

Municipality is misleading the public

MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma responds to a misleading Poster circulated by Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality

29 January 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: We have noted a misleading poster issued by Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality informing communities of Mhubheni and Shayamoya that the Mayor, Cllr. Mduduzi Myeza will be introducing contractors for the construction of 1000 houses.

We wish to state categorically that the poster is not only misleading but a display of dishonesty for the following reasons:-

1. The municipality has no Housing Developer Status as this has been taken over by the department following a poor performance.
2. It is public knowledge that the municipality has in the past failed dismally to complete Shayamoya Rural Housing project. This resulted in the Department of Human Settlements being unfairly blamed by the community.
3. Flowing from above, the municipality therefore has no authority and mandate to introduce any contractor for the project. This responsibility rests with the Department of Human Settlements;
4. For the record, the municipality was granted 4 years and 5 months to construct and complete 500 houses as part of Shayamoya Rural Housing project.
5. Unfortunately, the municipality has only managed to deliver 268 foundations, 262 wall plates, and 178 completed houses with rainwater harvesting systems. This has generated anger in the community with the Department of Human Settlements being unfairly blamed for the inefficiencies of the municipality;
6. After several attempts to remedy the situation, a bilateral contract between the Department and the Municipality for Shayamoya Rural Housing Project ended in November 2023; and no further extension to the contract was granted to the Municipality due to poor performance.

The Department has been forced to reprioritize its housing projects and move around funds to ensure a new budget allocation for this project.

Consequently, we have approved a new revised project value for an amount of more than R 60 million in the new financial year – 2025/2026.

Rectifying the shoddy work of the municipality on Shayamoya Rural Housing Project will therefore commence in April 2025.

The purported introduction of contractors by the municipality is therefore a public relations gimmick aimed at misleading unsuspecting and desperate community members.

Finally, we commit to working with all spheres of government as part of inspiring hope for a better future. In doing so, honesty, hard work, and efficiency remain a permanent feature.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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