



MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

Media Statement

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Department kept its promises to relocate informal settlements residents found in the flood line

Potchefstroom: Department of Local Government and Human Settlements in the North West Province has kept its promises to relocate informal settlements residents found in the flood line in ward 18 and 27 of JB Marks Local Municipality.

This happens as a result of the intervention made by the MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements, Motlalepula Rosho. During her community meeting in the last two weeks, she had promised the residents to engage the municipality to start the relocation process expeditiously.

In respond to the commitment made by MEC Rosho, the JB Marks Municipality has started a process to do land surveying. The process will also include demarcating the stands to allow the municipality to allocate the stands.

Speaking during the community meeting last Thursday, the Chief Director for Housing Planning Research and Technical Services in the department, Tshepo Phetlhu as he introduced the contractor, emphasized the fact the process of relocation has been given a priority. "Ourselves as department working with the JB Marks municipality we want to see this relocation being done following the prescripts of the law and benefit the affected communities", charged Phetlhu.

Thabiso Rakgetsi who spoke on behalf of the community, could not restrain his excitement when a company was introduced in a community meeting, "We are excited to work with

leadership from government that responds to its commitment made in the past two weeks that a company will be introduced today to take the process forward. It is indeed that this has happened, progress is registered much faster than we anticipated", said Thabiso

These developments have happened as a result of Departmental intervention to relocate residents of ward 18 and 27 who have been staying in the informal settlements over eight years. This informal settlement is not habitable due to illegal dumping which has caused a strong stench as a result of filth. This has posed a serious health hazard particularly to the children and elderly around the area. More than six hundred households are affected.

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