

Address by Her Worship, Cllr Zandile Gumede held at Sod turning at Umlazi Station

Programme Director, Linda Sibiya,
MEC for EDTEA, Hon Sihle Zikalala,
PRASA leadership,
Members of EXCO,
Ward Councillor, Cllr Bheki Mgwengwe,
City Manager, Mr Siphon Nzuza,
MRF Chairman, Mr Clive Manci,
President of Durban Chamber of Commerce, Mr Makhunga,
Government officials,
Bishop Mzimela,
Mr Tembe and other business represented,
Amalunga omphakathi,
Sanibonani,

Sithanda ukubonga lelithuba lokuba yingxenye yalomcimbi wokuphendula isoyi kulendawo yaseMlazi. Okungijabulisayo ukuthi lapha kuseduze kwasekhaya engakhulela kulo nesikole engafunda kusona. Okumandi ukuthi nomphathi-dolobha naye uvela kuyona lendawo yaseMlazi, baningi nabanye abaphuma kulendawo ababeke lendawo kwibalazwe.

Kuthangi besikhona kulendawo yaseMlazi, okuyilokishi elikhulukazi eNingizimu Africa, elinomlando omkhulu kumzabalazo wenkululeko. Kuzezinye zezindawo esiziqhenya ngazo njengoHulumeni kanyenoMasipala weTheku umangabe sibuka intuthuko. Intuthuko ibonwa ngamehlo.

This ceremony comes after another SOD turning which was held at KwaV-Section at the beginning of this week, on Wednesday. The Sbusiso Mdakane is going to another Vilakazi Street and we are linking it to Mxenge Museum which is a project we are doing with the provincial government.

The upgrade of Sbusiso Mdakane Drive, which will cost R26 million, will promote economic development in the area leading to further employment opportunities.

EThekweni Municipality has set aside R117 million over the next four years to develop uMlazi into an economic hub to benefit local businesses and residents of the township. The amount of investment by Private sector and public sector in all the Umlazi projects are estimated at R2,9billion. This amount is not guaranteed but it will depend on how we treat these investors; they can leave if we mistreat them. We need to stabilise this place and make sure that there are no disruptions. The disruption of projects is counter revolutionary.

Our focus is not only in Umlazi, we are doing developments for KwaMakhutha, KwaMashu, Ntuzuma, Clermont, Mpumalanga or Hammarsdale area, Amaoti, Inanda, Tongaat – we are turning townships into construction sites. You will see more tractors and more people working here, there will be more jobs and business opportunities. Let us stop those who will try to disrupt and stop projects. We encourage people to talk if they are not happy but this thing of stopping projects must stop. Akuphele ukuvala amaProjethi nokungcolisa umgwaqo umangabe singaneme. Ngikhuthaza abantu ukuthi baxoxe kuboniswane.

We welcome this project and this new Mall, with those few words I would like to congratulate people of Umlazi. Soon Umlazi will become another suburb and town, our vision is to turn all our townships into New Jerusalem.

Forward to radical economic transformation, I thank you.