eastern Cape responsible for Local Government, Sicelo Gqobana published a Provincial Notice in terms of Section 12 and 17 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act 117 of 1998), for the establishment of municipalities within the province as reflected in the new boundary demarcations published under Notice No. 166 of 2008 in Provincial Gazette No. 1905 (Extra Ordinary) dated 30 May 2008 read with Notice No. 261 of 2008.

After this Provincial Gazette, the Municipal Metro readiness committee, convened a workshop for stakeholders within Buffalo City Municipality with the following objectives:

1. To reach a shared understanding of the Metro readiness process
2. To access the current state and find new information to add to the database
3. To adopt a common road map in going forward.

Currently Buffalo City Municipality is busy with Metro Process Plan. There are two processes that are key in the process plan and they are:

1. Legal Procedures and compliance issues.
2. Strategic thinking which includes determining the vision of the new Buffalo City and the configuration of the institution to meet the new set of roles and responsibilities.

The above processes need two champions to succeed and these are political and administrative champions. The City now is in a process of putting together clear Terms of Reference that will enable the city to expedite its mandate further.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr. Zukisa Faku stressed the importance of “consultation with all relevant stakeholders”. As the results of that call, the consultation processes are on-going with first and foremost BCM Councillors as they are forming an integral part in the whole process – from inputting in the matter to communicating it to the communities we serve.

The Provincial Gazette stated above could be accessed for perusal from the municipal website, Public Libraries, Municipal Buildings and at the Customer Care Centre. Ground Floor, Trust Centre Building in Oxford Street.

Released by Buffalo City Municipality – Communications Unit

Keith Ngesi
Communications Manager