



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

North West Province  
Republic of South Africa



## OFFICE OF THE MEC

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### PRESS RELEASE

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#### NORTH WEST PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET SPEECH HIGHLIGHTS

North West MEC for Public Works, Mr. Howard Yawa committed his department to deliver services with a sense of urgency. MEC Yawa was delivering his 2005/06 budget speech under the theme "Denouncing Business as Usual" in the North West Provincial Legislature today

The total budget approved for the department by the legislature is R465 million which is an increase of 20.8 % from the previous financial year's budget.

MEC Yawa said R23 million of the said budget will be used on a Renovation Project to change "office space" into "workplace" at the Ga-Rona Building. This will reduce costs on rented accommodation as the renovated building will accommodate more than 2000 public servants, i.e. an additional 1264 to the present 792 public servants accommodated by the Ga-Rona building housing most government departments of the North West Provincial Administration.

MEC Yawa further said that building on the success of the R22 million Modimola Expanded Public Works Pilot Project, Modimong Village in the Bophirima Region is the next village to benefit in the roll out of the Programme. R 12 million will also be used for the roll out of the Expanded Public Works Programme in all four regions of the Province. The roll out of the programme is expected to create over 1800 job and skills training opportunities for unemployed women, youth and the disabled.

He added that the second phase of the Mmabatho Convention Centre Paving and Landscaping Project will create a further 70 jobs and training opportunities in addition to the 80 created in the first phase of the Project.



Within the framework of the preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act and Broad - based Black Economic Empowerment Policy, the department engaged one hundred and forty three (143) Affirmative business enterprises to the value of R176 million during the 2004/2005 financial year.

MEC Yawa welcomed a donation of R100 000 by Pretoria Portland Cement towards training of emerging contractors. He said that the department would use the donation to train emerging contractors in labour intensive methods of construction in line with Expanded Public Works Programme guidelines.

**ISSUED BY: THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.**

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**END OF STATEMENT**