

**Purpose of the day by MEC for Public Works and Roads, Gaoage Oageng Molapisi delivered during the Official Opening of Madidi Bridge held at the Madidi Bridge, Madibeng Local Municipality, on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> , 2020.**

Mayor of Kgetleng Local Municipality,

Councilors,

Department of Public Works and Roads Senior Managers

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

The Department of Public Works and Roads together with the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, in responding to the aggressive infrastructure investment and delivery, and mass employment as we address the issue of the role of transport in the re-opening of the economy, under the Risk Adjusted Strategy, will be engaging in celebratory activities that bore economic spin offs for the different communities within the Province.

This October Transport Month Mayor, we want to deal away with the notion that the Department of Public Works and Roads is doing nothing about the state of roads in different areas of our province. We are only celebrating milestones that we have successfully achieved.

The Department in the past financial years has completed 28 projects in the Bojanala District as follows:

1. 5 completed road projects in Madibeng Local Municipality at a total investment of R120 million

2. 8 projects in Moses Kotane Local Municipality at a value of R294.1 million
3. 10 projects in Moretele Local Municipality with a total cost of R198 million
4. 1 In Rustenburg Local Municipality with an investment of R4.4 million and
5. 4 projects in Kgetleng Local Municipality to the value of R54 million.

I must state that in the entire Province we have a total length of 19 783 km unpaved roads and the majority of those roads in the Dr RSM District. A lot has been achieved in the Bojanala District and we can do more. I will make sure that there are no disparities in prioritization of roads within the Districts through the established District Roads Forum. Stakeholder engagement and consultation is critical Mayor in order to avoid complains from communities about not necessarily getting a road that they do not need and the Department on its own decided to prioritize that particular road.

Silo working as government with the limited financial resources at our disposal will not take us far. The Department had hid the President's call to implement the District Development Model and I would encourage the Kgetleng Municipality to use that opportunity so that our planning is integrated, after all we serve and deliver services to the same communities.

In the current financial year, 2020/21 the Department will be implementing 15 projects in the Bojanala District with a total investment of R461 million. Indeed the Department is moving as far as the District is concerned and Kgetleng Local Municipality will get feedback through the District Forum on the implementation of these projects.

We are gathered today to witness the official opening hand over of Road P47/3 from road P34/2 to Swartruggens. This project is a Special Maintenance of critical sections. It was a 6 months project which started in January 2019 and was completed in July 2019. I want to applaud the Municipality for the successful completion of the project without any stoppages. I hope we will continue in this manner with all other future projects. The total economic value of the project can be summed as follows:

- 28 work opportunities were created for local labourers and
- 3 subcontracting opportunities were awarded to local subcontractors.
- The total project investment was R12 377 230.

Now as we officially handover the road to you I will repeat what I said earlier at the official opening of the Madidi Bridge in Madibedibeng Local Municipality and I quote, ***“I would like to encourage all stakeholders present to be jealous of this infrastructure by guarding it against vandalism. We must work together to stop this new sporadic tendency of vandalism of infrastructure. Our economic situation in the country will not allow us to have the ability to recover and repair the deliberately vandalized infrastructure which government has already invested millions on. “together, shaping the future of transport”.***

I want to thank you.