




Department of Public Works and Roads 2019-2010 Budget Speech
delivered by MEC Gaoage Oageng Molapisi, in the North West
Provincial Legislature, Mahikeng, on Wednesday, 24 July 2019

- Honourable Speaker of North West Provincial Legislature
- Deputy Speaker of the Provincial Legislature
- Honourable Premier of the North West, Professor Job Mokgoro
- Honourable Members of the Executive Council
- Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature
- Executive Mayors and Mayors of Municipalities
- Members of the Mayoral Committee responsible for Infrastructure and Roads from Municipalities across the Province

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- Administrator of the Department, Mr Samuel Thobakgale and Members of his Intervention Team.
 - Senior Officials of the Department
 - Leadership of our Stakeholders
 - Media Present
 - Comrades and Friends

Madam Speaker, let me first begin by congratulating the Movement of the People, the People's choice and surely their Liberator and my Organisation which all of its members sitting here today either as Members of Parliament or Guests in the gallery are proud of given, its gallant showing in the May 8 National and Provincial Elections.

The African National Congress, **Madam Speaker**, against all odds demonstrated its political hegemony in South Africa and was once more elected as the ruling party by the majority of our people. The majority of our people, **Madam Speaker** have simply requested through the ballot, that the ANC lead them once more.



This request **Madam Speaker** was not obvious as before every elections, all political parties on the ballot begin from a Zero vote and as the voters queue to exercise their democratic vote which was once a wish 25 years ago the ANC received sufficient votes to once more lead our people and this time lead the 6th Administration under the stewardship of President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa.

We say to all the people of South Africa and particularly baagi ba Bokone Bophirima, we have heard your applause, concerns and cries during the election campaign and agree with you that we need to Khawuleza.

Madam Speaker; its exactly 14-months since the National Cabinet took a critical decision of invoking section 100 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 in our Province. To be precise, that decision was taken on May 9, 2018.

The Department of Public Works and Roads, which I was honoured to lead as its MEC during the few remaining months of the 5th Administration, and also lead it again in the 6th Administration, was among the Departments placed under Section 100 (1) (b) of the Constitution.



The administrator, Mr Samuel Thobakgale, assisted by an “Intervention Team” from the National Departments of Public Works and Infrastructure and the National Department of Transport has been with us for approximately twelve months since July 2018.

That said, **Madam Speaker:**

It may be well suited, for the benefit of our people following today’s proceedings from outside your August House and our distinguished guests sitting in the gallery, to talk briefly to Section 100 (1) (b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996) and its implication for the Department.

The “*Intervention Team*” in the Department of Public Works and Roads is in the main, **Madam Speaker:** aimed at stabilizing the operations of the Department, engineering efficiencies and activating sustainability and growth by addressing the collapse of its governance and service delivery systems.

In the process of stabilizing the Department, the team identified the following areas of intervention which formed part of the initial diagnosis that was done by the Inter-Ministerial Team and the National Council of Provinces:

Building and Roads Projects/ Infrastructure

Facilities Management (Maintenance) and Property Management

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)

Stakeholder and Client Management

Financial Management, Budget and Supply Chain Management

Human Capital/ Roads & Built-environment Professionals.

A detailed progress report will be presented to the Portfolio Committee as agreed during our engagements.

The areas I have just mentioned, Madam Speaker, should therefore serve as a barometer, to measure the progress, performance and the impact of the Intervention in the Department. As a precursor to this exercise, it is important to indicate to this August house that the following are on record as high level results areas of the intervention work in the department:

- Investigations of Fraud and Corruption
- Stabilising Management and Governance
- Financial Management Improvement
- Human Resources Management Improvement

- Service Delivery Improvement
- Audit Outcomes Improvement

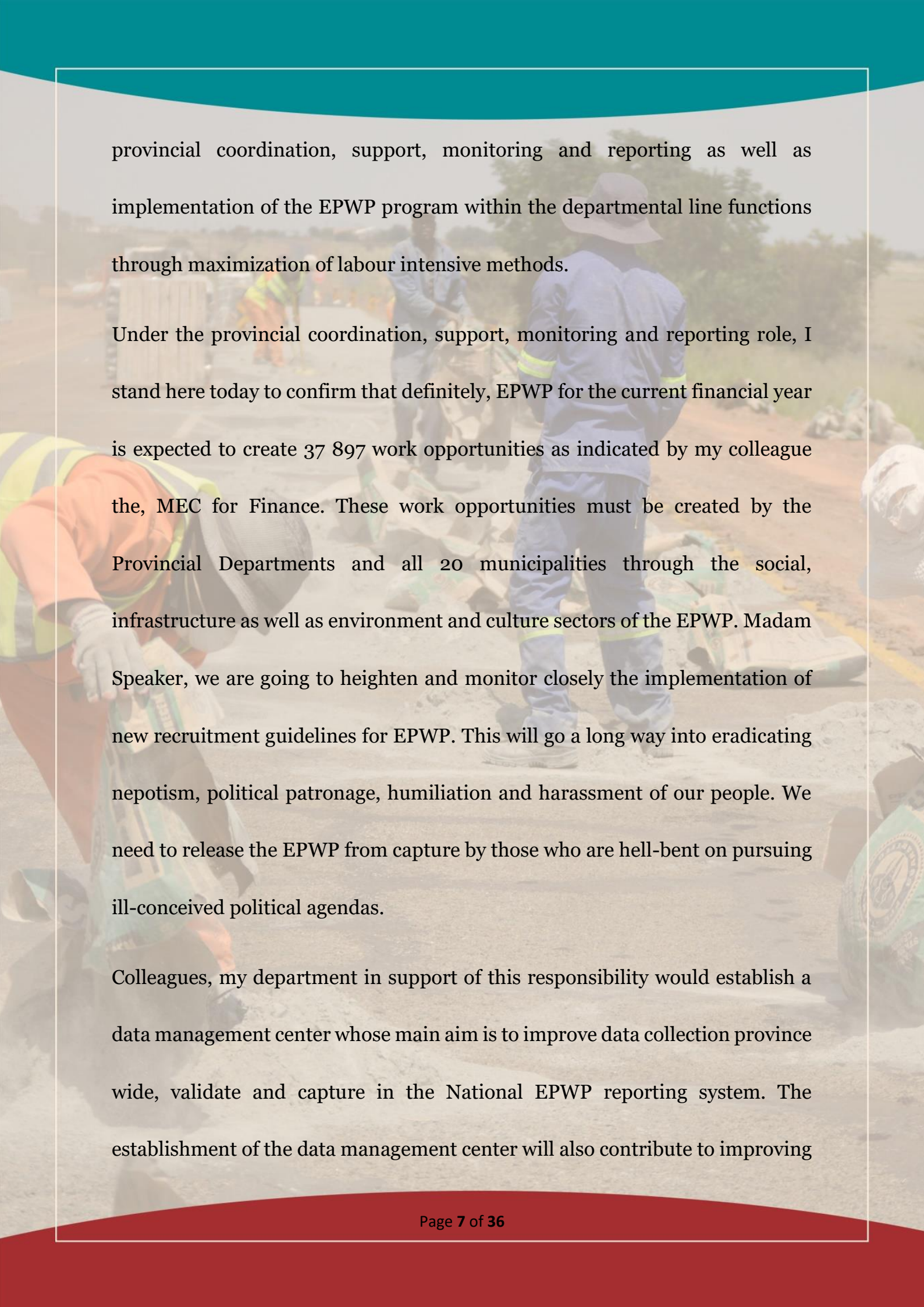
The Honorable Premier, Professor Job Mokgoro, has unequivocally articulated the position and view of the provincial government with regards to the intervention and Administrators in the State of The Province Address delivered from this podium on 28 June 2019 and I quote *“There has been considerable progress registered with regards to the implementation of the intervention where we have witnessed improvements in financial management and governance”*.

Programme 4: Community Based Programmes

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)

Job Creation and Poverty Alleviation

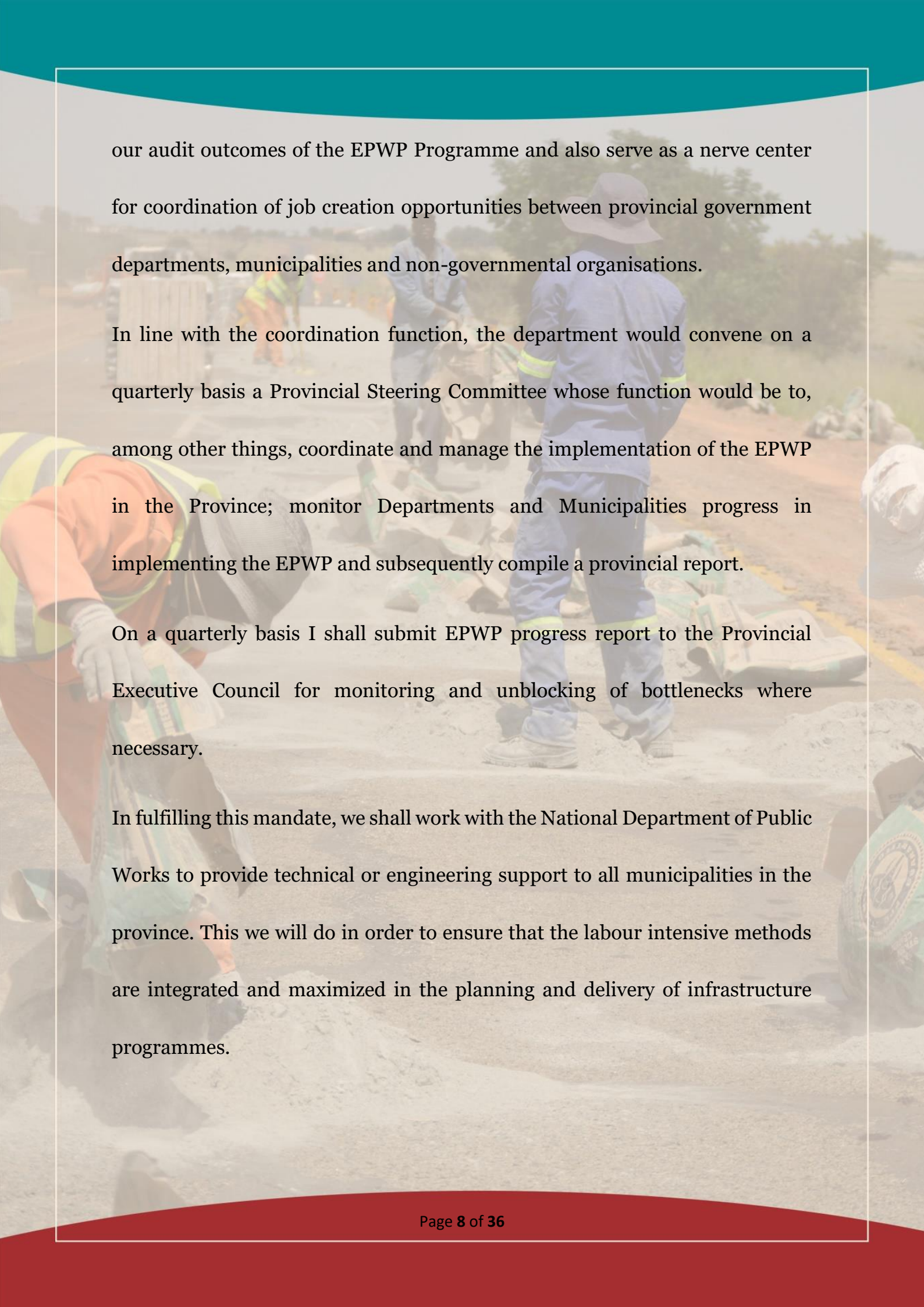
Madam Speaker, the Premier indicated that the provincial government is implementing the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) as a flagship program that aims to address unemployment and poverty alleviation. The Department has a dual role in the implementation of this program namely;



provincial coordination, support, monitoring and reporting as well as implementation of the EPWP program within the departmental line functions through maximization of labour intensive methods.

Under the provincial coordination, support, monitoring and reporting role, I stand here today to confirm that definitely, EPWP for the current financial year is expected to create 37 897 work opportunities as indicated by my colleague the, MEC for Finance. These work opportunities must be created by the Provincial Departments and all 20 municipalities through the social, infrastructure as well as environment and culture sectors of the EPWP. Madam Speaker, we are going to heighten and monitor closely the implementation of new recruitment guidelines for EPWP. This will go a long way into eradicating nepotism, political patronage, humiliation and harassment of our people. We need to release the EPWP from capture by those who are hell-bent on pursuing ill-conceived political agendas.

Colleagues, my department in support of this responsibility would establish a data management center whose main aim is to improve data collection province wide, validate and capture in the National EPWP reporting system. The establishment of the data management center will also contribute to improving



our audit outcomes of the EPWP Programme and also serve as a nerve center for coordination of job creation opportunities between provincial government departments, municipalities and non-governmental organisations.

In line with the coordination function, the department would convene on a quarterly basis a Provincial Steering Committee whose function would be to, among other things, coordinate and manage the implementation of the EPWP in the Province; monitor Departments and Municipalities progress in implementing the EPWP and subsequently compile a provincial report.

On a quarterly basis I shall submit EPWP progress report to the Provincial Executive Council for monitoring and unblocking of bottlenecks where necessary.

In fulfilling this mandate, we shall work with the National Department of Public Works to provide technical or engineering support to all municipalities in the province. This we will do in order to ensure that the labour intensive methods are integrated and maximized in the planning and delivery of infrastructure programmes.

Honourable Speaker:

The department from its line functions aims to create over 10 000 work opportunities through the EPWP. These work opportunities would be largely created from the Itirele Roads Maintenance Programme; brickmaking and brick paving plants and projects. The National Youth Service will also be up scaled in both buildings and roads construction and maintenance programmes.

Through the National Youth Service working with the Construction and Services Seta we aim to enroll over 600 youth on Apprenticeships and Leainerships in order to produce scarce skilled people on artisanal trades.

Contractor Development

Under our EPWP empowerment programmes we shall continue with the implementation of the Vukúphile Contractor and Cooperatives Development Programmes. The Contractor Development Programme has enrolled over 60 emerging contractors residing in the province. These contractors have received practical training projects in excess of R 140 million. As we draw this intake of beneficiary contractors to a close we will also prepare to enroll the next intake in the 2020/21 financial year.

Cooperatives

Our Cooperatives Development Programme has over 600 previously unemployed people having an ownership stake. These cooperatives have been engaged in various projects including, landscaping, carwash and office cleaning just to mention a few. Working with the Services Seta, Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) and National Department of Public Works, we shall enroll over 100 members of cooperatives in learnerships to develop and improve their business skills as well as provide a variety of skills programmes inclusive of sewing; business management; tendering; marketing and financial management. We will also graduate this intake of cooperatives in the next financial and resume a process to enroll the new intake.

I must indicate Madam Speaker, that the current intake of Cooperatives have been with the department since the 2015/16 financial year, earning themselves each member an average minimum wage of R 3500.00 a month from R2500.00 they used to earn when they were still enrolled in the other programmes of EPWP.

Programme 3: Transport Infrastructure

Roads

Honourable Speaker, It should be noted that road infrastructure is the enabling vein of the economy that catalyses the movement of goods and services as well as our communities to various essential services and points of interest for socio-economic activities. It enables sectors like mining, agriculture, manufacturing, information technology and others to transport commodities and human capital from different hubs to consumers. It also enables access to social facilities such as health, education, tourism, arts and culture and shopping facilities and centers. It is an economic enabler in rural and urban settings of our Province.

Madam Speaker, Roads infrastructure can also be used as a vehicle for creating the deeply needed job opportunities, SMME Development and the provision of accredited training in the construction sector.

Regrettably our Department is currently held against commitments and pronouncements of 23 roads made to various communities in our province over the years. These commitments are approximated at about R3.4 billion.



We bring this baggage into the 6th Administration and there is no prospect of ever fulfilling all the above-mentioned commitments made to communities with the budget currently available.

We have undertaken a very difficult task of correcting these.


We have however taken a conscious decision to open dialogue with affected communities with a view to forge common understanding and work together going forward.

Community Mobilisation

To this end, **Madam Speaker:**

I have had several important stake-holder engagements, this includes a provincial MEC/Mayor/MMC infrastructure colloquium as a precursor for district based colloquiums. We have already convened a district roads colloquium in Dr. RS Mompoti district in the past week.

This will be followed by similar engagements in other districts with a view to launch the MEC/MMC for infrastructure forum to be launched in the third quarter of the financial year. This forum will serve to integrate planning,

The background image shows a construction site with several workers. One worker in the foreground is wearing a blue uniform and a wide-brimmed hat, looking towards the right. Another worker in an orange shirt and high-visibility vest is bent over, working on the ground. The ground is dusty and appears to be a road under construction. There are bags of material and some equipment scattered around.

execution, monitoring, evaluation and interventions on infrastructure delivery between the provincial and municipal spheres of government. We are in the process of resuscitating District Road Forums as part of my ongoing “100 Days” outreach and more are lined up. Wherever we go our message is clear.

With the limited budget we have, and the ever growing demands for tarred roads by communities, we are continuously pleading with them to allow us space as government together with District Road Forums to reprioritise and identify critical roads. We are continuously pleading with the communities in addressing these challenges.

Where there is a will, there is a way.

With only 26% of the roads paved (tarred), as opposed to 74% of unpaved (gravel), the paved section is distressed as all vehicles in the Province are congested into this section.

To keep the road network complying with international standards, the Province needs to ensure that funding for road infrastructure is adequate to address the current condition and move it from poor to fair and ultimately to very good.



The provincial road network is a catalyst for economic development and good roads will always attract potential investment into the Province thus growing our GDP.

Funding for Roads

Honorable Speaker:

This was also our plea to the State President, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa on March 15, 2019. During our interaction on the state of roads in the province and the historical challenges we are facing, we made certain recommendations to the Presidency on what we think ought to happen for the department and province to move swiftly on road infrastructure and those are the following:

The Provincial Government, in response to the National Development Plan, makes Transport Infrastructure (roads) one of its top priority area.

- The Provincial Government should consider restructuring the Transport Infrastructure funding model in order to grow the economy, create jobs, empower SMME's and provide quality services to the people of the Province.

- The Department, through its Executives, resist the temptation of over-committing beyond budgetary limitations.

The best news ever with regards to the vision of the 6th Administration going forward pertaining to road infrastructure came from the Premier Job Mokgoro in the State of the Province Address (SOPA) delivered from this podium on 28 June 2019.

His commitment to increase our allocation of the equitable share for roads infrastructure from R933million to R1, 6billion over the coming three years is groundbreaking and commendable.

We thank you for your understanding and we commit before this house, there will be value for money for every cent spent and same for job creation.

I must also thank, the Administrator, members of his intervention team for putting together a very comprehensive presentation and motivation for additional funding for roads during our engagement with the Premier and MEC for Finance and her team in Sun City on the 22nd of June 2019.

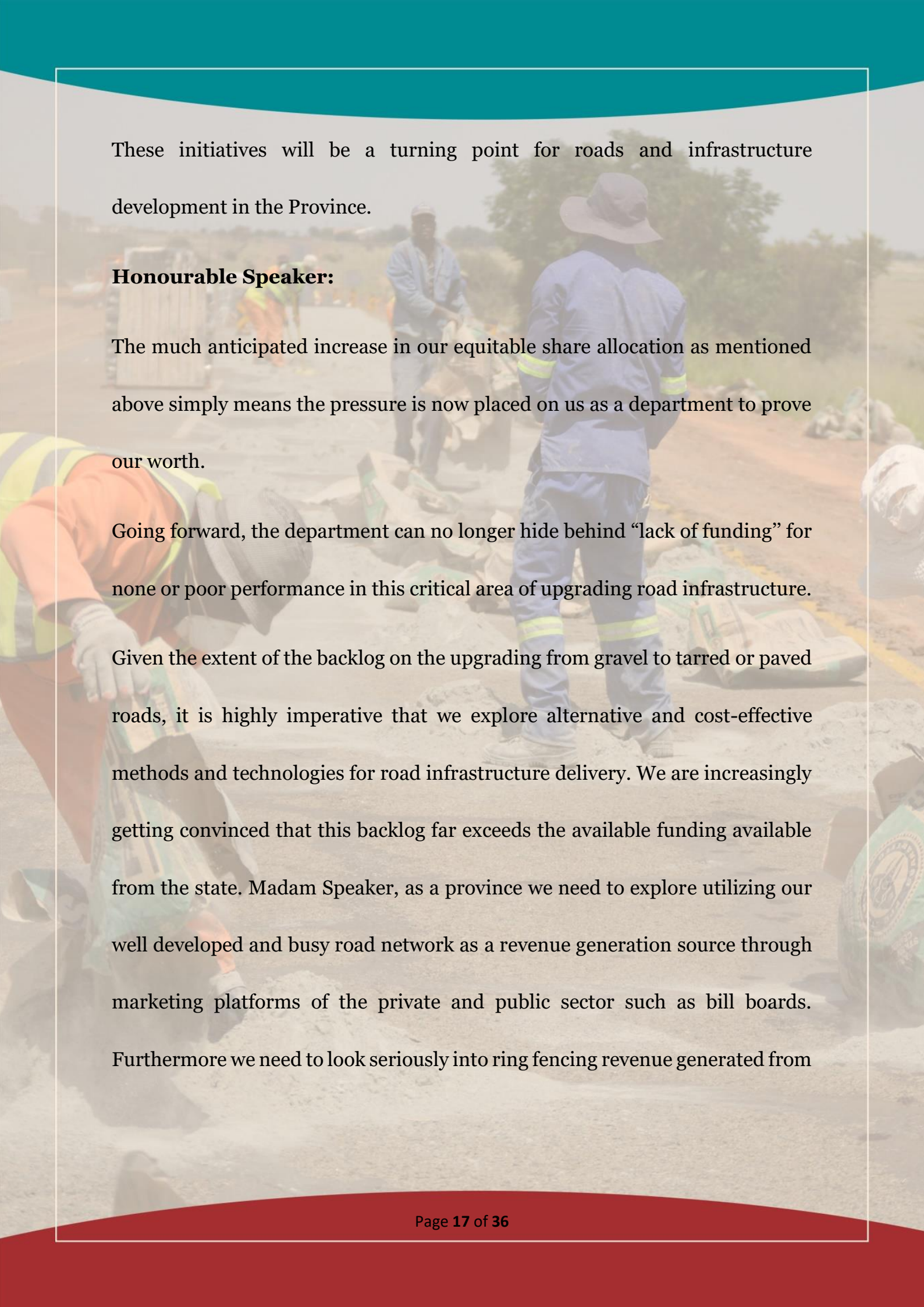
The background image shows a construction site with several workers. One worker in the foreground is wearing a blue uniform and a wide-brimmed hat, looking towards the right. Another worker in an orange shirt and high-visibility vest is bent over, handling a bag of material. The ground is dusty and uneven, with some equipment and materials scattered around. The overall scene is one of active road construction in a rural or semi-rural area.

In this regard, we have also gone a step further in an attempt to utilize our Inter-Governmental strengths to access a number of opportunities that have a potential to improve our way of doing business. We are planning to work with the National Treasury on utilizing their transversal contracts to access systems, resources and planning capacity to implement our strategies.

We have over and above the pronouncements by the Honorable Premier approached the National Treasury with a view to gain access to the Budget Facility for Infrastructure (BFI) to assist in the Rehabilitation of our strategic roads infrastructure in the Province.

Madam Speaker, we have submitted an application to the National Treasury's BFI unit for construction of our eco-tourism and socio-economic development roads from gravel to tar as a funding priority.

The identified roads **Madam Speaker** are critical and have a bearing on the growth of the domestic product (GDP) of the province, eco-tourism, mining and economic growth in the Province.

The background image shows a construction site with several workers in blue and orange uniforms. One worker in the foreground is wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a blue uniform, standing with their back to the camera. Another worker in an orange uniform is bent over, handling a bag of material. The ground is dusty and uneven, with various construction materials and equipment visible in the background.

These initiatives will be a turning point for roads and infrastructure development in the Province.

Honourable Speaker:

The much anticipated increase in our equitable share allocation as mentioned above simply means the pressure is now placed on us as a department to prove our worth.

Going forward, the department can no longer hide behind “lack of funding” for none or poor performance in this critical area of upgrading road infrastructure.

Given the extent of the backlog on the upgrading from gravel to tarred or paved roads, it is highly imperative that we explore alternative and cost-effective methods and technologies for road infrastructure delivery. We are increasingly getting convinced that this backlog far exceeds the available funding available from the state. Madam Speaker, as a province we need to explore utilizing our well developed and busy road network as a revenue generation source through marketing platforms of the private and public sector such as bill boards. Furthermore we need to look seriously into ring fencing revenue generated from

road transport operations for direct input into road maintenance and construction programmes.

Progress Already Made

Madam Speaker:

I am pleased to announce, that for the current financial year, we are implementing eight (8) upgrading from gravel to surface standard in Phases ranging between 5km and 10km. Two are in Moretele Local Municipality, three in Ngaka Modiri Molema and one each in Greater Taung, Kagisano Molopo and Moses Kotane local municipalities.

Seven rehabilitation projects will also be implemented.

These include three in Ngaka Modiri Molema District and one each in Madibeng, JB Marks, Mamusa and Greater Taung local municipalities respectively.

Over and above this, Madam Speaker:

We will be rolling out Phase 3 of our Road Maintenance Recovery Plan across the province where we expect to spend about R400 million.

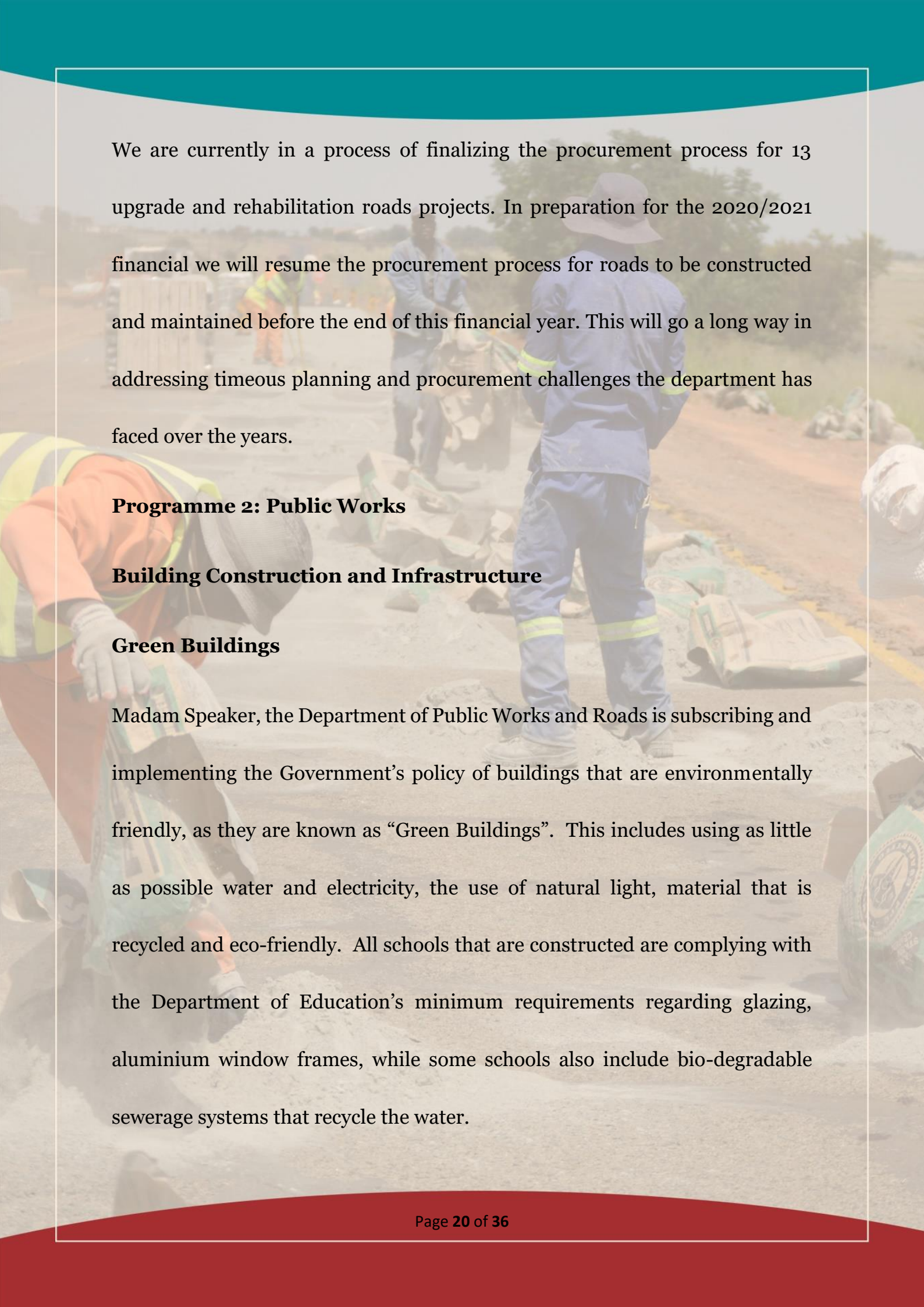
Honourable Speaker:

During the Implementation of Section 100 (1) (b), we have been able to unlock the Road Maintenance Programme and a Recovery Plan was also developed to ensure expenditure on the Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant (PRMG).

We divided the implementation into three phases.

- Phase one saw 31 road maintenance and light rehabilitation projects awarded to contractors and implemented across the province.
- Phase Two entailed 38 projects of the same scope which were awarded to contractors in April 2009.
- Phase Three is in the scoping process for implementation during the third quarter.

With the above mentioned approach we are surely eliminating the risk of awarding and spending the road maintenance grant in the quarter of the financial year and piling up unnecessary accruals. This approach will also ensure that there are contractors doing maintenance on our roads every quarter of the financial year.



We are currently in a process of finalizing the procurement process for 13 upgrade and rehabilitation roads projects. In preparation for the 2020/2021 financial we will resume the procurement process for roads to be constructed and maintained before the end of this financial year. This will go a long way in addressing timeous planning and procurement challenges the department has faced over the years.

Programme 2: Public Works

Building Construction and Infrastructure

Green Buildings

Madam Speaker, the Department of Public Works and Roads is subscribing and implementing the Government's policy of buildings that are environmentally friendly, as they are known as "Green Buildings". This includes using as little as possible water and electricity, the use of natural light, material that is recycled and eco-friendly. All schools that are constructed are complying with the Department of Education's minimum requirements regarding glazing, aluminium window frames, while some schools also include bio-degradable sewerage systems that recycle the water.

Progress Made

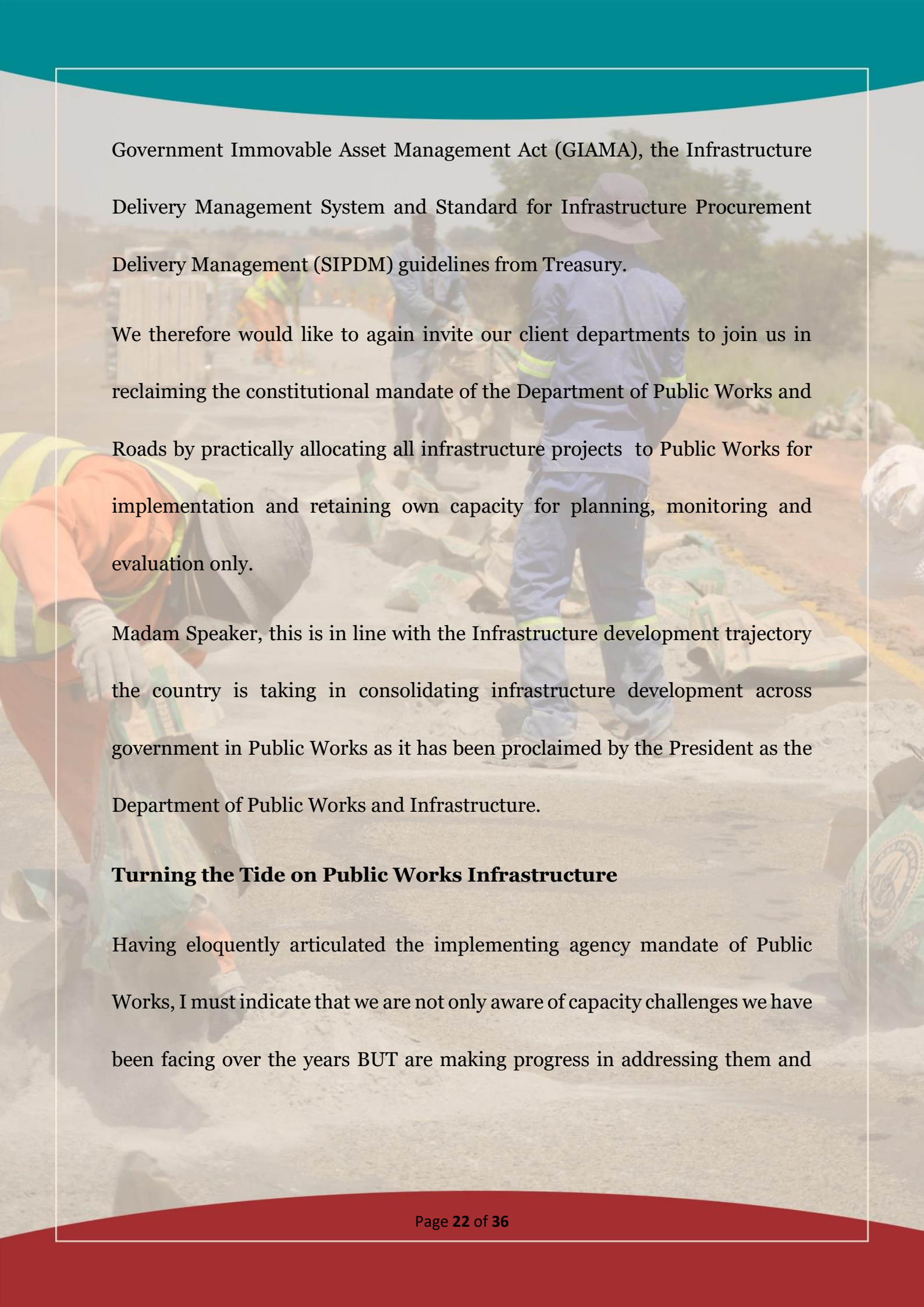
Together with the Department of Education we are also implementing 36 Sanitation projects to eradicate pit latrines under the Vukuphile Contractors' Development Programme, while there are 7 completely new schools being constructed, some using alternative building technology materials.

We are further implementing repairs and renovation works to 18 Health facilities on behalf of the Department of Health, under the Vukuphile contractors' development programme.

We are also working with the Department of Arts, Culture, Sport and Recreation to construct four (4) libraries and also on the upgrade of four (4) other libraries.

For Department of Social Development we are constructing 1 Early Childhood Development Centre, while there are 4 projects that are in planning and design stage that are to be upgraded and renovated.

Madam Speaker and Honourable Premier, the above mentioned projects in quantity are suggesting that the core business and the project portfolio of the Department has been reduced by its own clients over time. This state of affairs cannot continue to be left attended as it continues to contravene the



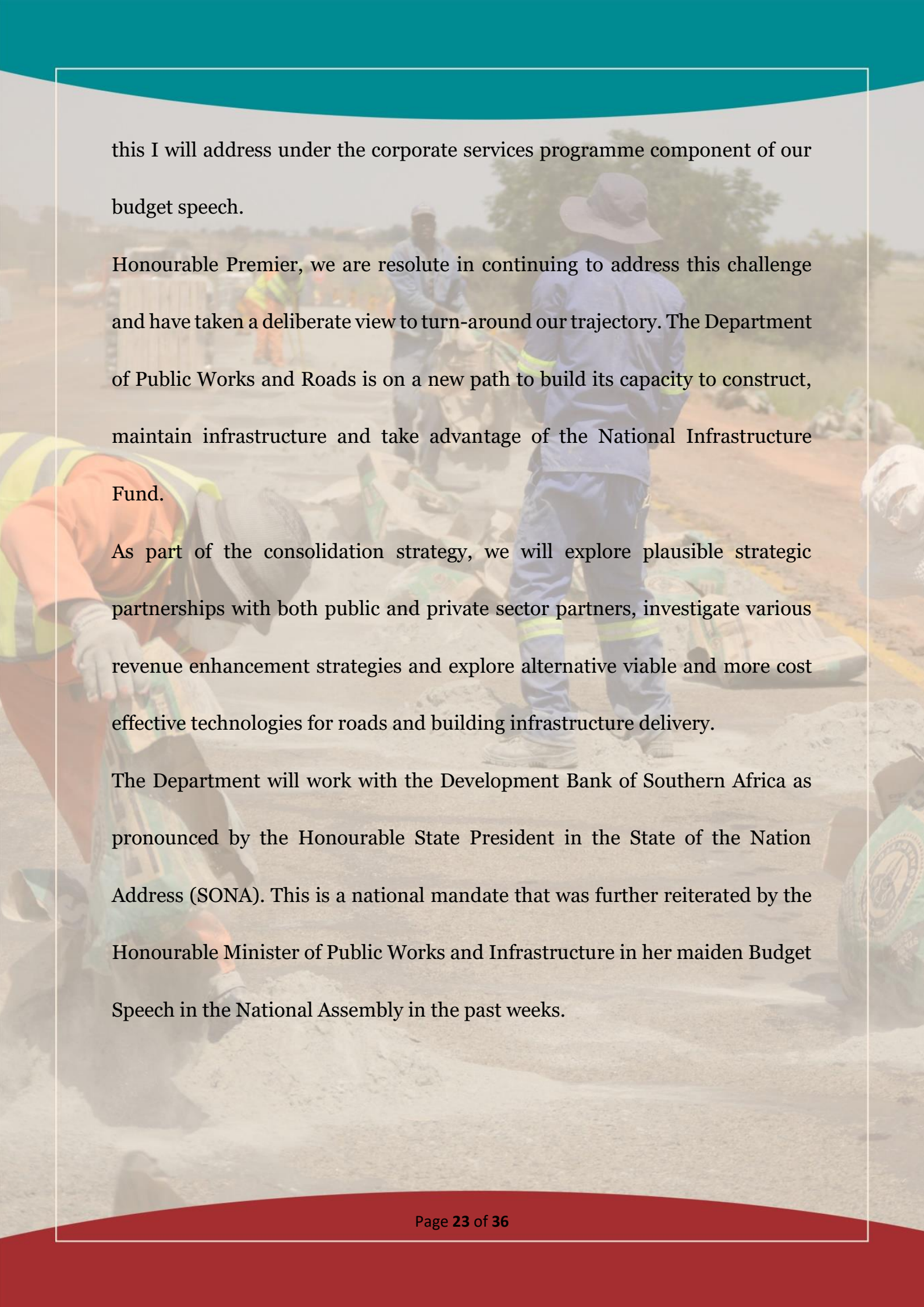
Government Immovable Asset Management Act (GIAMA), the Infrastructure Delivery Management System and Standard for Infrastructure Procurement Delivery Management (SIPDM) guidelines from Treasury.

We therefore would like to again invite our client departments to join us in reclaiming the constitutional mandate of the Department of Public Works and Roads by practically allocating all infrastructure projects to Public Works for implementation and retaining own capacity for planning, monitoring and evaluation only.

Madam Speaker, this is in line with the Infrastructure development trajectory the country is taking in consolidating infrastructure development across government in Public Works as it has been proclaimed by the President as the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure.

Turning the Tide on Public Works Infrastructure

Having eloquently articulated the implementing agency mandate of Public Works, I must indicate that we are not only aware of capacity challenges we have been facing over the years BUT are making progress in addressing them and

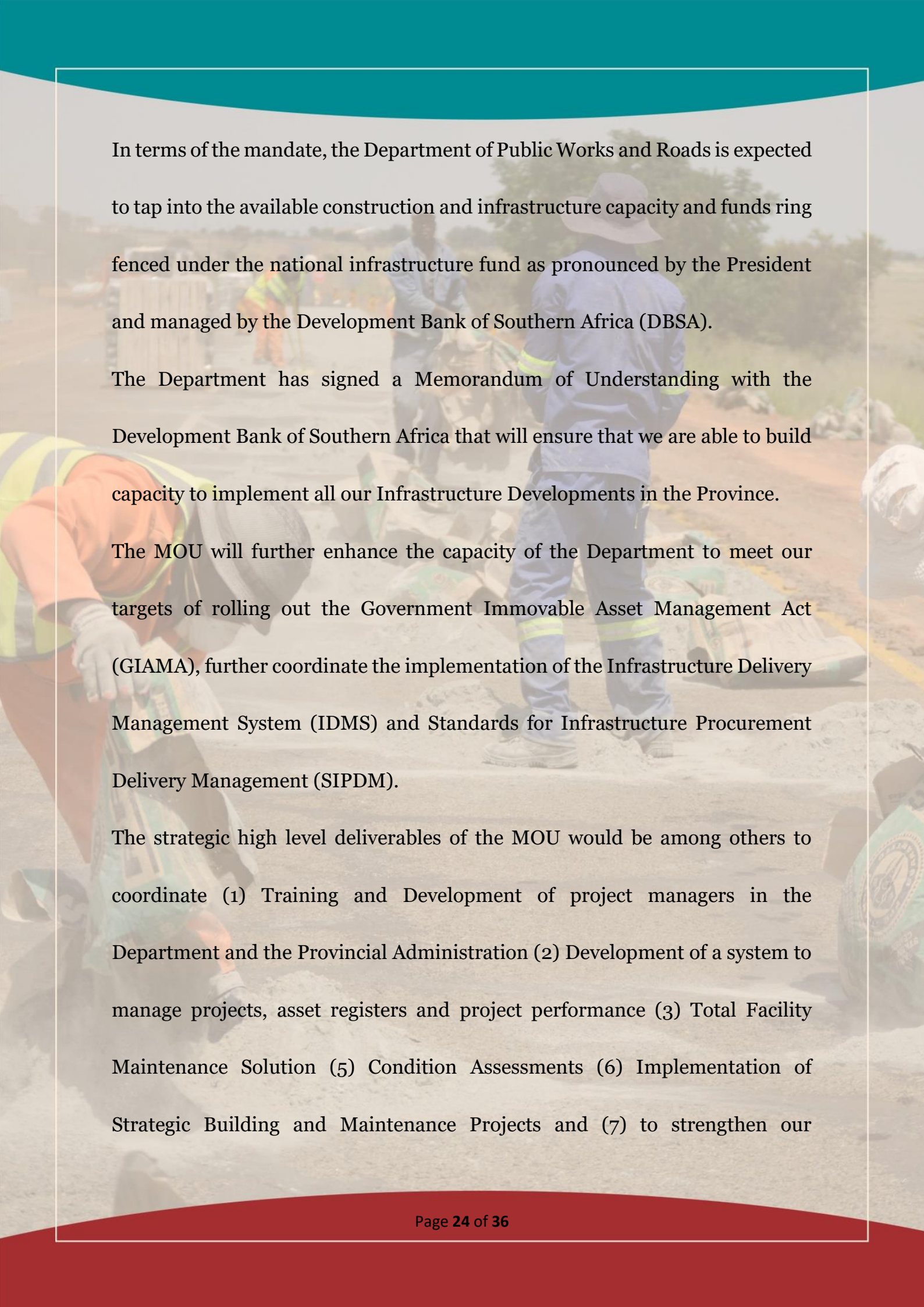


this I will address under the corporate services programme component of our budget speech.

Honourable Premier, we are resolute in continuing to address this challenge and have taken a deliberate view to turn-around our trajectory. The Department of Public Works and Roads is on a new path to build its capacity to construct, maintain infrastructure and take advantage of the National Infrastructure Fund.

As part of the consolidation strategy, we will explore plausible strategic partnerships with both public and private sector partners, investigate various revenue enhancement strategies and explore alternative viable and more cost effective technologies for roads and building infrastructure delivery.

The Department will work with the Development Bank of Southern Africa as pronounced by the Honourable State President in the State of the Nation Address (SONA). This is a national mandate that was further reiterated by the Honourable Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure in her maiden Budget Speech in the National Assembly in the past weeks.

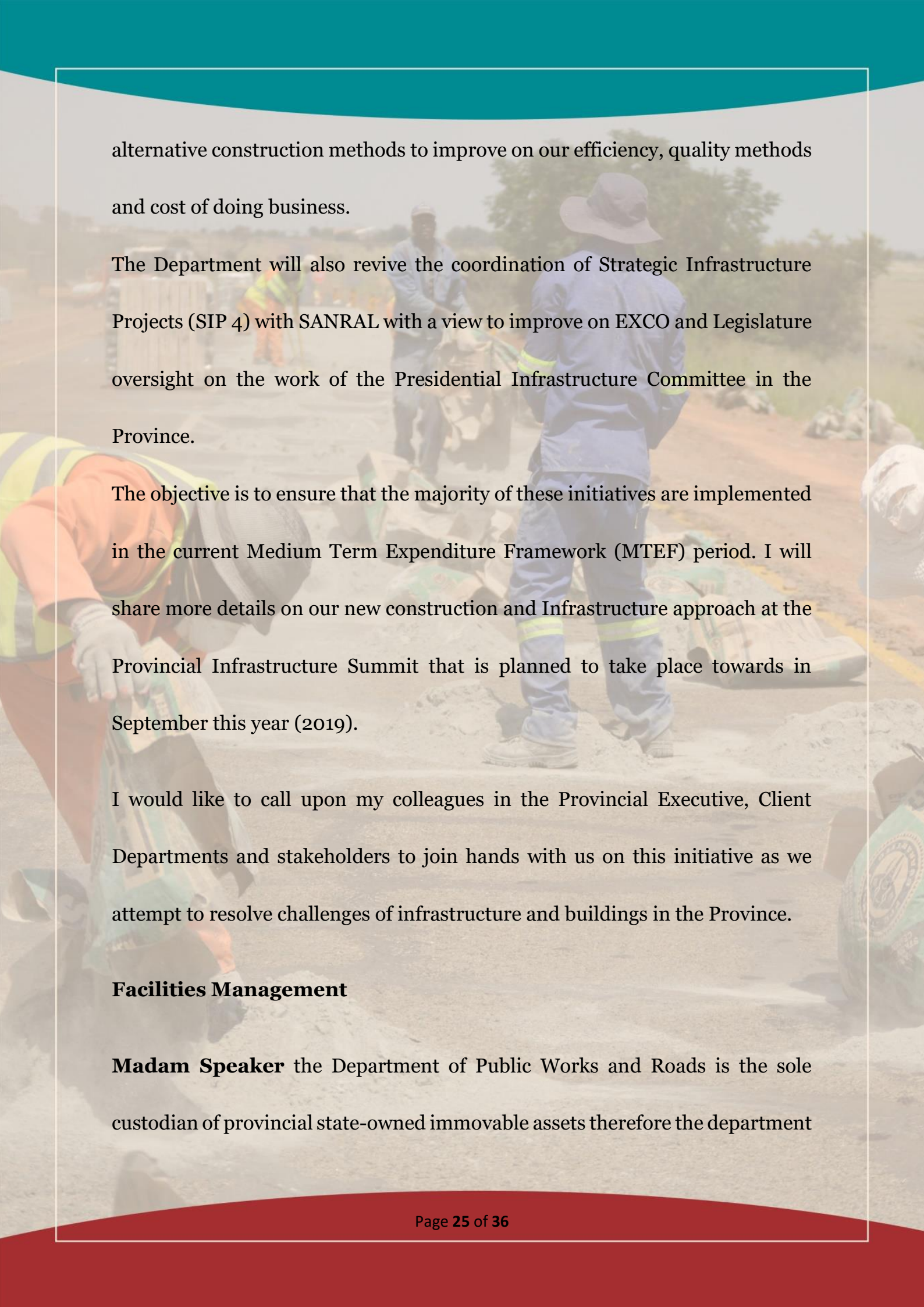


In terms of the mandate, the Department of Public Works and Roads is expected to tap into the available construction and infrastructure capacity and funds ring fenced under the national infrastructure fund as pronounced by the President and managed by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

The Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Bank of Southern Africa that will ensure that we are able to build capacity to implement all our Infrastructure Developments in the Province.

The MOU will further enhance the capacity of the Department to meet our targets of rolling out the Government Immovable Asset Management Act (GIAMA), further coordinate the implementation of the Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS) and Standards for Infrastructure Procurement Delivery Management (SIPDM).

The strategic high level deliverables of the MOU would be among others to coordinate (1) Training and Development of project managers in the Department and the Provincial Administration (2) Development of a system to manage projects, asset registers and project performance (3) Total Facility Maintenance Solution (5) Condition Assessments (6) Implementation of Strategic Building and Maintenance Projects and (7) to strengthen our



alternative construction methods to improve on our efficiency, quality methods and cost of doing business.

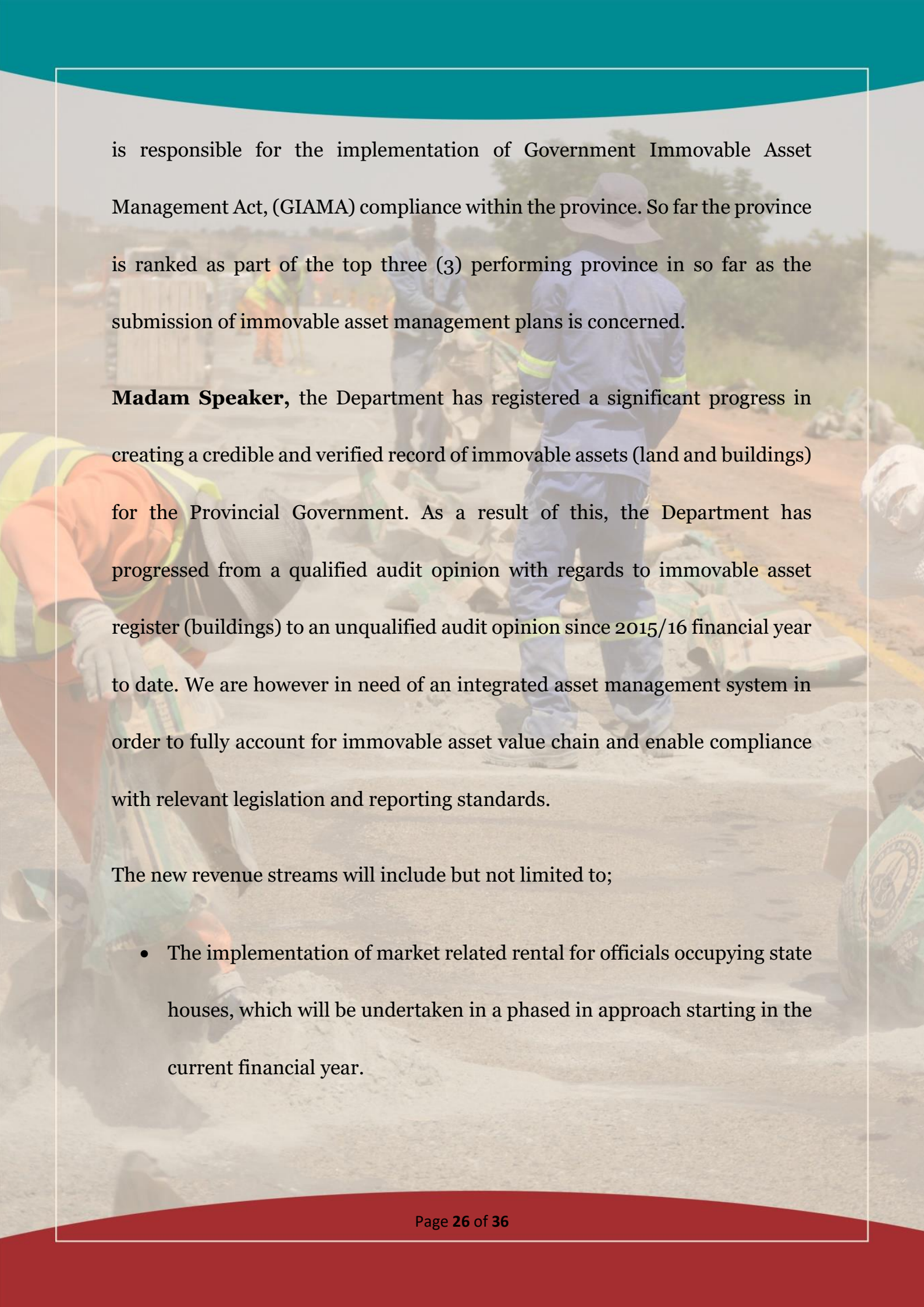
The Department will also revive the coordination of Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIP 4) with SANRAL with a view to improve on EXCO and Legislature oversight on the work of the Presidential Infrastructure Committee in the Province.

The objective is to ensure that the majority of these initiatives are implemented in the current Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period. I will share more details on our new construction and Infrastructure approach at the Provincial Infrastructure Summit that is planned to take place towards in September this year (2019).

I would like to call upon my colleagues in the Provincial Executive, Client Departments and stakeholders to join hands with us on this initiative as we attempt to resolve challenges of infrastructure and buildings in the Province.

Facilities Management

Madam Speaker the Department of Public Works and Roads is the sole custodian of provincial state-owned immovable assets therefore the department



is responsible for the implementation of Government Immovable Asset Management Act, (GIAMA) compliance within the province. So far the province is ranked as part of the top three (3) performing province in so far as the submission of immovable asset management plans is concerned.

Madam Speaker, the Department has registered a significant progress in creating a credible and verified record of immovable assets (land and buildings) for the Provincial Government. As a result of this, the Department has progressed from a qualified audit opinion with regards to immovable asset register (buildings) to an unqualified audit opinion since 2015/16 financial year to date. We are however in need of an integrated asset management system in order to fully account for immovable asset value chain and enable compliance with relevant legislation and reporting standards.

The new revenue streams will include but not limited to;

- The implementation of market related rental for officials occupying state houses, which will be undertaken in a phased in approach starting in the current financial year.


- The disposal of state owned houses, other than those required in terms of Ministerial Handbook. This initiative will also result in saving as the Department is incurring expenditure in terms of rates and taxes and maintenance for these properties.

Disposal of Non-Core Assets

Madam Speaker, the Department of Public Works and Roads is in a process of disposing 476 none core assets comprising of 340 redundant houses and 136 vacant residential sites. Subsequently the department is in a process of publishing about 150 houses as part of phase 1 in the provincial gazette to comply the requirements of section 3(2) of the North West Land Administration Act. These proceeds will fund new acquisitions in the form of the Immovable Asset Register System, Multi Tenancy Office Complex and the Premier's bursary fund to address critical and scarce skills within the province.

Transfer of Land Parcels

Madam Speaker, the Department of Public Works and Roads is in a process of transferring six (6) farm portions around Hartebeespoortdam to Mekkareng community, eighty seven (87) farm portions around Pilanesberg Nature



Reserve to Bakgatla ba Kgafela Tribal Authority and various farm portions to Klipvoor and Mooke communities. The Department will also facilitate the transfer of over 24 835 hectares of farm land to the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform for the settlement of outstanding land claims. And this is done Madam Speaker to confirm the province's commitment thereby contributing to the national government's land reform initiatives.

Acquisition and Disposal of State Domestic Facilities

Speaker the department is in a process of acquiring all state domestic facilities (SDFs) in the form of clinics, hospitals, schools, children and youth centres built on municipal land in line with the mandate of the department.

On the other hand, the department will be transferring some various assets to various municipalities such as Montshioa stadium to Mafikeng local municipality and Montshioa Guesthouse to Ngaka Modiri Molema district municipality. All this is done in order to address the completeness of a credible provincial immovable asset register.

Office accommodation

Honourable Speaker and Premier, as the sole custodians of the provincial Immovable assets, we are entrusted with the responsibility of providing functional and appropriate office space to all Provincial Departments. Based on this mandate Madam Speaker, we have developed an office accommodation strategy that is aimed at increasing the volume of office space in order to meet the demand.

In line with this strategy, our department has finalised a business case for the provincial government to acquire a Multi Tenancy Office Complex consisting of an estimated space of 28 000m² around Mafikeng / Mmabatho area to strengthen the administration, reduce exorbitant rentals and resolve the long overdue office crisis. This acquisition which will eliminate the current Head Office leasing burden of Departments such as COSATMA (13000m²), Social Development (11500m²) and Human Settlement (3500m²); with a saving of an average of R76million for year 1 and R245 million over the next MTEF.

Payment of Property Rates and Taxes

In 2018/19, the Department was allocated a budget of **R297** million for payment of rates and taxes for provincial owned properties. The budget appropriation was insufficient to cover the Department's contractual obligations towards the Municipalities. Another R80million was made available during the adjustment budget period increasing the appropriation to R377 304 000.00. This amount was paid to all municipalities throughout the province.

Administration (Programme 1)

Filling-In of Critical Positions

We currently have two vacancies at executive management level that are critical for our operations, **Madam Speaker:**

That of Chief Financial Officer and Chief Director: Building Infrastructure.

These were vacant for the past two financial years and have since been advertised and gone through a shortlisting process.



The Department has two other Executive Management positions on suspension (Head of Department and Chief Director: Transport Infrastructure (Roads)) which are pending the finalisation of a disciplinary hearing.

The disciplinary cases of the two suspended executives are ongoing and should be finalised during this financial year.

The Department has been operating on an interim structure that was approved in the 2014/2015 financial year.

A revised organisational structure has been consulted upon and is in the process of costing to ensure that it responds to the needs and operations of the Department.

The proposed structure was presented to the Premier's Office and Department of Public Service and Administration before March 2019.

The "*Intervention Team*" has processed the advertisement of critical vacant positions that were vacated in the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 financial years.

A total of 458 positions were advertised and are in the process of filling. We expect to fill 119 positions before the end of the current financial year.

Capacity Building

We have also revived the Candidacy Programme with (35) candidates in the fields of Architecture; Construction Management; Civil and Electrical Engineering; Property Valuation as well as Quantity Surveying.

We have also established an artisan development programme with (25) trainees in partnership with the National Department of Public Works in the fields of **brick laying** and **electrical**

The Department has 20 learners on a Road Worker Learnership which is aimed at creating an incubation programme for road workers. The Candidacy, Artisans development and Learnerships programmes are intended to empower graduates and facilitate their progression to professional registration.

Departmental staff who have the necessary qualifications but are not registered as professionals and artisans are also targeted.

These capacity building programmes are aimed at developing resident skills required to implement the mandate of the Department.

The Budget for 2019/2020

Madam Speaker, noting that there are no additional resources available for allocation over the 2019 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period. The Department was requested to prioritise within the expenditure ceiling set in the 2019 Budget, meaning that additional allocations to a programme will need to be funded by reductions in funding for another programme within the department's budget.

Madam Speaker, Let me take this opportunity to present to this August House the Budget for the Department of Public Works and Roads for the financial Year 2019/2020 as follows:

Programme One (1): Administration – We have allocated Two Hundred and forty one Million, Two Hundred and Ninety Six Thousand Rands (**R241 296 000**)

Programme Two (2): Public Works – We have allocated One Billion and fifty four Million, Four Hundred and Thirty Nine Thousand Rands. (**R1 054 439 000**)

Programme Three (3): Transport Infrastructure – We have allocated One Billion Seven Hundred and Fifty Three Million Six Hundred and Twenty One Thousand Rands. **(R1 753 621 000)**

Programme Four (4): Community Based Programmes – One Hundred and Ninety Eight Million Two Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Rands. **(R198 217 000)**

Our **Total Budget** for the financial Year 2019/2020 will be - Three Billion Two Hundred and Forty Seven Million Five Hundred and Seventy Three Thousand Rands. **(R3 247 573 000)**

NB*- Not to be Read Out

PROGRAMME	Original R'000	After Reconfiguration FINAL APPROPRIATION R'000
Administration	238 227	241 296
Public Works	1 097 508	1 054 439
Transport Infrastructure	1 753 621	1 753 621
Community Based Programme	158 217	198 217
Total	3 247 573	3 247 573

***For Public Consumption**

In conclusion Honourable Speaker

As a Member of the Executive Council responsible for the Department of Public Works and Roads, working together with the Executive Council; the Administrator; members of the “*Intervention Team*”, senior managers and all staff, we commit to expedite with the necessary speed the following:

- Adopt a no nonsense approach to suspected and reported acts of dishonesty, fraud and corruption in all levels of the department.
- Strengthen and institutionalise the relations already re-established with our client Departments,
- Improve Service Delivery and fast-track job creation opportunities in the infrastructure sector through EPWP.
- Fast track, where possible, the finalisation of ongoing disciplinary cases against Senior Managers and Executives to further stabilize the department.
- Aggressively develop and implement strategies to curb wasteful, irregular and fruitless expenditures.
- Work towards improved audit outcomes

- Improve Financial Management

Honourable Speaker, the above mentioned are doable as our own and the world icon Tata Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela once indicated and I Quote *“There is no passion to be found playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living”* .

As we continue to celebrate his legacy, we pledge to actively work towards realizing our dreams for more than playing small and aiming for what we are capable of delivering. Together we can do it, and we will do it because it has to be done for the 6th Administration to deliver on its mandate.

Ke a leboga