



**Tabling of Budget by Her Worship, Mayor Zandile Gumede during
North Regional Budget Presentation held at Princess Magogo
Stadium - 19 April 2018**

Thank you Mr Speaker – Cllr Mapena,

Deputy Mayor – Cllr Peer,

Chief Whip – Nelly Nyanisa,

Councillors,

Civil society,

Umphakathi wakwaMashu, Ntuzuma naseLindelani,

Media,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Sanibonani, today I am tabling this important budget which is meant to move this city forward to greater heights. We are presenting this budget in the year that we are celebrating the centenary birthday of President Nelson Mandela and Mme Albertina Sisulu.

This is they year that the ANC has declared as 100 Years of Nelson Mandela: The Year of Renewal, Unity and Jobs. Our focus is it renew hope, foster unity and cohesion and drive radical economic programme in order to create jobs and fight poverty.

It is within the context that we are to present the budget. Our public hearings must be understood within the context of Freedom Charter which said, people shall govern. As this ANC led Municipality, we believe that we practise the participatory democracy.

I am glad that as we table this budget, our city has been rated as the most liveable city in South Africa by Mercer survey. The quality of life in Durban is far better than other big cities in South Africa and Africa such as Cape Town and Lagos. Our city of Durban was also named by **Brand SA**, as the most improved image.

We are on the right track, we are positive and optimistic about our today and tomorrow. We believe that it possible that in the year of President Nelson Mandela. South Africa is on the road to economic recovery as government is creating an enabling environment to boost investor confidence.

The 2018/2019 Medium Term budget is a total consolidated budget of **R45.8 billion** which has been developed with an overall planning framework and includes programmes and projects to achieve the city's strategic objectives.

Through this budget we will be driving service delivery, creating job and economic opportunity, improving our social and public infrastructure and changing the lives of our people. We are committed in delivering the dream – of – Better Life for All. We are in the age of renewal, hope and job creation.

We have confident that with several catalytic projects we will be able to create investment and employment opportunities. We have already revealed a big project like the Point Waterfront promenade.

The Beachfront promenade extension is a catalyst to the R35 billion Point Waterfront development to be undertaken in three phases over five to ten years. This project will unlock development, contribute about R200 million annual rates revenue, 11 000 jobs and about 7000 permanent jobs.

In the North Region we have projects like Bridge City, Cornubia phase2 and Greater Amaoti housing project. These are some of the projects that were mentioned by Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Willies Mchunu.

This is an important, tough but hopeful budget. It required us to make difficult but necessary compromises, important to ensure that this budget is a platform for radical, inclusive growth and job creation.

The following budgeting PRINCIPLES were applied in drafting the medium term budget:

- Realistic and achievable collection rates
- Sustainable, affordable, realistic and balanced budget
- Major tariffs to be cost reflective, realistic and affordable
- Budget to contribute to achieving strategic objectives of the IDP
- Loans to be sustainable and affordable and utilised for capital projects only

- Balancing capital expenditure for social, economic, rehabilitation and support
- Need to ensure rates base growth to ensure sustainability of free basic services
- Holistic: account for basket of goods & services provided, that are needs driven into the IDP
- Income/ revenue driven budget: affordability i.e. if funds do not materialise review expenditure

Mphakathi, as we remember Mama Winnie Mandela in the year of jobs and unity. This city more than optimistic that our budget will assist us in ensuring that we take care of the needs of the poor, we develop our communities.

We will drive radical economic transformation, create jobs, drive township economy, deliver service such as water, sanitation and electricity. We will develop infrastructure such as housing, roads, walk way passages, including electrification of informal settlement.