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## Message from the Executive Mayor

Reflecting on the progress that the district municipality has made thus far we can only say that it has been a productive six months.

Issues that stand out are the unqualified audit report that Council received from the Auditor-General for the 2007/08 financial year. The matters highlighted by the Auditor-General have been or are currently being addressed in the action plan.

The strategic planning for the IDP and budget processes for 2009/10 - 2011/12 started from the word go in July 2008 and we have more than beat the March 2009 deadline. The Annual Report for 2007/08 is also way ahead of schedule and the draft of this report has already been tabled before Council in December 2008.

Project Management software was procured which will enable the district municipality to manage its projects in a much more effective manner.

As projects are the shortterm efforts that the district municipality uses to meet its objectives, the implementation of this software will help to make managers of the projects that much more accountable and improve the monitoring of these projects.

In terms of service delivery on infrastructure projects the FBDM has over the last six months rolled out nine projects. Almost all of these are in the construction phase and one has been completed that being the Stillwater Reticulation Project for 200 erven.

Overall the past six months have been productive for the district municipality and the last quarter of this financial year will prove to be just as successful.



**The Executive Mayor  
Mr Achmat Florence**



# From the Municipal Manager's Desk

**D**uring the previous financial year we at Frances Baard District Municipality set high standards for ourselves.

The unqualified audit report that we received from the office of the Auditor-General is really a huge achievement in the public sector at the moment. Most of our projects were also completed within the set timeframes and budgets.

The majority of the current projects concentrate on providing basic services as the District strives to reach the National targets to alleviate backlogs.

The District lost several key personnel especially in the Infrastructure Services Department. Although this will negatively impact on service delivery we are confident that we will operate on full strength again soon.

The fact that the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry has changed the role from support to regulating makes it imperative that the District plays a bigger role in assisting the smaller local municipalities to improve the quality of their drinking water as well as the quality of the effluent from their wastewater treatment plants.

The Blue Drop/Green Drop initiative by DWAF will place a jug strain on local municipalities to provide clean water as well as to discharge properly treated effluent.

The constraints that the smaller local municipalities are operating under, are well known and to

overcome them it is imperative that the technical support from the District will have to become much bigger.

This renders more urgency to finalize the proposed Service Level Agreements between the District and the local municipalities.

The mid-year report has shown that most projects are well underway. The budget processes are also at a much more advanced stage than any previous year. The IDP process is currently struggling a bit and that might influence our planning for the rest of the year.

We are however looking forward to the last six months of the financial year and we will do all in our power to complete this financial year in a



**Municipal Manager,  
Mr Thabo Nosi**

## Taking up the Pledge

**O**n the 2nd of February the FBDM handed over a house to a victim of domestic violence, Ms S Sebudi.

This comes after the Department of Housing & Local Government requested all institutions to take up the pledge as part of the “16 days of no violence against women and children.”

The Executive Mayor, Mr Achmat Florence in his handover speech said that, “It was an honour for the district municipality to have taken up this challenge and it is very fulfilling to know that we could have helped someone in need. Housing is not yet a competency of the district municipality and that is what made this project even more special.”

The construction of the house cost R60,000 and was completed in less than 2 months. In accepting the house Ms Sebudi tearfully thanked the Mayor and Councillors present for giving her family a permanent shelter.



**Above: The Executive Mayor, Mr Achmat Florence handing over the keys to the house to Ms S. Sebudi**

# Development vs...

## Water Resources

*Environmental experts warn that one of the first effects of climate change will be scarcity of water, especially throughout the African continent. Already depleted water resources will become even more scarce. As a result, countries like South Africa will have to rely more and more on recycling used and polluted water for our consumption. Some water experts believe a crisis is looming.*

In South Africa, 98 percent of our water supply is subscribed, which means that we basically have no unused water resources left. Any new demands will have to be met by efficient use and come from return flows. That's why water quality and quantity are tightly linked. Return flows need to be of a high enough quality so that the water can be re-used.

Water security is an important issue, especially when water is used in the industrial and mining sectors, where pollution is difficult to clean up.

**What is it caused by and what should be done to prevent it?**

Environmental experts warn of a looming water crisis in SA. There are a number of dangers, but one of the biggest is pollution caused by the mining sector - acid mine drainage that lowers pH-levels in the water and poses health risks to humans and animals.

We need to beef up our water quality system. South Africa has a fairly

well-developed water policy, but the challenge is its implementation. We need, for instance, more water quality inspectors and involve the public in monitoring of water quality. Most of all, we need a determined effort.

**Should water be regarded as a commercial or rather as a social good?**

Water should be regarded as a public good, although water services can be commercial. The law stipulates that water cannot be owned, like air cannot be owned. It's for public use. You use it and give it back; it moves in a cycle.

Access to water is a basic human right, although it is important to note that the commercialisation of water makes it more difficult to keep it that way.

**Why does water continue to be priced beyond the reach of poor households?**

Municipalities are in a position where they have to do cost recovery for water services rendered to people who really cannot afford it, and this clashes with the human rights issue of access to water. A solution is possible within the stepped block tariff (an escalating payment structure), if the first blocks are kept free of charge or very cheap.

At the moment, households receive six kilolitres of free water per month, but this is not an adequate amount, especially if these households have flush toilets, which use a lot of water.

**How does the commercialisation of water, whether through privatisation or corporatisation, relate to people's right to water?**

Commercialisation of water shouldn't be used as an excuse for reducing people's access to water.

Even though water is privatised or corporatised, municipalities, in their role as water services authorities, are obliged to achieve social goals and have to police them.

Commercialisation does not nullify the water policies we have. We have to be cautious because those who want to commercialise water often make promises they don't keep, such as infrastructure upgrades or provision of water to the poor.

**Can South Africa become one of the driest places on earth in future and what impact will it have?**

Despite the fact that climate change will undoubtedly happen, I believe that it is difficult to make predictions for a specific geographic area. It is however possible that the Western Cape and the Northern Cape are likely to become much drier due to climate change.

What will happen in South Africa is that rainfall will become even more unpredictable than it already is, in terms of how much rain will fall where. This will have a negative impact on agriculture and food security.

If rainfall shifts, our catchment areas, such as dams, might also be in the wrong place. In addition, higher temperatures due to climate change will lead to more evaporation from our water surfaces.

Source: <http://allafrica.com>





# Addressing the sanitation & water backlogs in schools in the District

**E**xtensive surveys on water and sanitation needs/backlogs have been carried out from 2005 to May 2007 at schools and clinics in the Frances Baard District (FBDM). The sanitation and water supply backlogs for clinics have been eradicated by February 2008.

Although a lot has been done since then to raise the basic level of water supply and sanitation to improve the health and hygiene standards at schools in our communities, some of the existing systems were damaged and the number of learners at schools has also increased.

## Project Process

FBDM would be the delivery agent/implementing agent and be responsible for the procurement of a project manager and a contractor. IR Consulting Engineers were appointed as Project Managers in August 2008 after which they started with assessments on the 9 schools that were prioritised by DWAF. A further 3 schools were added to the list because of their unsafe toilet facilities.

## Funding

Through the Division of Revenue Act allocations of R2,325 m and R6,647 m were made to the FBDM for the 2008/09 and 2009/10 financial years respectively. These funds will be transferred in installments by DWAF.

## Progress

Tenders were advertised in November / December 2008 for 5 water supply projects at schools. A site handover meeting was conducted on Tuesday, 13 January 2009 for these first 5 bids (quotation-based) water supply projects.

It was decided to schedule the commencement date for the construction works to coincide with the re-opening of the schools. Where contact with the school caretaker and/or principal could be established contractors were permitted to start sooner.

The contract value of the 5 projects is R0.8million. FBDM has officially issued the orders for the completion of the projects during December 2008. The first three tenders for the construction of ablution blocks at schools closed on Wednesday, 21 January 2009.

FBDM has committed itself to issue orders for the construction of these ablution blocks before the end of the 2008/09 financial year. IR Consulting is currently preparing tenders for the construction and/or revamping of ablution blocks at 4 other schools with the intention to advertise the tenders not later than the first week of February 2009.

## Integration with all role players

Implementing the project will require that all role players are involved. Therefore the Project Manager will be responsible to establish the project steering committee, ensuring that all role players are involved and all activities aligned.

## Mobilization of Awareness & Education Programmes

**The purpose of the awareness programme will be to:**

- Educate pupils and teachers in the proper use and maintenance of toilets
- Ensure that health and hygiene programmes are included in the curriculum

- Compile brochures and handouts for schools
- Establish hygienic habits through pride; and
- Enforce proper maintenance programmes.

**The process will be as follows:**

- Arrange an entry meeting at the school, meeting the teachers, parent teachers association and learner representatives, explaining the project
- One workshop with above role players on the operations and maintenance of the system to be installed and selection of representatives identified by the above role players to conduct awareness

- Training session with representatives to train learners in the operations and maintenance of the toilets
- Negotiate the operations and maintenance plan for the school

**The outcome of the awareness campaign will be:**

- Each learner will understand how the system operates
- An operation & maintenance programme will be in place, signed by the Principal of the school

DWAF conducted a telephonic survey as from November 2007 with 148 schools in the district after which needs were categorised to define the problem types and responsibilities more clearly.

The following categories with responsible department and possible delivery agents were identified:

Category	Definition	Responsibility	Funds / Delivery Vehicle
1	Schools with no water on site and sanitation services (incl. pit/bucket toilets)	DWAF	District Municipalities
2	Schools with no sanitation (incl. pit/bucket toilets)	DWAF	District Municipalities
3	Schools with no water on site	DWAF	District Municipalities
4a	Schools with inadequate sanitation technology	DoE	Dept. of Roads, Transport and Public Works
4b (<50%)	Schools with inadequate sanitation numbers and existing toilets experience functionality problems	DoE	Dept. of Roads, Transport and Public Works
4c	Schools with inadequate sanitation numbers	DoE	Dept. of Roads, Transport and Public Works
4d (≤50%)	Schools with inadequate sanitation numbers where existing toilets are more ____ 50% functional	DWAF	District Municipalities
5a	Schools with inadequate water technology (e.g.: wind-mills, hand pumps)	DoE	Dept. of Roads, Transport and Public Works
5b	Schools with inadequate water functionality	DWAF	District Municipalities

The categorisation for the 148 schools surveyed in our district is as follows:

Category	Definition	Number of schools	Funding Authority
2	Schools with no sanitation	2	DWAF
4b	Schools with sanitation functionality problems and inadequate number of toilets	63	DoE
4d	Schools with 50% and more sanitation functionality problems but adequate numbers	6	DWAF
4c	Schools with inadequate numbers of toilets	54	DoE
5b	Schools with water supply problems functionality	1	DWAF
	Schools with no backlogs or which had closed down	20	
	Total	148	

# Spatial Development Framework for Phokwane Municipality

**A Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is a framework that seeks to guide overall spatial distribution of current and desirable land uses within a municipality, in order to give effect to the vision, goals and objectives in the municipal IDP.**

In January 2008 Phokwane Municipality appointed a service provider to assist in the compilation of the SDF. The Framework was finalised and adopted by Council in September 2008.

The methodological approach followed in compiling the Phokwane's SDF was tailor-made to address specific spatial needs of the municipal area.

The framework identified strategic objectives (aligned with the District SDF) and projects to guide future physical and spatial development in Phokwane.

The strategic spatial development framework at the municipal level provides sufficient information to guide prioritisation of investment decisions and development applications in the medium to long term. For each critical development node within the municipal area a local spatial development framework was prepared.

The table below presents the identified objectives, strategies and projects.

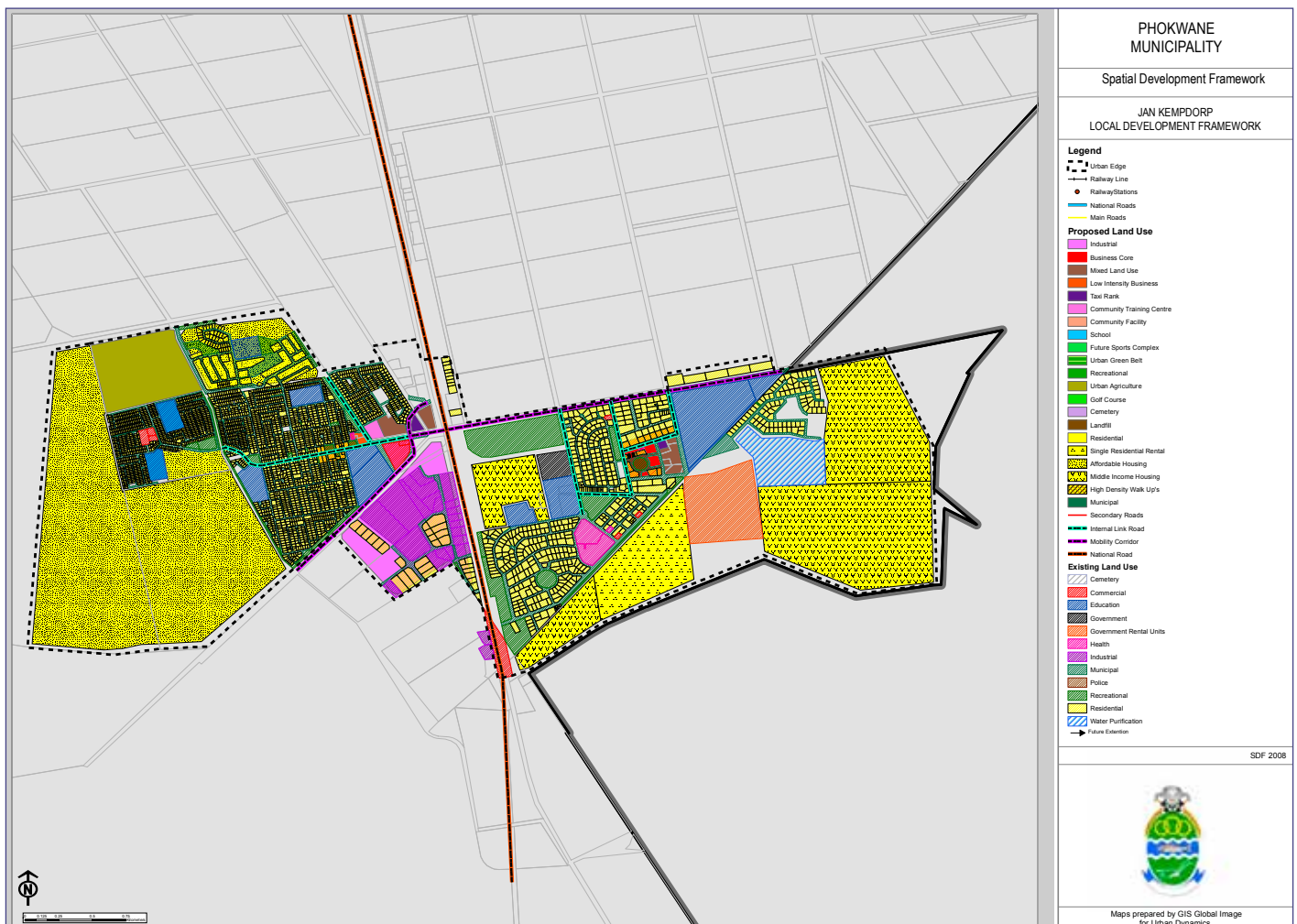
District's Objectives	Objectives	Strategies	Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Align the future settlement patterns with economic potential and the location of environmental resources</li> <li>Strategically invest scarce public sector resources where they will generate highest socio economic returns</li> </ul>	Apply funds in Nodes that have strong economic livelihood to promote a broader community benefit and long term sustainability of investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify Hartswater as the Primary Node for Phokwane.</li> <li>Promote settlement development in and around Hartswater to strengthen economic base for the CBD</li> <li>Encourage development of larger social support land uses in Hartswater</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hartswater CBD upgrading</li> <li>Development of Regional Sports Complex</li> <li>Promote new Infill Development Area between Hartswater and Bonita Park</li> </ul>
Deliver human development and basic needs programs	Improve quality of life for all residents (human development, shelter and basic services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop community training centres in Hartswater, Valspan &amp; Ganspan</li> <li>Housing projects in strategic locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Community Training Centres in every town in Hartswater area</li> <li>Construct additional schools in Hartswater to cater for future demand</li> <li>Construct additional school in Valspan &amp; Pampierstad</li> <li>Ganspan will have mobile clinic and satellite police station</li> </ul>
Conserve and strengthen the sense of place of important natural, cultural and productive landscapes, artifacts and buildings	Create a "sense of place" - people are proud of their history and future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade Hartswater CBD to attract patrons to the business</li> <li>Create a space where annual "Country Lifestyle" festival can be hosted</li> <li>Develop Active Open Spaces to be used by residents and visitors to the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hartswater CBD Upgrading project</li> <li>Proposed Sports Complex to host "Country Lifestyle" festival</li> <li>Proposed mixed land-use zone in Hartswater and Pampierstad will give local business people the opportunity to enter the market</li> </ul>



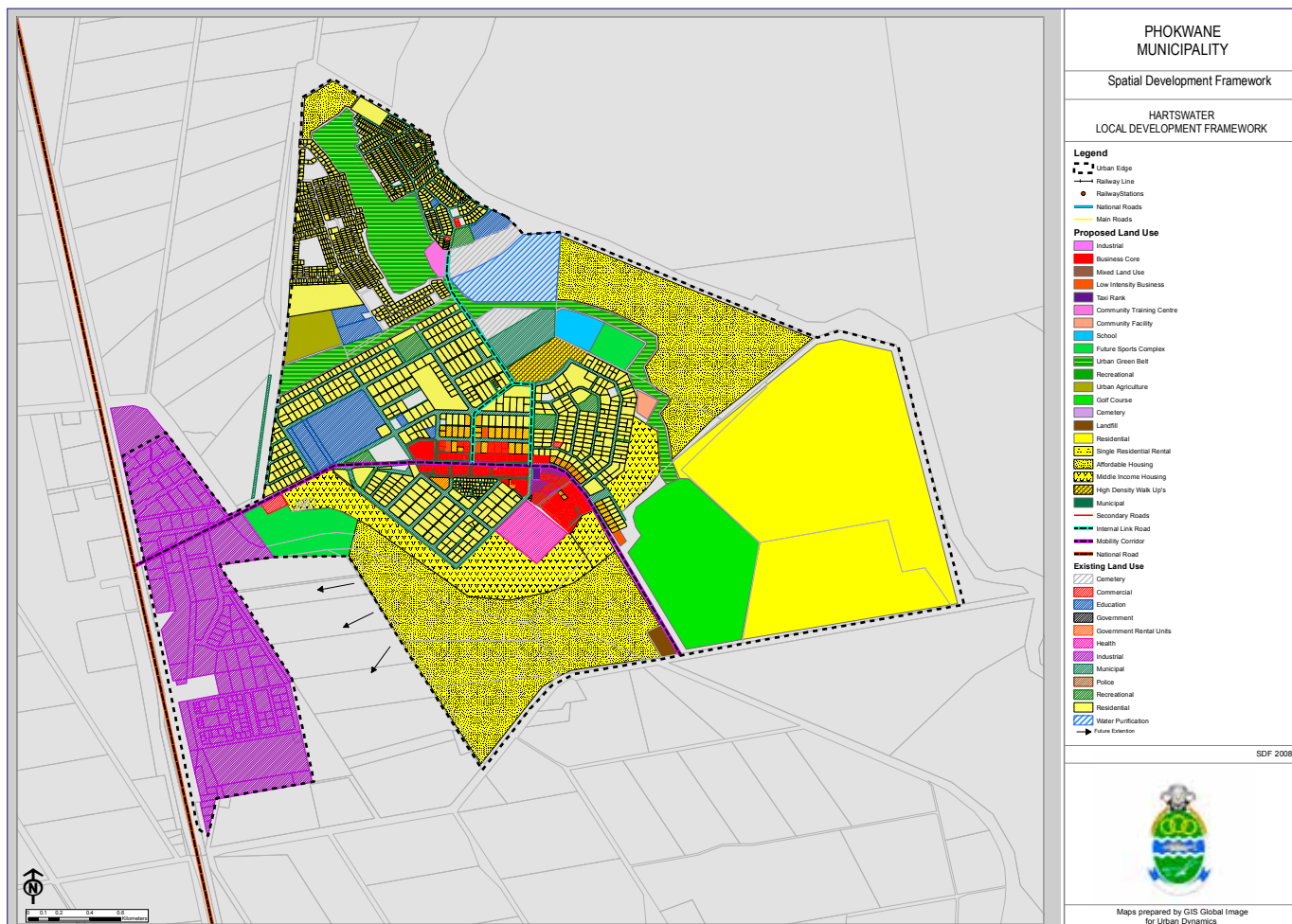
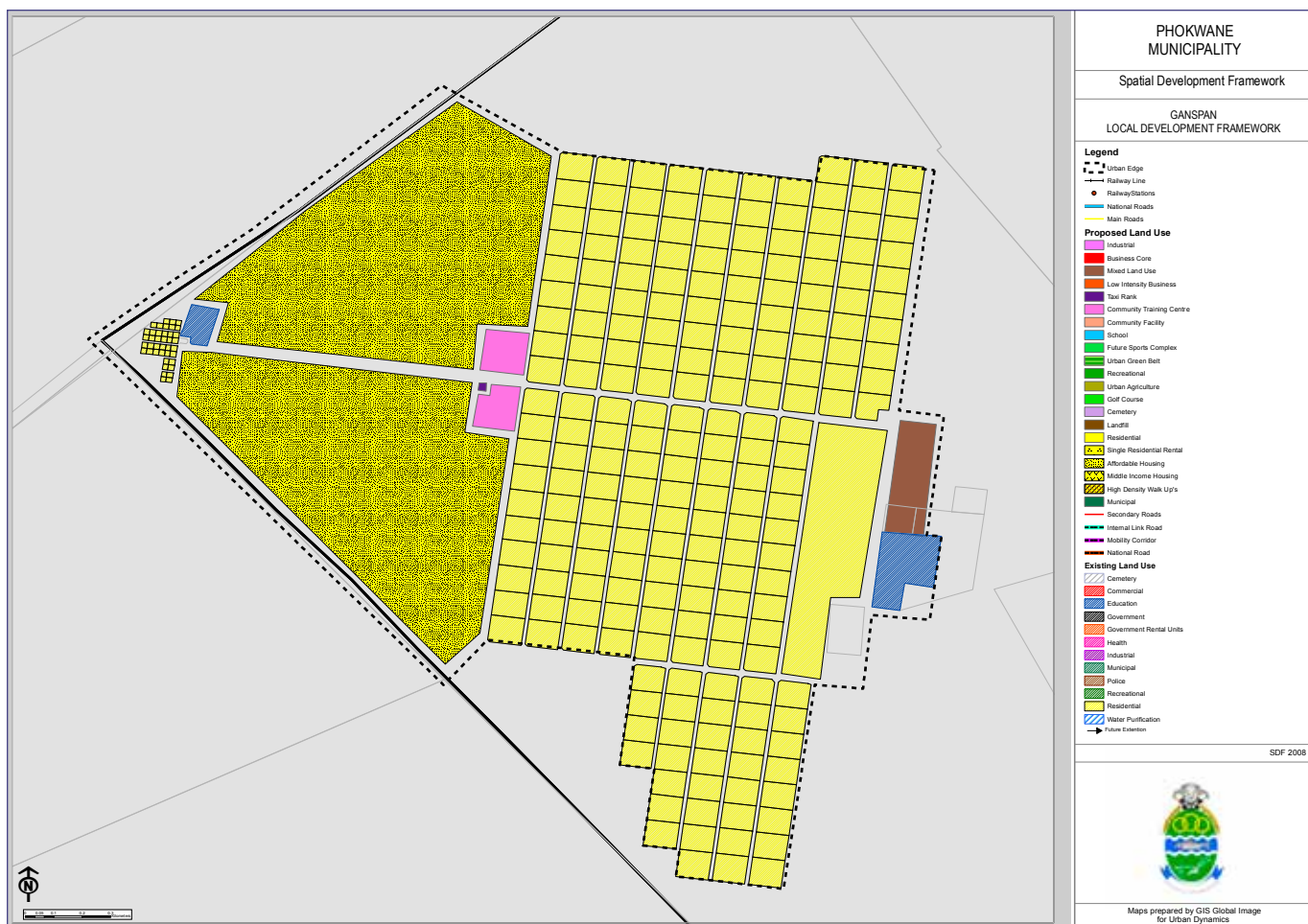
District's Objectives	Objectives	Strategies	Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Land Reform</li> <li>End the apartheid structure of urban settlements</li> </ul>	Promote sensible integration of socio-cultural-economic groups	Promote the development of a range of housing typologies between Hartswater and Bonita Park	Infill Residential area between Hartswater and Bonita Park
Conveniently locate urban activities and promote public and non-motorized transport	Promote easy access to community support land uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote settlement development in the Primary Node</li> <li>Improve the public transport system by upgrading the facilities at Taxi Ranks and developing new ranks in convenient locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrading of Hartswater and Jan Kempdorp Taxi Ranks</li> <li>Construction of new Taxi Ranks in Valspan and Pampierstad</li> <li>Infill development in Hartswater will bring people closer to all facilities</li> </ul>
Protect biodiversity and agricultural resources	Protect intensive agricultural and environmentally sensitive zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforce the Urban Edge</li> <li>Develop passive and active open spaces in environmentally sensitive areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban Edge</li> <li>Development of recreational area along Harts River, south of Pampierstad</li> </ul>
Minimize the consumption of scarce environmental resources, particularly water, fuel, building materials, mineral resources, electricity and land	Promote development within the Urban Edge to optimize use of infrastructure	Promote infill development, which would improve use on infrastructure network and provide easy access to economic and social support land uses	Residential infill project in Hartswater

Detailed SDFs were prepared for Hartswater, Jan Kempdorp, Pampierstad and Ganspan to focus on issues relevant to local circumstances such as transport routes, tourism facilities, different land uses, activity nodes, urban agriculture, etc.

(See SDF maps below)



Continued on Pg. 8



A copy of the SDF is available at the Phokwane Municipal Offices for reference.



# “Facelift” for Financial Management across the district

**T**he FBDM approved the concept of a shared financial system service for the District, thus paving the way for not only the district municipality but also the smaller local municipalities in its area of jurisdiction to better / improve their financial management systems.

The anticipated solution is the “eVenus Financial Management System” purchased from Business Connexion. Through this system the District Municipality and the three local municipalities of Phokwane, Dikgatlong and Magareng will be linked to Sol Plaatje Municipality, the latter acting as the host.

The eVenus Financial Management System is an integrated financial system comprising many sub-modules within the expenditure and revenue (billing) modules. It is an easy to use Windows web-browser based system allowing users mouse point-and-click functionality. It further offers the option to integrate document management and workflow across the business processes of the municipality.

The main reasons for consideration in support of such a decision are:

- **Saving on investigation and “Business Process Re-engineering” costs** - Sol Plaatje Municipality has already done this exercise at an estimated cost of R5m and not much deviation will occur, if any, at the local municipalities
- **Economies of scale, i.e.**
  - **Cost for purchasing new server** falls away (Server/-s already at Sol Plaatje Municipality at an estimated cost of R795,000)
  - **Additional costs for other software** falls away (Already been met by Sol Plaatje Municipality at an estimated cost of R3,06m)
  - **Implementation and training costs** will be coordinated in such a

way to secure savings as the region will be viewed as a “block implementation”

- **eVenus Licences free of charge** - Business Connexion already undertook that should the District Municipality and the other three local municipalities pursue an option of connecting to Frances Baard District Municipality, the eVenus licenses would be free of charge and seen as an extension to the existing contract with Sol Plaatje Municipality (Estimated saving of R750,000)
- **Time saving** - since the Sol Plaatje server/-s are already in place it will be easy to provide for the separate local municipalities on the existing infrastructure instead of waiting the standard 6-8 weeks just to import the servers
- **Same Financial Management System** - as all the municipalities in the district will now use the same system, the setting up of all the individual municipalities’ books will be done in such a way to allow a consolidated view of all municipalities under the jurisdiction of Frances Baard, whilst still allowing each municipality its own individual set of financial records and statements.

Financial management and record keeping at the three local municipalities will be greatly improved and will transform the two low capacity municipalities namely Dikgatlong and Magareng to become GAMAP / GRAP<sup>1</sup> compliant.

Backups and Database Administrator functions

Daily, weekly and / or monthly backups will be executed at the Sol

<sup>1</sup> GAMAP - General Accepted Municipal Accounting Practice.  
GRAP - General Recognised Accounting Practice.

Plaatje Municipality with the District Municipality as backup in case of disaster recovery. This will relieve the individual sites of such responsibility.

Access to / security of information

No information will be, need be, shared or given access to unless the necessary consent has been obtained for that purpose. Nobody shall have access to information of any participating municipality, unless expressly authorised by such municipality.

Maintenance and technical support

The district municipality and the three local municipalities will benefit from Sol Plaatje Municipality’s information technology expertise and capacity in the long run; based upon a service level agreement and / or ad hoc request if so required.

The proposed solution for implementation of the eVenus Financial Management System consists of the following components:

- Software
- Hardware
- Wireless WAN
- Implementation, training and support of system
- Financial implication

Progress with implementation thus far

The implementation process has started in January 2009 with the district municipality and Phokwane as Phase 1. The two remaining local municipalities, namely Dikgatlong and Magareng will form part of Phase 2. The anticipated date of completion is towards the end of September 2009, with all the municipalities in full operation on the new system.

# CDWs & the roll they play

*The Community Development Workers (CDWs) programme concretises government's efforts in deepening the quality of services rendered to communities.*

## What are CDWs all about?

The CDWs programme is aimed at improving people's access to government services through strengthened coordination and the integration of service provision at local and community levels. They are therefore based at local municipalities.

This improves networking and communication between government and local communities. It also ensures that communities have access to the kind of vital government information that contributes to the ongoing social transformation in South Africa, which is why engaging people is so central to the role of a community development worker.

The benefits resulting from the direct interaction of CDWs, the different levels of government and communities include the fact that such engagements provide an opportunity for communities to provide positive feedback on government programmes.

*The CDWs programme has its roots in President Thabo Mbeki's 2003 State of the Nation Address (SNA) and was subsequently picked up by all government departments as an implementable challenge*

It also affords government with an opportunity to put its side of the story so that people can appreciate the benefits of transformation.

## Key features of the CDW Programme

- Integration with other initiatives to combat poverty and exclusion, the programme should not be seen as a separate initiative;
- The focus is on combating poverty and promoting development;
- Its intention is to enable communities to access government as a whole through ensuring:
  - Cooperative governance and integrated government
  - Responsive government
  - Effective partnership between local, provincial & national government
- To ensure government maintains contact with people where they live;

- To strengthen the co-ordination and integration of service delivery across all spheres of government;
- To improve people's access to government information, knowledge and services, in particular the poor;
- To provide a holistic service delivery option with the deployment of multiskilled, trained personnel;
- To improve communication and networking between government and communities;
- To further ensure that the poor have access to basic services and all government programmes;
- To ensure that such access leads to transformation of society; and
- To ensure that government services reach their targets.

## What do Community Development Workers Do?

- Disseminate government and other information to community members in a timely and equitable manner;
- Assist communities in understanding development and assist in submitting proposals for integrated development plans to municipalities and other spheres of government or donors;
- Coordinate inter-departmental programmes and encourage improved integration;
- Maintain ongoing liaison and collaboration with various community-based organisations and other community-based workers;
- Promote the principles of Batho Pele and community participation;
- Alert government and other service providers to problems and delays in the delivery of basic services;
- Assist in the implementation of government programmes and projects;
- Liaise and advocate on behalf of communities with government, parastatals, NGOs and private sector donors;
- Monitor and evaluate the developmental impact that government projects and programmes have on communities and submit a report to the relevant structures of government (local, provincial and national) in this regard; and
- Assist local communities in dealing with the HIV/AIDS pandemic by intensifying education and awareness on HIV related matters.

# Sports Heroes Walk against HIV/Aids

“The Sport Heroes Walk is one way of contributing towards the fight against HIV and Aids. This walk comes at a time when our country is united in saying that enough is enough with regards to abuse in general, and against women, children, and people with disabilities in particular.”

*Makhenkesi Stofile  
Minister of Sport and Recreation*

**T**he Sport Heroes Walk Against Aids campaign was initiated in 2002 by SABC sports presenter Cynthia Tshaka. It is a non-profit organisation of sports players who want to get involved in the fight against HIV/Aids. Each year, they walk through a different province, raising funds for various charities.

The Sports Heroes walk against HIV/Aids is supported by the National Department of Sports and Recreation in conjunction with the National Department of Health and various sports academies. The ministry of sport and recreation is also involved in the event, giving sports equipment to towns through the sports clinics held along the route.

Prominent sportsmen and sportswomen take a walk through a part of the country for a period of two weeks, culminating in a specific city or town. The purpose of such exercise is to promote active participation in sporting activities and to raise funds for non-governmental organisations involved in the fight against the HIV/Aids pandemic. Last year the sports heroes visited the Northern Cape and reached Kimberley on World Aids Day, 01 December 2008.

Kaizer Chiefs' players and coach have joined world boxing champions Baby Jake Matlala and Lehlohonolo Ledwaba, marathon runner Willie Mtolo, former Springbok wing Khaya Malotana, former Banyana Banyana captain Desiree Ellis and fellow footballers Veronica Phewa and Janine van Wyk, karate champion Artulu Ballosini, cricketer Daleen Terblanche, and Tshaka on the walk which started in Johannesburg.

The walk takes place in a different province every year - last year it was the Northern Cape - and by 2010 all nine provinces will have benefited. The day culminated in a special gala dinner at the Flamingo Casino.



Local sports hero, Jimmy Tau, addressing the kids and encouraging them to follow their dreams. The “local boy” later joined other celebrity sports heroes and participated in coaching clinics which formed part of the proceedings for the day.



The Executive Mayor, Mr Achmat Florence, receiving the sporting equipment from a representative from the Department of Sport & Recreation South Africa.



## NATIONAL HEADLINES

### SA vehicle makers start feeling the squeeze of crisis

The escalating crisis in the global automotive industry has spread to South Africa. Most locally based manufacturers are embarking on initiatives to reduce the size of their workforces and align their production numbers with declining vehicle sales in both domestic and export markets. Volkswagen South Africa (VWSA) said that it planned to close all production areas in the last week of February 2009 and in the weeks before and after the Easter weekend. It was shedding up to 400 employees through a voluntary separation package process.

Bill Stephens, a VWSA spokesperson, said this was prompted by the effect the world financial crisis was having on the demand for vehicles.

Lloyd Marlowe, a Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa (FMCSA) spokesperson, confirmed that the firm had implemented a four-day production week. This would be in place until there was a change in market conditions. FMCSA last year offered voluntary separation and early retirement packages to its employees. Marlowe said this programme, which aimed to reduce its workforce of 3 000 by about 25 percent, was still under way.

Mercedes Benz South Africa (MBSA) said it had embarked on a restructuring programme that was affecting salaried employees in its East London manufacturing plant.

Annelise van der Laan, a MBSA spokesperson, said the review covered all of about 800 salaried employees. She could not say how many jobs would be affected. The company did not have any planned non-production days. General Motors South Africa (GMSA), which last year cut the size of its workforce by 1 000 in anticipation of the slowdown, warned that more jobs would be under threat if the Hummer was no longer part of its manufacturing stable.

Source: [Business Report](#)

### EVENTS CALENDAR

Draft IDP submitted to Council - March 2009
Draft Budget for 2009/10 submitted to Council - March 2009

### Editorial Note

In this issue we focussed on the important role of sound financial management, the spatial development framework process, water and sanitation at schools and the role of CDWs.

Ensuring that sound approaches to financial management are adopted is one of the key roles of any municipality and the eVenus system will strengthen this in the district.

We will be featuring all of the other SDFs of the local municipalities and the DMA in future publications and hope that through these articles we will wet the appetite of you the reader to learn more about this process. As spatial planning plays such an important role in development planning, it is only right that this process should be featured here.

One of the priority issues for the Infrastructure Unit for the 2009/10 financial year is to ensure that schools in the district have sufficient access to water and sanitation. This forms part of the objective to provide potable water to schools in the district and the eradication of sanitation backlogs.

CDWs and the contribution they make has always been under-estimated and through this article we tried to highlight their role. We welcome any comments you might have on how you perceive these workers and how they feature in your area.

*Gerline Roman*

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