

TURNING BCMM INTO A CONSTRUCTION SITE

Recently, the BCMM Executive Mayor Xola Pakati made some pronouncements on current and planned projects during the Imbizo Road shows held in all regions of the Metro.

“The City has committed an amount of R7.7 million for the development of a Multi-Purpose Community Centre for the Reeston Community and the construction will begin soon.”

“As part of the metro’s strategy of the inner city regeneration and overall development of the Sleeper Site and Civic Centre, the City has also committed R52.5 million over the next three years in preparation of the project.”

Other projects Pakati mentioned include the construction of a bridge that will link Potsdam and Needs camp bridge at a value of R80 million, the Mt Ruth Interchange which is a new access from the N2 to Mdantsane via Billie Road and the construction of water reservoir under the West Bank Water Restitution amongst others.

The improvement of Qumza Highway in Mdantsane involves rehabilitation and widening of the road on both sides to a dual carriageway. The road is currently 6.8 meters wide and will be upgraded to 16 meters wide with a barrier median. Due to the narrow road, Qumza Highway has seen a high volume of head-on collisions and vehicle-pedestrian conflict. The section of road is being upgraded to alleviate traffic congestion and improve safety for road users.

Other factors of concern include the lack of pedestrian facilities, lack of signage, poor lighting, continued flooding of cross-culverts due to heavy rains, potholes due to the failing condition of pavement structures and lack of intersection control during peak hours.

The project is estimated to create 50 employment opportunities to local community and local SMME’s will be used on the construction components.

The overall project will see an extensive scope of work done that will take 18 months to complete.

This work will include the following:

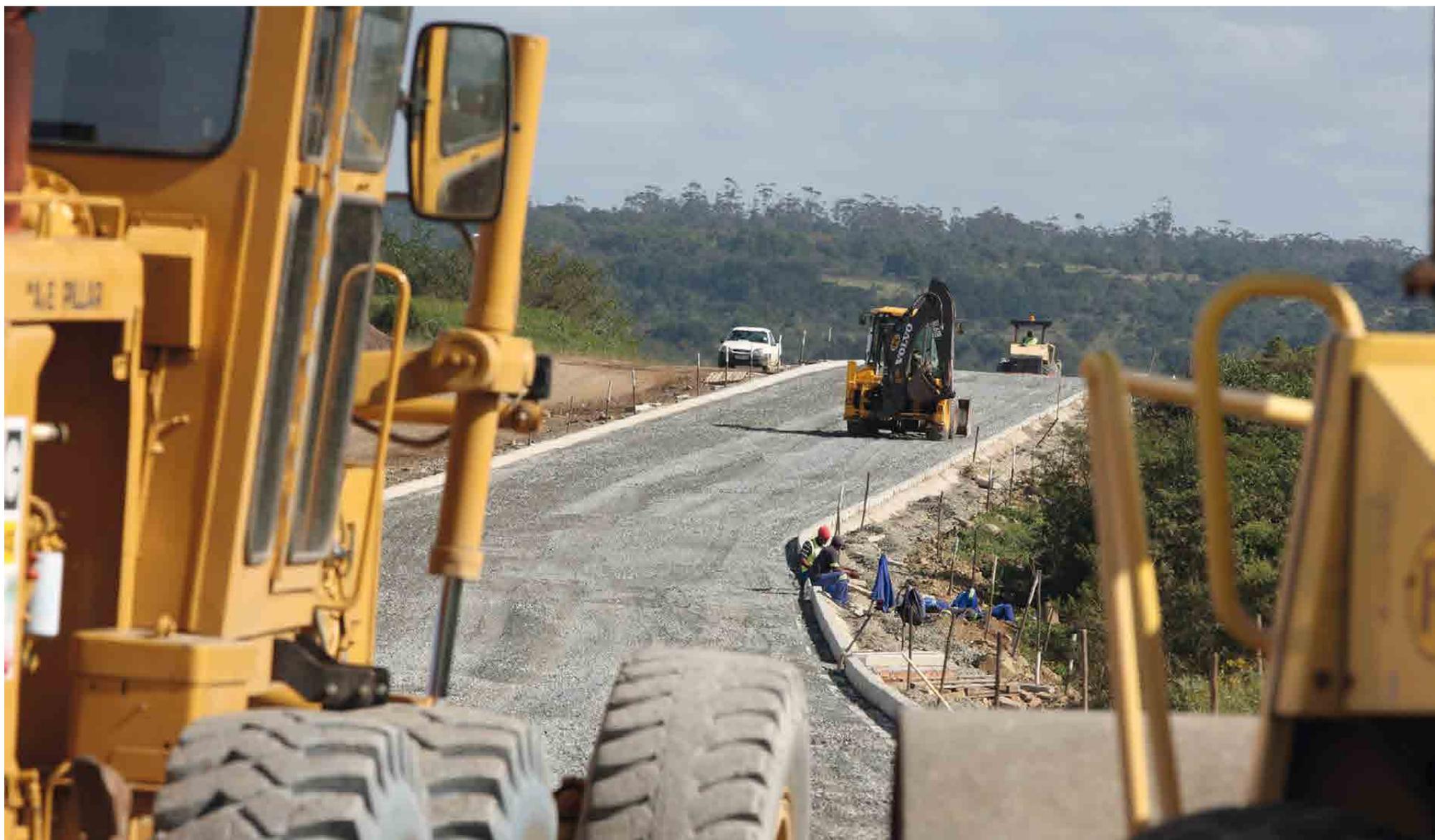
- Accommodation of traffic by deviating on local parallel roads,
- Removing of existing surfacing and layer works,
- Relocation of existing minor services such as overhead electrical services, sewer and bulk water supply services.
- Removal of pipe culverts.
- Widening of the road prism.
- Construction of minor earth retaining structures.
- Installation of traffic signalization and street lighting
- Installation of road furniture including guardrails and road traffic signage.

Motorists are advised to make use of alternative routes where possible and to exercise caution when travelling the work areas.

BCMM has been hard at work to invest in several multimillion rand infrastructure projects, to turn Metro into a construction site. Several bulk infrastructure projects were launched including housing handovers and electrification of settlements.

Other key infrastructure projects include:

- **R117 million** Roads project in Qumza Highway, Mdantsane
- **R70,3 million** Upgrade Fleet & Oxford Street and Quenera-Beacon Bay Link Road
- **R4,8 million** Rehabilitate bridges in Beacon Bay and kwaTshatshu
- **R360 million** Major treatment works like Mzonyana
- **R223 million** Zwelitsha Water Treatment
- **R86 million** King Williams Town Market Square Taxi Rank
- **R200 million** Pipe and water meter replacement program
- **R21 million** Infrastructure project in Ncerha Village that include the construction of bulk water pipelines, Ventilated Improved Pits (VIP’s) and the electrification of households in villages 4 and 5
- **R450 million** Upgrade electrical infrastructure to ensure that electrical network is stabilised and reliable.



CITY TAKES INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TO RURAL AREAS

Siphokazi Mrubata



Executive Mayor Xola Pakati with Infrastructure Portfolio Head Ncedo Kumbaca swithing on the lights in electrified homes of Ncehra Village residents.

**CONSTRUCTION
OF BULK PIPELINES
ALONG THE R347**

**THE ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT
HAS PROVIDED ELECTRICITY
TO 232 HOUSEHOLDS**

**OUR CHILDREN DON'T
HAVE TO RELY ON CANDLE
LIGHT TO STUDY**

Ncehra villages to benefit on infrastructure development.

This follows after BCMM Executive Mayor Cllr Xola Pakati launched a 21-million-rand Infrastructure project in Ncehra Village on Friday August 18.

The project is part of the Integrated Rural Infrastructure Intervention Initiative Package which falls under the service delivery focusing on rural electrification, rural roads, water infrastructure and sanitation.

Speaking at the event, Pakati said, "We have a rural Metro and therefore roads and water are important as they are essential to the livelihood of our people."

"It is important that we bring hope and restores dignity to the people through service delivery more especially in our rural areas," said Pakati.

The project will see five local learner contractors to carry out work on all the projects and will be credited with level 5 contractors at the time of completion with full endorsement from the municipality.

This is in line with a Memorandum of Agreement (MoU) between BCMM and the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Construction, Education, Training Authority (CETA) signed in December 2011 for the implementation of Expanded Public Works (EPWP) Vuk'uphile Contractor Learnership Programme.

According to a municipal report, on-site training undertaken is supervised by fulltime mentors qualified in the built environment industry together with assistance from the appointed professional service provider, as well as continual inspection by the municipal officials appointed to the project.

This supervision is to ensure that the Learner Contracting Companies (LCC's) succeed in the program and that they provide work of acceptable quality

Infrastructure Portfolio Head Ncedo kumbaca said, "It is important to invest in our own people in the Metro, that is why we have chosen to develop local learner contractors and in doing so creating job opportunities for our people."

The projects underway in the Ncehra Villages include the construction of bulk water



Executive Mayor Xola Pakati cuts the for the handover of VIP toilets in Ncehra Village.

pipelines, Ventilated Improved Pits (VIP's) and the electrification of households in villages four and five.

Construction of bulk pipelines along the R347 between Sunny South and Kidd's Beach forms part of an overall water supply scheme aimed at providing portable, safe and adequate water to all areas that do not have any water supply within the project boundary.

The project will address backlog, eliminate carting of water by BCMM, eliminate existing boreholes and create 72 employment opportunities for the local people in Sunny South.

Contractors appointed for the projects are AK Trading and Projects, Maddee Construction and Building, Amabhayi Construction, Mikuwo Civils and Maliswana Trading Enterprise

The Electrification project has provided electricity to 232, as part of the 2016/17 electrification plan between Eskom and BCMM, initiated in terms of the IDP requirements of the City.

Speaking to one of the beneficiaries Patience Mhlaba said, "I am very grateful that we have been at last heard as we have been requesting electricity for many years now. Our Children don't have to rely on candle light to study."

Kumbaca said that they are looking to roll out the Integrated Rural Infrastructure Intervention Initiative Package in all rural areas of the Metro as it is a more effective and efficient way of delivering services to the people.

**Buffalo City Metro
Municipality has
committed itself in
ensuring that its citizens
live in a dignified manner
with their families.**

MAYORAL IMBIZO CONNECTS CITY WITH RESIDENTS

By Zanda Boo

Implemented and planned projects in the area include the R33.8 million upgrades of the Eastern Beach Gravity Sewer-Blind to City Pump station, the construction of the R15 million water reservoir in West Bank and R6 million for upgrading rural roads in Ward 31 and 32.

Buffalo City held four successful Mayoral Imbizo Road Shows throughout the Metro led by the Executive Mayor Xola Pakati.

Pakati addressed challenges face by communities and also outlined future plans and projects the City is undertaking.

This year's Mayoral Imbizo was combined with site and project visits to assess and monitor the progress of service delivery projects taking place around the City.

On Thursday 12 October, the Executive Mayor Xola Pakati met with the people of Mdantsane at the N6 Sports Field.

Before that, the Executive Mayor together with BCM officials conduct site visits and launch the following projects:

- Eluxolweni VIP ablution facilities launch at 10h00
- Switch-On ceremony of the Mount Ruth Electrification Project at 11h00
- Official introduction of the contractor for electrification of Ward 11 informal settlements 12h00

In his address, Pakati said the City will be implementing the following programme in Mdantsane.

The Metro has set aside an amount of R1million to kick start a project that will make municipal facilities access to people living with disabilities.

"The Metro is looking at rolling out a programme to construct access pathways and wheelchair ramps in Mdantsane in Zones 2, 4, 5,6 7, 11, 14 and 16 rent offices this financial year," said Pakati.

This comes as an effort by Buffalo City to make all communities in the Metro have equal access to Municipal facilities as well as services to people with disabilities.

The matter is however in the procurement stage and the project will start as soon as procurement is finalised starting with NU 2 and NU5.

The whole project is expected to be complete by next year June 2018.

On Sunday 15 October 2017 residents in Ward 31, 32 and 33 had their own chance to speak with the mayor in Ncerha Village.

Implemented and planned projects in the area include the R33.8 million upgrades of the Eastern Beach Gravity Sewer- Blind to City Pump station, the construction of the R15 million water reservoir in West Bank and R6 million for upgrading rural roads in Ward 31 and 32.

During the site visit in Ncerha Eskom lead with a sod turning for the electrification project in Toise Village.

In the King Williams Town area residents raised issues of development, community halls, housing and electrification.

Pakati said the City has plans in place to resolve the issues raised by the communities.

"A task team has been set up to investigate the wrongful allocation of houses."

He said a master plan is being developed for the construction of a community hall in Qongotha.

Projects being implemented in KWT Major treatment works like Mzonyana (R360 million); Zwelitsha Water Treatment (R223 million) and the King Williams Town Market Square Taxi Rank R86 million.





CITY GEARED-UP FOR SUMMER SEASON CELEBRATIONS #CAPITALOFFUN

The City is once again looking forward to hosting another bumper summer season filled with events for its citizens and visitors to the Metro.

The BCMM Council in October 2017 approved more than R17 million to sponsor the Summer Season events expected to bring fun and generate revenue for the City. This is in line with the new BCMM nickname that was coined by locals naming Buffalo City as the Capital of Fun in South Africa.

It has already been a fun absorbing build up to summer for the City having hosted international sports events leading towards the holiday season. Sports will feature strongly again this summer with the City hosting the Steve Vukile Tshwete SALGA Games from 28 November until 01 December 2017. These will culminate with the Standard Bank IRONMAN 70.3 South Africa scheduled for the 28th January 2018.

From an entertainment front, the summer events are aimed at entertaining BCMM citizens to support local and national artists, provide an

opportunity for regional artists to gain exposure for their work and reach new audiences in the City.

"For us it is important that locals have access to national performers at their doorstep so that they don't feel pressured to leave for other Cities during holidays whilst persuading those who are plying trade outside our boundaries to come back home. Ultimately its about ensuring that no money leaves but rather the spending increases within," said BCMM Spokesperson Samkelo Ngwenya.

Residents and visitors to the Metro can look forward to a jam-packed festive calendar, with events such as the Berlin November, Buyel'ekhaya Music Festival, Metro FM Heatwave, 2017 Count Down, Cruel Summer, iQonce Home Coming, Mdantsane Summer Re-union, Lights, carnivals and the Cruel Summer.

This year's summer season will kick off with the Motsepe Foundation Music Concert on Saturday 18 November.

Following that is the annual traditional horse racing signature event called Berlin November on Saturday 25 November.

After that is the City will glitter under Christmas decorative lights with its traditional switching on ceremonies in East London and King William's Town.

The vibrant Cruel Summer Picnic event will take place on Saturday 2 December to be hosted in the City for the sixth time this year. Then it will be the nationally renowned Metro FM Heatwave which will be held on Saturday 9 December.

The massive Buyel'ekhaya concert will start with a fashion show on Friday 15 December then the main event will take place the next day 17 December.

The annual Christmas Carnival will be held in

Mdantsane, King Williams Town# and East London mid-December.

The London Roots event which will feature live music, and DJs as well as craft stalls, is a first time beneficiary in the Metro. The event will take place on Tuesday 26 December.

Mdantsane, the second biggest township in the country will host the Mdantsane Summer Re-union on Wednesday 27 December. The City will end its annual events on a high note on Sunday 31 December with the End of the Year Countdown.

"These sponsored events excludes other events that promoters will be hosting throughout the City. We are lucky in that we have young entrepreneurs and promoters who over and above what we do, ensure that they host various events," Ngwenya said.

"We also pride ourselves with hosting fun filled incident free events and this summer will be no different,"

"Residents that are also advised that they have to enjoy themselves responsibly as our traffic and law enforcement agencies will be in full force to ensure that there is law and order. We have employed extra safeguards and have installed cameras around the influx areas like the beachfront and we are ready for the thousands that will be coming into the City," Ngwenya added.



R1.4m TO HELP CITY'S NPO'S

By Nomatshawe Vellem-Dube

Executive Mayor Xola Pakati handed over grants to the selected beneficiaries of the R1.4 million Grants-In-Aid Fund and also visited one of the beneficiaries in Duncan Village.

The hand over was held on Wednesday 30 August at the East London City Hall.

The fund is an initiative done by the Metro to provide grants to non-political and non-profit making organisations to help support and improve BCMM communities.

The Little Kids Day Care Centre that was visited

by the Mayor is one of the 271 organisations that applied for the Buffalo City Metro Municipality Grants-In-Aid for assistance to enhance growth of community development in the City through their organisations in the 2016/2017 financial year.

After the Executive Mayor visited the Centre, he then joined and addressed the rest of the beneficiaries at the East London City Hall received their allocation which ranges between R10 000 and R30 000.

The fund is an initiative done by the Metro to

provide grants to non-political and non-profit making organisations to help support and improve BCMM communities.

A total of R1.4 million budget has been set aside for the selected organisations across the Metro that are responsibility for child and youth centers, HIV/Aids centers, social and welfare organisations, home-based centers, early childhood development centers, arts and culture organisations, disabled and old age centers, support groups, alcohol and drug centers.

The budget has been spread geographically in the following areas of BCMM that include Coastal – East London, Midland – Mdantsane, Inland - King Williams Town.

Speaking at the occasion the Executive Mayor said, "I urge all beneficiaries to implement effective and efficient financial management."

"As the City, we humbly request that the grant be exclusively utilised for the purposes intended in the agreement reached," said Pakati.

Owner of Little Kids Day Care Centre Liziwe Mthetho said they had experienced many challenges in the Centre such as not having decent classrooms structures as well as running water in the past four years.

"I am very happy and excited. Today I have received a R10 000 for my Centre, with this money I will build a decent structure for my kids. I really appreciate the fund it will make a deference to my day care centre," said Mthetho.

One parent from Little Kids Day Care Centre Thandi Mqolo said, "We are excited about the donation, the money will help tackle all the challenges faced by the Centre."



Executive Mayor Xola Pakati with the owner of the Little Kids Centre Liziwe Mthetho



Executive Mayor Xola Pakati with the kids from Little Centre in Duncan Village



CITY ROLLS OUT FREE WI-FI

By Zanda Boozi

Buffalo City Metro will be rolling out over 20 free Wi-Fi hotspots in public places around the City.

Access points have been installed around the CBD, Libraries and Civic Centres across the Metro with access initially restricted to Buffalo City employees, but citizens will also soon enjoy free Wi-Fi as the City is in the process of activating public access.

BCMM ICT Manager Jongikhaya Stuurman said "Controllers of the access points are currently being programmed to create a separate public access to the network for public Wi-Fi."

He added that four public outdoor access points have already been activated in Duncan Village Redevelopment Initiative (DVRI) by the Community Hall, Steers in Oxford street, corner of Amalinda Main Road by Clarendon High School and Buffalo City College.

The remaining 18 public outdoor points will be activated by end October 2017. The hotspots will include among others the East London City Hall, Trust Centre, Forbes, BP garage, Bisho and King Williams town.

Stuurman said the public will benefit from having access to free internet as it will increase access to job opportunities and information as well as decrease the digital divide.

The City's network will provide the public with 250MB of data per day at a connection speed of 2 to 4 MB per second. There will be a once-off registration required where a cell number will be authenticated for security purposes.

IDP Councillors Workshop

By Luxole Komani

Buffalo City seeks to improve the quality of the lives of the people as well as the social economic development of the City through the Integrated Developmental Planning (IDP) said Executive Mayor Xola Pakati.

Pakati was speaking at the Integrated Developmental Planning (IDP) Budget// Performance Management System (PMS) Councillors Workshop East London City Hall on Thursday 17 August.

He said the present council has a good story to tell.

"Indeed, we have good stories to tell within the time we have been in office, we truly have become a City Hard at Work. BCMM is one of the Metros in the country that an obligation of changing its socio-economic conditions of its citizens."

Pakati added, 'We must be effective leaders with a vision of making a difference in our communities and live up to the commitment we made to change lives of communities of Buffalo City through well informed developmental programmes that seeks to attract investment and grow the economy of the Metro.

Speaking about the purpose of the day, Deputy Executive Mayor Zoliswa Matana said, "This session is seeking to outline the process that will be followed towards the 2018/2019 IDP Plan and budget review. As well as to provide an overview of BCMM's 2016/2017 performance, as councillors it is one of our many roles to check the performance of the previous year.

Matana also added that as councillors and officials they need to follow the process for once it is adopted it then becomes a legal document that cannot be tampered with afterwards.

Adding to that Head for Executive Support Services Ncumisa Sidukwana said, "We need to provide feedback on the cries the citizens of the Metro expressed in the Imbizos, as well as to account as to what have we done ever since then.

On 22 August the City also met with the IDP external representative forum.

The meeting was well attended with external stakeholders from various organisations such as the members of the External Representative Forum include businesses, (NGO) sectors, Organised Labour, State Owned Enterprises, Institutions of Higher Education, ratepayer's forums, South African Municipal Workers' Union SAMWU and Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (IMATU), BCMM Youth, Office of the Premier as well as political and technical leaders of the IDP Clusters.

Presenting an overview of annual performance for 2016/17 financial year, BCMM City Manager Andile Sihlahla said, "BCMM has continued to rehabilitate existing BCMM roads to the value of R92 million within BCMM suburbs. Re-graveling of rural roads to the value of R20 million for the financial year 2016/17."

"Number of streets lighting projects have taken place to upgrade and provide street lighting in areas requiring street lights such as Fynbos, Buffalo Flats,



Executive Mayor addressing the Councillors at the workshop

Soga, Slovo Park, Andrew Mlangeni, Nazo Park, Bonza Bay road Eureka, Glencairn and Jade street," said Sihlahla.

"3 new highmast lights were installed in Amalinda Forest, Meadow Park and Mzamomhle and 5 transformers were installed."

"Furthermore 98 percent of households have access in water in the Metro. 5 CCTV cameras have been installed along the beachfront and the CCTV Control Centre has been upgraded, 18 additional CCTV cameras have been installed in Duncan Village area, Frere Hospital upper area, Oxford Street and Park Avenue and 28 additional Law Enforcement Officers have been appointed." he said.

"The amount of R500 thousand was utilised for the fencing of the James Peace Park in Nahoon and 1 297 houses were provided in Ndancama, Reeston, Mdantsane, Peelton-Majali and Tsholomnqa," he added.

Some of the issues that were raised by external stakeholders ranged from issue of unemployment in the City, insufficient capital budget for local economic development, skills development and training for communities, issue of littering and dumping sites as well as concerns about inadequate youth development initiatives. All issues raised were responded to by BCMM leadership.



Councillors at the workshop at the EL City Hall

CITY CALLS FOR RURAL COMMUNITY TO REGISTER FOR INDIGENT

NHBRC endorses Mdantsane youth plumbing skills

By Nomatshawe Vellem-Dube

50 Emerging contractors who have been trained on plumbing in Mdantsane have been accredited by the Provincial Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC)

The contractors received their plumbing training certificates on Monday 11 September at Unit 1 Community Hall in Mdantsane.

A new mobile office unit was also launched to reach out to the community.

The mobile unit is part of NHBRC's efforts to increase accessibility and service delivery in order to support consumers and home builders who are unable to access its products and services in the main urban centres.

NHBRC's Eastern Cape Provincial Manager Nombasa Ngoqo said, "Our insights indicate that many people, especially those who live in the rural areas have very little knowledge about the NHBRC and its services. Equally, those who know about the NHBRC have to travel long distances in order to access our services, which can be costly and time consuming."

"We also noted that our consumers have low levels of knowledge with regards to their rights and obligations hence the goal of these mobile buses is to take our services to the people," said Ngoqo.

The mobile office units are equipped with the latest technologies that enable the NHBRC to remotely attend to consumer complaints, whilst offering homebuilder registrations and renewals, technical assistance, home enrolment, information on the training of home builders and consumer awareness.

In the month of September the mobile office unit is scheduled to travel to remote areas of the provinces with NHBRC team to increase accessibility and service delivery in order to support consumers and home builders who are unable to access its products and services.

NHBRC also conducted plumbing training that started in May for 50 BCM emerging contractors to equip more skills, provide opportunities and to empower Buffalo City residents.

One of the learners who received a certificate from the training Nonqaba Lugogwana said, "We are feeling so blessed today, we really appreciate this opportunity. We will make sure that we implement back to our community every skill we have obtained from the programme."



Indigent Unit officials helping the elderly to register in Mzintshane

Buffalo City Municipality will be going out on the road from the 19 September 2017 till 29 October 2017 for the Rural Indigent Registration Campaign to assist the underprivileged citizens with access to free water and electricity.

The Metro has identified more than 40 locations that will be part of the Rural Indigent Campaign as part of its mandate of improving the lives of the citizens of the Metro and truly living up to its A City Hard at Work mission.

Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality will be undertaking the campaign in the first quarter of the new financial year 2017/2018 which aims to register all rural indigent consumers so as to ensure that indigent consumers benefit from the free basic services offered by council.

The main objective of the Metro is to cover rural areas within its jurisdiction including the recently demarcated areas to BCMM. A formal notice will be issued to the public and distributed to all affected ward councillors as well as an invitation to Eskom.

Indigent subsidy and who benefits from it?

The applicant must be a citizen of the Metro and must earn less than R3,200 per month, unemployed, the person must be a pensioner, must be an account holder,

must own and be staying at the house, should not own more than one fixed property and lastly the value of a property must not exceed R120 000.

The criteria for applying for the subsidy is that community members must get an indigent application form from a nearest municipal office and take it to their ward councillor to sign and submit it with these supporting documents:

an ID copy and affidavit

Proof of income if employed and earning less than the threshold income (Threshold income must not exceed R3 200.00 (Household income)

Proof of pension if you are a pensioner

When the applicant gets approved they receive an equivalent R652.90 towards their account, which translates to six kilolitre of water and free 50 units of electricity once a month.

In the rural areas applicants receive free electricity from Eskom and the Metro absorbs the cost at a maximum of 50kwh per household.

The Indigent Subsidy is funded from an equitable share from National Treasury. BCMM provides indigent subsidy to its indigent consumers through the billing of their accounts and free tokens in respect of electricity which is equivalent to 50Kwh.

By Zanda Boo!

Water safety skills for
9-15
year olds

CITY EQUIPS KIDS WITH SWIMMING SKILLS

Drownings are listed as one of the top causes of unnatural deaths amongst children in South Africa.

Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality has several suburbs and townships that are near or close to bodies of water which makes the life skill of swimming essential.

Every summer, thousands of visitors flock to the beaches in BCM but sadly, many families go back home with one of their loved ones wrapped in a body bag.

To prevent any more of these tragedies, the Metro and its sister City, the City of Leiden established a Water Safety Project in January 2016 where youngsters from Isibindi Child and Youth Care and Safe Park in Duncan Village were given introductory swimming lessons and trained on water safety.

This year, the programme continued with a launch of a 6-month swimming programme where 20 youngsters from the Safe Park and another 20 from Scenary Park ages 9 to 15 will be equipped with water safety skills.

The group from Scenary Park are children who were involved in the drowning tragedy at the Umzonyana Dam in Scenary Park where a young life was lost in February 2017.

One of them was Lisa Quluba who was very excited to benefit from the programme. "I look forward to learning

how to swim because I want to be able to save others," he said.

The programme will ensure the identified participants are able to practice water safety activities in different aquatic environments and are able to swim and surf in a safe and fun way.

Buffalo City and the City of Leiden will spend a total of R137 550 towards the project covering costs that include swimming equipment and gear, transport to the venue and salaries for project team.

Motivating the participants, International Surfer, Craig Jarvis said "Every time I see a young child get on a surfing board for the first time, I relive my childhood as I recall standing on my very first wave here at the orient beach."

He went on to say "the ocean can be your best friend but it can also be your enemy that is why safety is very important, it is sad to hear of children drowning at sea when it can be prevented through training and education."

Special Programmes Portfolio Head, Xolani Witbooi appealed to the young group to commit fully to the programme so that one day they can represent the City in international sporting events such as the Olympic Games and also impart the knowledge to others.

The launch was held at the Orient Beach on Thursday, 01 November 2017.



The kids get their first lesson during the event

Major improvements for water provision in the Metro

Siphokazi Mrubata



EM Xola Pakati together with Portfolio Head Infrastructure Services Ncedo Kumbaca, HoD Engineering Services Nceba Ncunyana and BCMM councillors at Mzonyana



EM Xola Pakati checking water meters in Scenery Park



Water Leak Agents from all 50 wards



Water Leak representative Ntomboxolo Nkqayi.

The budget for the multi-year project is estimated at 360 million starting in the current financial year to 2019/20

Executive Mayor Xola Pakati turned the sod to officially launch the upgrades for the ailing Mzonyana Waste Water Treatment Works at the Scenery Park Community Hall, Wednesday August 3.

The budget for the multi-year project is estimated at 360 million starting in the current financial year to 2019/20

The Plant is a Class 'B' works, with a treatment capacity of 120 million litres per day that serves primarily the population of the coastal and midland Districts of BCMM, estimated at approximately 500 000 people, residing in East London and Mdantsane, with a smaller proportion residing in Ncera rural villages surrounding the two main centers as well as the coastal towns resorts of Kaysers Beach and Winterstrand.

The entire project comprises of three phases, where it entails the completion of the raw water inlet works, fencing, upgrade of pump station and construction of additional sludge lagoons.

Speaking at the launch Pakati said that the project will run until 2019 and will create many jobs for the unemployed youth of the BCMM.

"The population in the region is growing and as the municipality we have to provide basic

services to the people including clean, purified water. "We are very excited to see all the young people as water agents especially young women, it comes to show that there is nothing that men can do that women can't do better," said Pakati.

BCMM Portfolio Head of Infrastructure Services Councillor Ncedo Kumbaca said that the project will bring massive employment for the youth of Buffalo City especially in ward 5 and has already employed around 250 young people from the Metro, five from each ward.

Scenery Park resident, Zingiswa Bheja said that the upgrades of the Mzonyana Water Treatment Plant is welcomed by the community as they sometimes had to go without water for days.

"We have a problem of shortage of water in our community, we hope this project will make a difference and create job opportunities for our children," said Bheja.

The project site was handed over for the commencement of the project on 24 May 2017. A project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising of about six residents from the area, will be recruited and hired by the contractor, while SMME's and labour from the local areas will also be employed by the contractor various aspects of the contract for building and trenching.

On the other hand, the City has kick started the War on Leaks programme.

Recently, Council approved the implementation of water usage restrictions as dam levels in Buffalo City have dropped.

The programme seeks to reduce water losses and address the shortage of skills within the water sector by training the youth in various fields including Water Agents, Plumbers, Electricians, Filters, Turners, Welders and Instrumentation.

This is a national programme that was initiated by the Department of Water and Sanitation, which was launched by President Jacob Zuma on the 28th of August 2015 in Port Elizabeth. The programme is implemented by municipalities in conjunction with the Department.

The trainees will undergo a theoretical training for a year and thereafter are distributed to municipalities for a practical training in order to complete their designated qualifications.

At the launch, one of the agents Ntomboxolo Nkqayi said that they are very grateful to the Metro for providing them with the opportunity to gain skills.

"We are grateful to BCMM for the opportunity especially us women to be exposed in this kind of work that was mainly meant for men," said Nkqayi. "With the knowledge we received from the programme, we can now go back to our communities and teach them how to save water and fix damages in order to save water," added Nkqayi.

Buffalo City

EAST LONDON · BHISHO · MDANTSANE · KING WILLIAM'S TOWN
EASTERN CAPE · SOUTH AFRICA

BC TOURISM EVENTS

NOV

EXPERIENCE BUFFALO CITY.

Don't miss the fun... come join us.

2017



03

NOVEMBER

GOLF

BKCKB Corporate Golf Challenge

06

NOVEMBER

**TRIATHLON AWARDS
Buffalo City Triathlon
Athlete Awards**

16-18

NOVEMBER

**FRANCHISE EXPO
BCMM Franchise Expo**

20-21

NOVEMBER

**ENERGY
BCMM Energy Indaba**



DATE	EVENT	CONTACTS	VENUE
02 November 2017 Thursday	Night At The Museum: 2 Shows recommended for Children and Family	East London Museum 043 743 0686	East London Museum Time: 17h30 and 19h00 for adults • Entry: R70 and kids under 4 is free.
03 November 2017 Friday	GOLF: BKCKB Corporate Golf Challenge	East London Golf Club 043 735	EL Golf Course Time: 07h00am
04 November 2017 Saturday	Beer Festival: The Better Beer Festival includes supper, music and fun.		Bonza Bay Bowling Club Time: 16h30 • Entry: R80pp
04 November 2017 Saturday	Mthombo's Palace Hennessy50 th Birthday	Mthombo 076 765 0249	Mthombo's Palace Time: 12h00-15h00 • Entry: R100
04 November 2017 Saturday	Thandi: Live at last, Contemporary Music	081 765 5614	Legends School Time: 18h00 • Ticket: R120pp
04-11 Nov 2017 Sat-Sat	Horse Riding Adventures: Surf & Turf Horse Safari with Wild Coast. 4 night 5 day beach trail followed by 3 night 3 days game viewing on horseback.	082 567 0972	Wild Coast Horse Riding
06 November 2017 Monday	Triathlon Awards: Buffalo City Triathlon Athlete Awards	083 281 3971	Nahoon Beach Lifesavers Shack Time: 18h00
10 November 2017 Friday	GOLF: Totally Solar Gonubie Golf Day. 4- Ball – American scramble.	Nicole Moore 074 713 6830 sales@totalsolar.biz	Gonubie Golf Club Time: 09h00
10 November 2017 Friday	Music Entertainment: Ray Dylan will spoil his fans with all his greatest hits:	Guild Theatre 043 743 0704	Guild Theatre Time: 20h00 • Entry: R120 and R130
11 November 2017 Saturday	Motorcycle Racing: Round 6 of BMSC regionals	EL Grand Prix Circuit 043 736 4023	EL Grand Prix Circuit Time: 08h00am
11 November 2017 Saturday	Christmas in the Park: Craft stalls, snake shows, mashee golf and more.	Colleen 083 654 7636	Python Park Time: 10h00am-16h00
11 November 2017 Saturday	Hip Hop Festival: 1 st Annual Eastern Cape Hip Hop Festival, featuring 3 rd Annual Kumkani FM Hip Hop Awards.	Buffalo City Stadium	Buffalo City Stadium Time: 12h00 noon • Entry: General access - R100; VIP - R500
11 November 2017 Saturday	Wine and Whiskey tasting		
13 November 2017 Saturday	Fun Fair		In front of Osner Hotel, Court Crescent
16 November 2017 Thursday	Comedy Show: Algoa FM presents Homecoming Comedy Show. The show features stand-up comedians, Rob van Vuuren, Donovan Goliath and Ndumiso Lindi.	Computicket	EL ICC Tickets: R150
16-18 Nov 2017 Thurs-Sat	BCMM Franchise Expo	Vuyolwetu Mwati 043 705 1167	EL ICC
17 November 2017 Friday	Gospel Music Entertainment: Nobathembu a living testimony	Guild Theatre 043 743 0704	Guild Theatre Time: 18h00 • Ticket: R150
17-19 Nov 2017 Fri-Sun	Fishing Competition: Salt water Fly Fishing Competition	wildcoastflyfishing@gmail.com	Gonubie Marine Club
18 November 2017 Saturday	Snake Awareness: Venomous Snake Handling Course at The Venom Pit Snake Park from 9am. Presented by well-known herpetologist Johan Marais author of the best-selling books A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa and Snakes and Snakebite.	Ashley Kemp admin@asiorg.co.za 083 285 0534	Python Snake Park
18 November 2017 Saturday	Gospel Show: Mdantsane Gospel Choir presents 3 rd annual Extra Ordinary Live Gospel show	Guild Theatre 043 743 0704	Guild Theatre Time: 14h00 • Entry: R100pp
18 November 2017 Saturday	Motsepe Music Festival		Court Crescent, Esplanade
20-21 November 2017	BCMM Energy Indaba	Karen 043 705 9601	EL ICC
25 November 2017 Saturday	Berlin November 2017: The Berlin November South African's traditional horse racing experience taking place in the November annually at the Berlin racing track	043 735 1302	Berlin Horse Racing Course • General Entrance - R150; General VIP - R550 (includes parking); Prime Hospitality Lounge - R1, 500; Parking - R50.
25 November 2017 Saturday	Ruth: Ruth is a renowned Eastern Cape recording gospel artist with a love and a passion for worship.	Guild Theatre 043 743 0704.	Guild Theatre Time: 18h00 • Entry: R150
28 November 2017 Tuesday	Steve Vukile Thwete Games	Manelisi Lwana 043 705 1163 083 619 3301	Different games from different venues Time: 08h00-18h00

Positioning the City as an Investment Destination

By Anga Mtongana

The Metro together with Buffalo City Metro Development Agency and Invest Buffalo held a two-day Business Seminar to unlock business potential of the coastal cities with prominent speakers delivering speeches on how to induce the City into an investor friendly ground.

The two-day seminar was held at the East London Industrial Zone on Thursday 9 November – Friday 10 November.

Among the prominent speakers was BCMM Executive Mayor, Xola Pakati who welcomed all the distinguished guests and outlined what the seminar holds for the Metro.

“It is important for us to recognise the fact that Cities broadly are engines of economic growth and if steered well they can carry the national economy”.

Pakati further said that we should ensure that we properly position our as a credible investment destination. This should be done in a targeted manner, focusing on the areas where the city has a comparative advantage.

“This can also coherently assist in dealing with the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality highlighted by the diagnostic report prepared by the GTAC Team that is currently assisting our Metro,” added Pakati.

Newly appointed Chief Executive Officer for BCMDA, Bulumko Nelana expressed his views on the two-day event, saying this marks the beginning of an era where “the City is open for business.”

“The purpose behind the seminar is to enhance an understanding of the opportunities available to Coastal Cities in order to stimulate economic potential.”

“It is to progressively provide better understanding of the available national funding instruments and further facilitate a networking opportunity with other practitioners operating at different organisations, said Nelana.

He further added that the agency is celebrating its one-year anniversary and looks forward to many more milestones.

Speakers for the day included Tsepo Ntsimane from the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Sithole Mbanga from the Cities Network, Rashmee Ragaven from Invest South Africa; a division of Trade and Industry, Asanda Fongqo from Mercedes Benz of South Africa (MBSA) and Mickey Mama from Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT).



BUFFALO CITY METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

REFUSE		East London	043 721 1983
		Mdantsane	043 705 9901
		Bhisho	043 604 8560
WATER		East London	043 705 9234/5/6/9256
		Mdantsane	043 705 9860/1
		KWT	043 604 8526/8590
ELECTRICITY		East London	043 505 5683
DISASTER MANAGEMENT		East London	043 705 9029 / 9088 043 743 7118
POTHOLES		East London	043 705 9220/9223
		Mdantsane	043 705 9850
		KWT	040 654 0305
FIRE		East London	043 705 9000

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086 111 3017

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SAVE WATER NOW!

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL IT IS THE LAST DROP

YONGA AMANZI • SPAAR WATER

PLEASE REDUCE YOUR WATER USAGE IMMEDIATELY



Take a shower of 5 minutes or less
SAVES UP TO 70 LITRES PER SHOWER



Install a water-saving toilet flush system
SAVES UP TO 700 LITRES EACH YEAR



Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
SAVES UP TO 20 LITRES PER DAY

Close taps properly. Fix leaking taps, pipes and toilets. Only flush your toilet when necessary. Re-use your bath and shower water in the garden.

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