

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE MEC FOR
PUBLIC WORKS, MRS LYDIA JOHNSON
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Programme Director

Mayor of Ilembe District, Cllr Welcom Mdabe

HOD, Dr F.B Madlopha

Mayor of KwaDukuza Municipality Cllr Thulani

Khuluse

Traditional Leaders

Senior management of the Department and Ilembe
Municipality

Councilors

Distinguished guests, I greet you all

Today is indeed a very important day as have come here as the Department to report back to you about the progress and achievements in terms of delivering services. The Department of Public Works is entrusted with the responsibility of constructing government buildings and management of government properties. Therefore it is crucial for us to give feedback about our successes in terms of delivering on our mandate.

Today we pride ourselves as the Department that we have successfully implemented government programmes as expected. The government has committed itself to upliftment of all communities especially the previously disadvantaged communities. This can be achieved through robust infrastructure delivery.

The infrastructure forms the foundation for economic growth and development. Adequate infrastructure delivery is a crucial incentive for investment. Therefore our Department plays a very strategic role for the development of our country.

There is more commitment to excellent service among the staff and the focus has shifted to end users. We ensure adherence to Batho Pele principles. The people must come first. We hold a view that people have a right to be served in a dignified manner.

The Department has introduced various programmes and policies which are aimed at improving our service delivery. To make a meaningful contribution in terms of development of our communities, the Department has responded by ensuring proper

implementation of national initiatives. For instance with regards to EPWP, the Department has managed to meet its target. Many families have benefited from EPWP defined projects. This is achieved mainly by ensuring that local people are prioritized when there are projects in their areas. **In the financial year 2007/2008 the Department had a target of 16000 jobs the total number of jobs actually created is 17499.**

The National Youth Service programme which is also under EPWP has also been successfully implemented. This programme is aimed at providing construction related skills, mainly plastering and bricklaying to our youth. The youth receive theoretical training for 6 months while receiving a stipend of R600 and practical training under a well established contractor for 6 months and receive a stipend for R1000. **Currently there are 178 learners undergoing classroom training. Even here at Ilembe we have learners who have benefited.**

The Department has also initiated a programme called **Masakhe Emerging Contractor Development Programme (ECDP)** which provides support to emerging contractors so that they progress to high grades. With this programme

emerging contractors stand a better chance to secure tenders as they fall within the same grade.

This programme responds directly to the issue of Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment as the PPG groups are prioritized. Entering the construction industry has been made even easier as the Department has facilitated establishment of CIDB offices in Mayville, Durban. This center supports contractor development by growing contractor capacity, promoting equity, encouraging continuity and improving industry standards.

Our Department has also formed **Contractor Forums in all Districts**. These forums are used as **platform for constructive engagements and enhanced consultation**. Issues pertaining to construction industry are discussed and inputs are made regarding the partnership between the Department and contractors.

Another programme called “**Izandla Ziyagezana**”. **In this programme all vacant sites will be cleared using local unemployed youth. This is a poverty alleviation and labour intensive programme. This programme has been launched in Harmmersdale, Portshepstone, Margate and Ezakheni.** Through this programme many families will be able to put ends meat on their tables.

The above programmes have brought the Department closer to the people. In the light of the above I would like to highlight just a few projects which have been delivered within Ilembe District.

The province has experienced severe natural disasters which caused serious damages to government properties mainly schools. The Department of Public Works intervened and repaired those schools. Those schools involve the following

Ndwedwe Local Municipality

1. Dalibo Primary School
2. Nkumbeni Primary school
3. Mzingezwi Secondary School
4. Isifisosethu Secondary School
5. KwaJessop Primary School
6. Sigedleni Primary School
7. Gasela Primary School
8. Sotobe High School
9. Ngungwini High School
10. Montobelo Primary School
11. Nombika High School
12. Intaphuka Primary School
13. Mqedi Primary School
14. Magongolo Juniur Primary School

- 15.Siqondokuhle Junior Primary School
- 16.Mashiza Primary School
- 17.Ntathakusa Primary School
- 18.Qalakahle High School
- 19.Bhidakhona Primary School
- 20.Imbuyiselo Secondary School
- 21.Manzamholphe Primary School
- 22.Qalimfundo Primary School
- 23.Manzamhlophe Primary School
- 24.Egweni Primary School
- 25.Esundumbili Primary School
- 26.Ntendeni Primary School

Maphumulo Local Municipality

1. Mbhekaphansi High School
2. Isibanisezwe Secondary School
3. Lusizolwethu Juniouir Primary
4. Ekhatha Primary School

KwaDukuza Municipality

1. Shekembula High School
2. Nonhlevu High School
3. Groutville High School
4. Stanger South Secondary School
5. Etete Primar School
6. Ndulinde Primary School

Ndondakusuka / Mandini Municipality

1. Ethel Mthiyane Secondary School

Apart from repairs and renovations the Department has also engaged in the following projects.

INSTITUTION	PROJECT
KwaNyuswa Clinic (Ndwedwe)	Additions
Maphumulo Resource Centre (Maphumulo)	Roof, Ceiling and floor covering
Thafamasi Clinic (Ndwedwe)	Additions
Umphumulo Hospital (Maphumulo)	New nurses room, new roadway, casualty, accommodation and three doctors houses
Stanger Hospital (KwaDukuza)	Male and Female wards, laundry and extention to security office
Otimati Clinic (Maphumulo)	Replace existing clinic
Ezindlovini Primary School (Ndwedwe)	5 new classrooms, toilets, roadway and walkways
Nondenisa High School (Ndwedwe)	3 classrooms, toilets, specialist RM and Admin block.
Vukile High School (Maphumulo)	3 classrooms and admin block

Sisebenzile High School (Ndwedwe)	Toilets
Maqumbi Clinic (Maphumulo)	Additions
Faku Primary School	3 Classrooms and 2 Toilets
Chibini Cline	Upgrade roadwork and water supply
Nophungulwana Primary School (Maphumulo)	4 classrooms, 8 toilets and 2 water tanks
Hlonono Secondary school (Maphumulo)	4 classrooms, science lab and admin
Hluphizwe Primary School (Maphumulo)	4 classrooms, 8 toilets and 3 water tanks
Dludla Primary School (Maphumulo)	20 Toilets
Oqaqeni Clinic (Maphumulo)	Additions
Montobello Hospital	Additions

Therefore with those words I wish to encourage you to ensure that you protect government properties in your communities. These are your properties. “Phansi nokucekelwa phansi kwezakhiwo zikahulumeni phansi” You must support the government by using the infrastructure responsibly. We should be patriotic and progressive so that the future generations will

also benefit from these properti “Phambili
nentuthuko phambili”

I thank you.