

SUB COUNCIL 24-OPENING ADDRESS - FEBRUARY 2019

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FIRE SEASON

Our communities still remain affected by fires in the sub council, and the recent fire in Silverboomkloof in ward 15, and Sir Lowry's Pass Village in Ward 84 are two of the most recent examples. The tragic death of a resident in the Sir Lowry's Pass fire is a reminder of the loss and devastation caused and the sub council offers its condolences to the families.

I have requested all councilors to identify where the City can assist with fire prevention by, for instance, reblocking of informal settlements to prevent fires spreading and allowing easier access for emergency vehicles. I have also been meeting with various communities to ensure that at risk properties are dealt with by the officials, so that we can do what we can to mitigate potential fire risk.

MATTERS RECEIVING ATTENTION

There are a number of longstanding matters on the Sub Council agenda which the Mayor, and the new Mayoral Committee member of Urban Management have requested be sent to their offices for urgent resolution and this is being handled by the Manager of the Sub Council, in liaison with the Director for Area East.

There are, however, also a number of matters which the sub council has successfully dealt with and I'd like to thank those officials who have been willing to go the extra mile to ensure that issues raised in the wards are dealt with.

I've requested that ward committees too be reminded that they may send matters to the sub council for resolution and, with the new delegations, the Sub Council is in a far better position to deal with issues.

DRAFT WATER STRATEGY

Following a process of intensive engagement, a Draft Water Strategy has been prepared for Cape Town's residents for consideration and feedback. From today, the public participation process gives residents one calendar month (15 February to 15 March 2019) in which to scrutinize the City's plans to prepare for water security and to share their constructive views on it.

'The recent drought was a harsh lesson for us all. This strategy is the product of extensive work conducted by the City in consultation with a range of local and international experts in the field of water, and has been created to protect Cape Town from the harsh effects of drought in the future, and we aim to do everything possible to avoid the implementation of such severe water restrictions again. We have to be prepared for the likelihood of increasing risk and vulnerability in the coming years in

the face of climate change, the growth of alien vegetation, delays in building new surface water schemes, and over-allocation of the integrated water system.

'We have now entered a time characterized by great uncertainty, where previous models for weather predictions and associated planning can no longer be relied upon. I have great confidence in the strategy and would like to encourage all residents to engage with it during this period, and share their considered inputs. Water supply and demand must be reconciled to ensure that there is sufficient water available to meet anticipated demand,' said Councillor Xanthea Limberg, Mayoral Committee Member for Water and Waste.

The Strategy's aim and vision is that Cape Town will be a water-sensitive city by 2040. This will be achieved by optimizing and integrating the management of water resources to improve resilience, competitiveness, livability and sustainability to ensure the prosperity of all residents. The Draft Water Strategy articulates the City's plan to ensure water security over the next 10 years as we move towards being a water-sensitive city over the next 20 years.

'A water-sensitive city is a place that will attract people to live and work, and for business to invest. It is a place that will provide a range of different water sources incrementally for a variety of uses. Additionally, it is a place where residents are equipped with the knowledge to enhance our conservation and protection of this vital resource through practical behaviour changes such as being mindful of pollutants and chemicals we use and dispose of into the system,' said Councillor Limberg. Cape Town will continue to rely on rain-fed dams for most of its water, which is much cheaper than alternative water sources. Even though the City will invest in alternative sources of water, rain-fed dams will continue to supply over three-quarters of the water to Cape Town in ten years' time.

Based on scenario analysis, the City commits to increasing available capacity by more than 300 million litres per day over the next ten years. The strategy outlines a programme for achieving this, which includes the removal of alien vegetation from catchments, the incremental introduction of desalination, use of groundwater and increasing the scale of water re-use. The current indicative cost of this programme is R5,4 billion and it is adaptable and robust when tested against the different scenarios (including a step change in rainfall – a possible reality of climate change). The build programme will reduce the likelihood of severe water restrictions in future.

The reality is that investments to strengthen our resilience and reliability of supply will increase the cost of water. Through a pragmatic approach, these increases will be contained and we will not see the extreme price increases that we saw during the drought. 'It is possible, and even likely, that the additional more expensive supplies of water (such as reuse and desalination) may not be used all of the time. But this will not have been wasteful expenditure. The future is uncertain and the cost of very severe restrictions is much higher than the cost of insuring against this likelihood by providing additional water supply capacity,' said Cllr Limberg.

The draft strategy takes into account the important yet complex relationships between water, people, the economy and the environment and sets out five commitments which support its realization as mentioned below:

1. 1. *Safe access to water and sanitation. The City will provide safe access to water and sanitation for all residents in terms of well-defined minimum standards, especially for communities in informal settlements.*
2. 2. *Wise water use. The City will promote the wise use of water by all water users.*
3. 3. *Sufficient, reliable water from diverse sources. The City will provide sufficient, reliable water from diverse sources which could include groundwater, water re-use and desalinated water, cost-effectively and timeously. This will help to increase resilience and substantially reduce the likelihood of severe water restrictions in future.*
4. 4. *Shared benefits from regional water resources. The City will collaborate with key stakeholders and partners, including other urban and agricultural water users, and other spheres of government, to make the most of the opportunities to optimise the economic, social and ecological benefits of regional water resources, and to reduce the risks associated with scarcity.*
5. 5. *A water-sensitive city. The City will actively facilitate the transformation of Cape Town over time into a water-sensitive city that makes optimal use of stormwater and urban waterways for the purposes of flood control, aquifer recharge, water re-use and recreation.*

The City's efforts to achieve the status of being a water sensitive-city, and the interventions necessary to do so, will be introduced in consultation with residents. One of the major successes in 2018 for the City and its people was surviving the worst drought to ever affect Cape Town without actually running out of water. A range of measures, including the massive savings efforts by residents, ensured that the taps were never turned off.

'Navigating an unprecedented crisis was not easy for any of us, but we overcame it together and Cape Town is now viewed internationally as a success story. There is a lot for us to be proud of. I'm hopeful that residents will welcome this draft world-class strategy and engage with it constructively to the benefit of us all going forward,' said the City's Mayoral Committee Member for Water and Waste, Councillor Xanthea Limberg.

Residents can submit their comments as follows:

- *Online: www.capetown.gov.za/haveyoursay*
- *Written submission: at subcouncil offices*

PROGRESSIVE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND THE ADJUSTMENTS BUDGET

I am happy to report that the budget spends of capital items in the sub council, and the capital and operating expenditure of the Ward Allocations is well on track as reflected in the Progressive Capital Expenditure Report.

I would like to thank the Councilors for monitoring the projects in the wards and ensuring that the City continues to fulfill its mandate of service delivery.

During the January adjustments budget, an additional R115 million was allocated towards cleaning up our communities made up as follows:

- *R56 million will go towards additional cleaning of informal settlements*
- *R14 million will be used to recruit EPWP workers who will help us with community clean-ups*
- *R20 million is allocated for the Area Cleaning division in our Solid Waste Management Department and these services will specifically be for our poorer areas*
- *and then an extra R25 million is set aside for our Recreation and Parks Department which will go towards grass cutting and maintenance across all wards and ward councilors have all submitted their requests to the City for where they would like to see portions of this additional funding being spent. The City already spends R300 million per annum on cleaning up illegal dumping and communities are now being rewarded for reporting illegal dumping to the City so that action, including fines and confiscation of vehicles, can be implemented against perpetrators who choose to pollute our communities.*

While the SAPS and the Courts, which fall entirely under the authority of the National Government, are the primary agency in the fight against crime, the City cannot sit idly by while our communities suffer because of insufficient resourcing of SAPS. The R165 million additional funding from the adjustments budget for Law Enforcement will go towards recruiting new Law Enforcement staff, new radios and equipment, paying overtime for those officers who help the City to provide a 24/7 service, new vehicles and CCTV cameras, and upgrading our fire stations in the areas most affected by fires. We are also very thankful for additional funding we have received from the Western Cape Government to expand our K9 unit for the City of Cape Town.

100 DAYS IN OFFICE REPORT CARD-MAYOR DAN PLATO

Highlights:

- *Attended 50 community meetings and engagements*
- *Responded to the public's call to address safety – R165 million allocated for recruitment of additional law enforcement, vehicles and CCTV cameras*
- *Funding of R115 million to address concerns raised about illegal dumping and ensure the cleanliness of communities*
- *Additional funding of R26,7 million allocated to address title deed restoration*
- *Initiated the process for an Heritage Protection Overlay Zone (HPOZ) to be granted to the Bo-Kaap community*
- *Accepted award for the World's Leading Festival and Events Capital*
- *Reduced water restrictions and associated tariffs to level three*
- *Addressed strategic priorities with my Mayoral Committee and top management team with plans to be announced in coming weeks*

Good evening and welcome to this informal feedback session.

It's often said that a day is a long time in politics. Well today, I'd like to reflect on the past 100 days and share with you what I've learned and what I would like to see going forward. As you all know, I served as the Mayor of Cape Town once before during one of the most memorable times in this City's history, namely the FIFA 2010 World Cup. I will always be grateful for being tasked with steering this City through a time that brought so much joy to our residents and that saw us welcoming so many visitors to Cape Town.

*A highlight of the last 100 days has been accepting **the award for the World's Leading Festival and Events Capital**, and right afterwards hosting the HSBC Sevens World Rugby Tour, the World Rallycross Championships, the Pakistan cricket team facing off against the Proteas; and, two weekends ago, the visiting Super Rugby teams from across the country as well as Banyana Banyana when they played against Sweden. There is no doubt in my mind that it was the successful hosting of the FIFA 2010 World Cup and the City of Cape Town's hardworking events team that capitalised on that wonderful occasion that has seen us grow as a leading events destination for the rest of the world.*

As much as these events are fun and bring a lot of joy to our residents, I must add that it takes a lot of hard work to bring them all to our beautiful City and ensure that the events run smoothly, safely and without incident. I want to thank our officials, partners and event organisers who work so hard at making these events a success. While we won't host another FIFA World Cup for some time, we have many other great events to present to the people of Cape Town and I'm pleased to be back in the Mayoral seat, working with a newly appointed, energised, and strong Mayoral Committee (Mayco) and management team to take this City forward once again.

*With all the public meetings, official engagements and strategic sessions that I've had with my colleagues over the past 100 days, it sometimes feels like this City never sleeps. In my first two weeks in office, I called for **detailed briefing sessions with the top management** of each of the directorates so that I could get up to speed with who was doing what and where our strengths and shortcomings were. This is why you didn't see much of me in those first two weeks.*

*Later this month, I will be hosting my first strategic bosberaad with my Mayco and top management to deal with all the pressing issues in the different directorates and plot our way forward. As the Mayor of this global city, I am also responsible for hosting foreign dignitaries, business delegations, touring sports teams and many others; and for promoting Cape Town wherever I go. I've enjoyed engaging with everyone about their views on Cape Town and listening to why and how much they love this city. I've also **met with thousands of members of the public** over the past 100 days – in my office, in community halls, on the street, and out in the open in open-air meetings. I've spoken to residents in Mitchells Plain, Elsies River, Table View, Khayelitsha, Atlantis, Parow, Eerste River, Brackenfell and Goodwood among others. I've listened to what they've had to say, looked at our budgets and, where we haven't delivered services to the level that we should, I've started taking action to set things right.*

I've already had an opportunity to reallocate some of our unspent funds during the recent adjustments budget, and you would have seen that much of the re-allocation,

R280 million out of the R500 million in unspent funds, went towards **addressing crime and grime**. I know we have much to address in this city, but we need our communities to be safe first in order for us to provide top quality services that they can enjoy. As you know, crime and grime go together and that is why I allocated an **extra R165 million towards improving our safety services** and an additional **R115 million towards cleaning up this city**, because without grime it is more difficult for crime to flourish. The allocation of R165,2 million comprises capital expenditure of R42,2 million and operating expenditure of R123 million.

Among the planned capital projects that will benefit from this added injection, are:

- R7,5 million for an upgrade of the Ndabeni vehicle pound
- R2,6 million in additional funding for the Somerset West Fire Station
- R15 million to procure between 36 and 40 replacement vehicles, depending on the type of vehicles required
- R5,5 million for additional two-way radios for Law Enforcement staff

The planned operating expenditure includes:

- R30 million to recruit additional Law Enforcement officers
- R10 million for uniforms, personal protective gear and equipment for staff
- R50 million for additional overtime allocation to ensure a more sustained, 24/7 service and R20 million to cover related fuel costs
- R8 million for repairs and maintenance of vehicles in the various departments
- 44 new CCTV cameras across the City in vulnerable areas, and a new camera room in Ocean View
- Expanding our K9 Unit, thanks to funding from the Western Cape Government

With regard to our clean-up operations, and the additional R115 million allocated in this regard, the details are as follows:

- R56 million will go towards additional cleaning of informal settlements
- R14 million will be used to recruit EPWP workers who will help us with community clean-ups
- R20 million is allocated for the Area Cleaning division in our Solid Waste Management Department and these services will specifically be for our poorer areas
- An extra R25 million is set aside for our Recreation and Parks Department which will go towards grass cutting and maintenance across all wards.

Next month I will be **launching my 'Keep Cape Town Clean' campaign** and will continue personally cleaning up this city with residents, local ratepayer organisations, councillors and City officials. But one of my very first acts as Mayor last year was to **initiate the process to grant the Bo-Kaap a Heritage Protection Overlay Zone**

*(HPOZ). We held the public hearing on Saturday and I was very pleased to see our healthy democracy in action with members of the public taking part in the public participation process. On Monday I was invited by the District Six Working Committee to speak at the 53rd anniversary of the area being declared white. It was an emotional day, with many former residents reflecting on the pain and hardship that they experienced during the forced removals, but also on the joy and happy memories they had in the years before they were removed. As the Mayor of Cape Town, I have **offered the District Six Working Committee a space in the City Hall** where they can come together for their planning meetings. **Housing remains a top priority for my administration.** Numerous title deed handout roadshows have been conducted in communities like Wallacedene, Atlantis, Wesbank, Mfuleni, Bonteheuwel, Bishop Lavis, Mitchells Plain and Lavender Hill to ensure our residents have security of tenure.*

*I have met with the management teams, looked at our housing delivery over recent years to assess where we've succeeded and where we've fallen short, as well as what we have planned. In the next two weeks we will be sharing those plans with you in more detail, and very soon I will be **announcing our revised Housing Strategy.** After assessing the water situation, we were **able to reduce water restrictions to Level Three in December last year.** With the serious crisis that was on our doorstep, I think we should be celebrating how the City and its residents worked together to overcome one of the worst droughts that has affected this city. It was uncomfortable at times but we got through a major crisis and we should acknowledge what a major achievement we actually have here. In the coming weeks, our **new Water Strategy** will go out for public participation. This is Cape Town's commitment to be more resilient against future droughts and the strategy entrenches what we have learnt collectively. Cape Town has always been, and will continue to be, a water-scarce region. I must ask that we all continue to be water-wise.*

During 2018, all our attention was on getting through the drought, and rightly so, but now it's time for our other directorates to get back to their core business, and this is something I have stressed with my top management. I want to close off by saying that 2018 saw us travelling a rocky road. We accomplished a lot, but there were some tough times. I believe that we have left that rocky road behind now and that, in 2019, we are going to get back to basics with our service delivery because that is what the people want. At the same time, we will make sure we continue to give space for innovative and creative ideas to come through from my Mayoral Committee and management team.

I hope that, while I have given you a lot of words here, you can see that they demonstrate the action we have taken, because that is what I am interested in, taking action and getting on with delivery!

Thank you.