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## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents of Msunduzi,

As we embark on this new year, I am filled with great optimism for the future of our beloved city. It is with a deep sense of responsibility and commitment that I share our vision for 2025 and beyond, as we strive to build a better Msunduzi one where every resident can experience the dignity and services they deserve.

In line with our unwavering commitment to progress, we have officially declared 2025 as the Year of Massive Service Delivery. This declaration is not just a statement; it is a call to action for everyone—government, businesses, and residents alike—to come together and work towards tangible improvements that will enhance the lives of all who call this city home.

Our vision for the future is one where every corner of our city is clean, safe, and well-maintained. We are focused on addressing the fundamental needs of our community: access to clean water, reliable electricity, and well-maintained infrastructure. These are not luxuries—they are the very foundation of a thriving society. Every resident deserves to live in a city where basic services are delivered seamlessly and with excellence.

To achieve this, we are not just talking about change we are taking concrete steps to implement it. We are prioritizing strategic investments in infrastructure, ensuring that our city's systems are built to last and capable of meeting the demands of a growing population. Our efforts will include expanding and upgrading water and electricity infrastructure, improving waste management systems, and making sure that our public spaces are kept clean and accessible for everyone.

Our approach is guided by the principles of Batho Pele, which emphasize putting people first. Every decision we make, every action we take, is rooted in the belief that public service should prioritize the needs of the community. We will continue to work closely with residents, businesses, and stakeholders to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the people we serve.

This year, we will be rolling out a number of programs designed to strengthen service delivery across the city. These initiatives will focus on improving the reliability and quality of services, making sure that challenges such as waste collection, street cleaning, and infrastructure repairs are addressed promptly and efficiently. We are also committed to ensuring that our city's leadership is responsive and transparent, working hand-in-hand with the community to build trust and accountability.

It is important to recognize that achieving these goals requires collective effort. While the government plays a crucial role, each one of us whether as a resident, a business owner, or a community leader has a part to play in shaping the future of Msunduzi. I call on all of you to join us in this journey. Let us work together to foster a culture of care, responsibility, and respect for our city and one another.

The road ahead will not always be easy, but I have no doubt that with determination, unity, and a shared vision, we will achieve the Msunduzi we all deserve a city that is prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive for all its residents.

Thank you for your continued support and for being part of this exciting new chapter in our city's story. Let's move forward together, stronger and more united than ever before.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla





## THE MAYOR CLLR MZIMKHULU THEBOLLA WELCOMES THE FIRST BABIES OF 2025

Welcoming the first babies of 2025! The Mayor of Msunduzi, Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla, celebrated the joy of new life by visiting Harry Gwala Regional Hospital, formerly Edendale Hospital and Northdale Hospital to distribute gifts and welcome the New Year's babies born today on the 1st of January 2025.

This heartwarming initiative, supported by the Department of Health and local donors, highlights the joy of new life and the importance of community well-being, and partnership. Here's to a year of hope and new beginnings!







## SWEEP OPERATION ON PIETERMARITZ (LITTLE SOMALIA)



In an effort to regulate unauthorized and illegal vending and mitigate the sale of unhealthy and expired food, the Msunduzi Municipality, in collaboration with the South African Police Service (SAPS), conducted a sweep operation on Pietermaritz Street in an area commonly known as "Little Somalia."

The operation uncovered several stores operating in prohibited areas in violation of municipal bylaws. A significant quantity of food stock was confiscated for further investigation.



This joint initiative between the Municipality and SAPS aims to send a clear message that the sale of expired and illegally manufactured food, as well as unlicensed vending, will not be tolerated.

As this is part of an ongoing series of cases related to illegal vending, additional details cannot be disclosed to the public at this time.



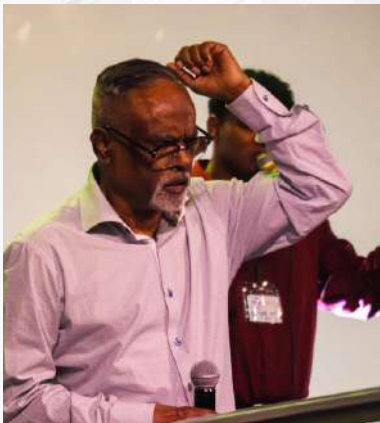




## DEPUTY MAYOR CLLR MXOLISI MKHIZE VISITS THE HOMELESS SHELTER ON DOUL ROAD



Today, Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize visited the Homeless Shelter on DouL Road, which is intended to house the homeless from Pietermaritzburg (PMB). The purpose of his visit was to inspect the progress of the shelter, as well as to review the work done by our intern plumbers, who are responsible for the entire building's plumbing system. Since beginning their work on October 10th, 2024, the interns have made impressive progress, completing 95% of the plumbing in just three months.



## JACOB'S WELL MINISTRIES 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize was invited to join Jacob's Well Ministries this evening to kick off their monumental 20-year anniversary celebration, marking two decades of advancing the Kingdom of God. The event, running from 17–19 January 2025, brings together community leaders united in their mission to foster positive change, promote peace, and empower the community.

Cllr Mkhize expressed his pride in being part of this milestone: "It's an honour to stand alongside Jacob's Well Ministries as they celebrate two decades of dedicated service. This event is a testament to the collective effort required to build strong, vibrant communities, and it highlights the power of partnership between churches and government in creating lasting, positive change."

The City of Choice remains steadfast in its commitment to a better future for all, with a shared vision of transforming lives and nurturing unity. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" A powerful reminder of the strength found in collaboration and faith.







## MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY MAYOR CLLR THEBOLLA LAUNCHES A WAR-ROOM AT CHURCH STREET

Msunduzi Municipality Mayor Cllr Thebolla launched a war-room at Church Street aimed to address pressing service delivery issues and reaffirmed the Municipality's commitment to putting the people of Msunduzi first. The Mayor declared 2025 as the Year of Massive Service Delivery, with a renewed focus on tackling critical challenges facing the city.

Mayor Thebolla said that this war-room would focus on improving waste management and traffic control in this area. These are the municipality's efforts of providing improved service delivery to residents.

The mayor said that basic service delivery remains the municipality's key mandate, adding that there are plans in place meant to address challenges facing the city.

"This city belongs to its people, and it is our duty to ensure that every action we take reflects that. 2025 will be the year we deliver and rebuild trust, brick by brick, street by street, and service by service. We are here to serve." Said Mayor Thebolla







## NATIONAL SENIOR BOWLING TEAM REPRESENTING SOUTH AFRICA AT THE EUROPEAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FOR TENPIN BOWLING.

The Mayor Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla joined by the Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize, the Speaker Cllr Eunice Majola and Chief Whip Cllr Sandile Dlamini has extended his heartfelt congratulations to the national senior bowling team representing South Africa at the European Senior Championship for Tenpin Bowling.

As a city, we are immensely proud that out of the eight individuals heading to the competition, four hail from our city, including the team manager. This achievement truly reflects our identity as the City of Choice—second to none.

"While you raise the South African flag on the international stage, you are also raising the flag of our city. When we say we are the City of Choice, we mean a city of excellence—in sports, education, and every aspect of life. Go forth, represent us with pride, and bring the trophy back home!" said Mayor Thebolla.

These inspiring words from the Mayor capture the spirit of our support for the team. We wish them the very best as they embark on this remarkable journey.



## A LOCAL TASK TEAM (LTT) ENGAGEMENT AT VULINDLELA, WARD 07



A Local Task Team (LTT) Engagement took place today at Vulindlela, Ward 07, chaired by Msunduzi Municipality's Political Office Senior Manager Sandile Zondi.

Officials from the municipality's human settlements unit, infrastructure development, Area Based Management, the South African Police Service, Cogta, government departments and civil organisations were amongst stakeholders in attendance. Ward 07 Cllr Zuma, acknowledged the meeting highlighting that there are burning issues facing the Vulindlela area that need to be addressed. "Our war-room and ward committees are very much active, we have youth programs designed to tackle unemployment, and we also work closely with relevant government departments to address challenges of gender based violence." said Cllr Zuma.

Stakeholders were then given an opportunity to report on various community projects progress, electricity and water provision including infrastructure development..





## THE MAYOR CLLR MZIMKHULU THEBOLLA HOSTS THE ANNUAL TOP ACHIEVERS AWARDS



The Mayor, Councillor Mzimkhulu Thebolla, together with Councillors and officials, extended heartfelt congratulations to the top-achieving Matric Class of 2024 learners.



The successful award ceremony, held at the Athletics Sport Ground, was proudly sponsored by MTN, Liberty Mall, Hulamin, BMW, Gagasi FM, the Department of Education, and UKZN University.



The event celebrated the outstanding academic achievements of the top ten learners, who were recognized for their hard work and dedication. Top achievers were awarded laptops, cellphones, and certificates, and their accomplishments were celebrated by parents and guests alike, creating an atmosphere of joy and pride.



Mayor Thebolla congratulated the learners, saying, "I challenge you to work hard, develop innovative skills, and recognize that colleges offer immersive experiences. Reflect on your progress, exert more effort, and know we're immensely proud of you."



## DEPUTY PRESIDENT PAUL MASHATILE AND MEC SBONISO DUMA RECEIVE WARM WELCOME IN KWAMPUMUZA FROM MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY LEADERS



Deputy President Paul Mashatile and KZN MEC of Transport and Human Settlements Sboniso Duma have received a warm welcome from Msunduzi Municipality's Mayor Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla alongside Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize at KwaMpumuza.

The Municipality's officials are part of dignitaries who have visited iNkosi Zondi's homestead ahead of the Mpumaza Traditional Council Matriculants Recognition Ceremony, taking place today at the Blackburn Sports field in Sweetwaters.





## OPERATION TO REMOVE ILLEGAL SIGNAGE AND BILLBOARDS KICKS OFF IN PIETERMARITZBURG TO CLEAN UP THE CBD

Operation remove illegal signage kicked in with a powerful force in our city, as the Msunduzi Signage Department, part of the Town Planning and Environmental Management division, embarked on a mission to reclaim the city's streets from illegal signage and billboards.

The team, working tirelessly and with precision, is removing unauthorized signage from key areas around the CBD that have been contributing to the city's cluttered and untidy appearance. By law, individuals must apply for and secure municipal approval before putting up billboards or posters, and the team is committed to enforcing these regulations.

This operation is not just a cleanup—it's a bold step in a larger effort to revitalize Pietermaritzburg, restoring the city's image and pride as a vibrant, well-organized urban center. The battle for a cleaner, more polished city has begun, and the Signage Department is leading the charge.





## KWAMPUMUZA TRADITIONAL COUNCIL CELEBRATES TOP MATRIC ACHIEVERS AT 4TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION CEREMONY

"This marks the 4th year since we began hosting this remarkable ceremony to recognise matriculants who have done exceptionally well and achieved top results in Grade 12", said iNkosi Zondi of KwaMpumuza in his welcoming address at the Mpumuza Traditional Council Matriculants Recognition Ceremony attended by Mayor Cllr Thebolla, DM Cllr Mkhize, Speaker Cllr Majola, Acting Municipal Manager Ngcobo, national and provincial government officials, traditional leadership, business organisations including learners and teachers from local schools.

iNkosi reiterated that KwaMpumuza traditional council is immersed in matters involving learners as it engages with local schools to investigate all the social ills that children are facing. "Our intervention has proved to have a positive outcome as our children are able to focus in their studies due to the support they continuously receive from us", explained iNkosi Zondi.

Msunduzi Municipality is proud to be part of yet another event that is set to celebrate the Matric Class of 2024 top achievers.



## "MAYOR Cllr. MZIMKHULU THEBOLLA APPLAUDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT AT MATRICULANTS RECOGNITION CEREMONY

In his closing remarks, Mayor Cllr. Mzimkhulu Thebolla expressed his heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended the Matriculants Recognition Ceremony, which was blessed by the presence of Deputy President Mr. Paul Mashatile, along with a delegation of leadership and management from various departments and key stakeholders. The mayor emphasized the significance of collaborative efforts and creating supportive environments where learners can thrive.

"I want to offer my deepest thanks to all those who have supported this initiative. Your presence here today, especially that of Deputy President Mashatile and our distinguished delegation, sends a powerful message to our students, demonstrating the value of community involvement and setting an inspiring example for those still in school."

Together, let us grow Msunduzi both socially and economically, building a brighter future for all







## MAYOR THEBOLLA SUPPORTS EDUCATION WITH SCHOOL UNIFORMS, STATIONERY, AND LAPTOPS FOR LOCAL LEARNERS



Msunduzi Mayor Cllr. Mzimkhulu Thebolla visited Siyahlomula Secondary and Ashdown Primary schools along Cllr. D. Phungula of Ward 23 to handover school uniforms and stationery to 20 learners. This program was part of Mayoral Special Programmes as these schools are adopted. Laptops were also presented to the Headmasters of both schools so as to equip them with tools to enhance their work. The items presented to the schools were sponsored by SAPPI and Umgadi-Med who had officials present at both handovers. In his address Mayor Thebolla mentioned that "education is a societal issue in which we must all play a role in ensuring that South Africa becomes a better country."







## SERVICE DELIVERY EFFORTS



The municipality is committed to providing residents and visitors with a clean and welcoming city.



Copesville Drive given some much-needed TLC with pothole patching



Grass cutting was carried out today, ensuring a cleaner and safer environment for our residents.





## SERVICE DELIVERY EFFORTS



Our sanitation teams actively addressing reported blockages in both the CBD and residential areas, demonstrating excellent service delivery to our communities



Msunduzi Municipality is dedicated to maintaining a cleaner city.