



DATE:

 REPORT TO: URBAN MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

1. ITEM NUMBER URBM 11/08/21

2. SUBJECT

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERFORMANCE REPORT

ONDERWERP

PRESTASIEVERSLAG OOR OPENBARE DEELNAME

ISIHLOKO

INGXELO EMALUNGA NENDLELA YOKUSEBENZA KWENTATHO-NXAXHEBA
YOLUNTU

3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

In terms of delegation

This report is for NOTING BY

- Committee name** : Urban Management Portfolio Committee
- The Executive Mayor together with the Mayoral Committee (MAYCO)
- Council

4. DISCUSSION

The Public Participation Unit manages, facilitates and advises on the interaction between the City and its communities by way of informing, consulting, involving, collaborating, educating, and raising awareness on an ongoing basis.

 Making progress possible. Together.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 and the subsequent introduction of the strict regulations to contain the further spread of the virus, the Unit had to adjust its method of engaging communities. Adjusted methods included various online platforms and focus group sessions.

During the period under review, the Unit was involved either in the management, coordination or assisting in the facilitation of a number of engagements through the City with its communities. This was accomplished across various platforms and through various mechanisms, such as focus group meetings, capacitation and information session, establishment of project steering committees, etc.

The following bears evidence of the work accomplished:

Corporate Services Directorate

- 8 processes were conducted: which included engaging communities on the amendments to the IDP; comment on the Annual Report; comment on the Open Data Policy and comments on amendments to various existing contracts

Community Services and Health Directorate

- 21 processes were conducted: which involved engaging communities on the building and upgrading of various recreational facilities and ECD Centres; co-ordinating the SDECD Grant-in-Aid funding applications process;
- Assisting with community Awareness and Education campaigns on COVID-19 across all areas within the City;
- Assisting with awareness of and registration for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Finance Directorate

Soliciting comments on the 2020/21 Budget process: -

- This process consisted of 68 focus group sessions of public engagement forums in the form of face to face engagements and virtual platform meetings across the 24 Subcouncils. Sessions were held in each sub-council and were mainly attended by representatives from organisations and Ward Committee members listed on the Subcouncil database. Due to the Covid-19 regulations, the Public Participation Unit had to explore other communication platforms to engage communities and to solicit comments from the community on the draft 21/22 Budget and amendments to the IDP;
- These platforms included media releases issued to various publications and broadcast stations; posting content on social media; website landing pages as well as posting a video on YouTube, the link was shared on various communication platforms i.e. WhatsApp, sms etc.

Human Settlements Directorate

- 14 processes were conducted which involved engaging communities on new housing developments; upgrading of public housing and engaging informal settlements in respect of relocations.

Safety and Security

- Engaging communities on issues emanating from the War Room in respect on Unlawful Land Occupation (ULO) and soliciting comments on various By-Laws.

Spatial Planning and Environment Directorate

- Extensively engaging communities via hybrid meetings on the District Spatial Development frameworks, soliciting comments on the Climate Change Strategy and comments on the amendments to existing contracts

Transport Directorate

- 16 processes were conducted consisting of: various road closures; renaming of streets; public comment on amendments to existing contracts and soliciting comments on the revised Parking Policy.

Urban Management Directorate

- Assist Subcouncils with facilitating various local interventions such as informal Trading Plans, Jobseekers database campaign and various empowerment programmes

Water and Waste Directorate

- Assisting with various Educational and Awareness campaigns such as; '**Bin it Block**' (*to mitigate sewer system blockages and overflows*), 'Let's Keep our Communities Clean (*illegal dumping drive awareness programme*)

Regulations of Gatherings as per the Gatherings Act

- The Unit is also responsible for the Regulation of Gatherings, it provides various stakeholders with information on regulated service delivery protests with the Metro. Under the different levels of lockdown, 190 gatherings were approved.

Highlights of the current financial year

- Our 144 EPWP trainee assistants received the necessary training which equipped them to initiate and facilitate various local interventions, such as water conservation education at schools; registration of workers on the EPWP database and assisting the local community organisations on Council's processes. The City presented the CDE's with an Award recognising their support and assistance rendered during COVID-19.
- The Public Participation Unit continues with efforts to further improve on methods or approaches to further strengthen relationships with communities;
- There is an ongoing need to educate the community on the City's Basket of Services and the role of the community in realising these services.

4.1. Financial Implications None Opex Capex

Capex: New Projects

Capex: Existing projects requiring additional funding

Capex: Existing projects with no additional funding requirements

4.2. Policy and Strategy Yes No

4.3. Legislative Vetting Yes No

4.4. Legal Compliance

4.5. Staff Implications Yes No

4.6. Risk Implications Yes No

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Urban Management Portfolio Committee note the content of this report

AANBEVELINGS

Daar word aanbeveel dat die toesigkomitee oor stedelike bestuur van die inhoud van hierdie verslag kennis neem.

IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba iKomiti eBek'iliso kuLawulo lweDolophu mayiqwalasele okuqulathwe kule ngxelo.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NAME

Adv. Brent Gerber

COMMENT:

DATE

19/7/2021

SIGNATURE



LEGAL COMPLIANCE

- REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.
- NON-COMPLIANT

NAME

COMMENT:

DATE

For information

SIGNATURE

Jason Sam Liebenberg
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