



Tabling of Budget by Her Worship, Mayor Zandile Gumede during Central Budget Presentation held at Botanical Gardens - 05 May 2018

Siyabonga Mphathi wohlelo,

Deputy Mayor – Cllr Peer,

Amalunga e-Executive Committee,

Amakhansela aseNkabeni yeTheku,

Amakhansela omkhandlu akhona,

Civil society,

Umphakathi,

Government officials,

Abezindaba,

Ladies and gentlemen,

We would like to thank you for coming to this important Budget meeting especially on a weekend. It shows that you are serious about your city and service delivery. Yesterday, we opened a Business Fair logo which is created to celebrate 20 years of small business development in Durban.

FOR the past two decades, eThekweni Municipality has intensified its support to businesses by providing an invaluable platform to showcase and market their products, network and create linkages through the

Durban Business Fair (DBF). I would like to invite you to participate in Business Fair and visit even if you don't have a business, there is so much you can learn.

Sihlangene kulendawo yaseBotanic ukuzodingida isabelo zimali. Ngiyathanda ukunikhumbuza ukuthi thina njengabantu abamnyama sasingavumelekile ukubeka imicondo yethu kulendawo. Abantu ababehamba lapha kwakungoMadam nezinja zabo, kodwa wafika uKhongolose wasikhulula.

Isabelo mali siyindima ebucayi nebalulekile kanti futhi negalelo enilenzayo ngokusukumela phezulu nokuzwakalisa izimvo zenu kwenza sikwazi ukuletha izidingo eziqondeni nomphakathi. Njengoba silapha sizolale izimvo zenu ukuze sikwazi ukwenza uhlelo oludidiyelo lwentuthuko oluzoyisa iTheku lethu phambili. Thina njengoMkhandlu sihlezi sinani, asiphumi umangabe kunokhetho kuphela, kodwa sibanani ngaze zonke izikhathi. Ngonyaka odlule sasikhona kulendawo futhi sisazobuya ngoba sinentshisekelo ngentuthuko yenu.

Kulonyaka sigubha impilo kaTata uNelson Mandela noMama Albertina Sisulu okungamaqhawe omzabalazo. Kuningi esizokufunda ngalezishosho ezadela imindeni yazo zilwela inkululeko yethu njengendlu ensundu. Kulonyaka sizoqhubeka nezinhlelo zokudala amathuba omsebenzi kanye nokubumba imphakathi yethu ukuze kubekhona ubunye.

Programme Director,

We are here to table an 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 former President Nelson Mandela and Mme Albertina Sisulu.

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

Our public hearings must be understood within the context of the 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 Joburg. 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, tomorrow and the future. We believe that it is 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 will create jobs by working together with provincial and national government. We have also invited the private sector to engage with us in terms of job creation in Durban.

Abalelwa ku25 amaProjekthi amakhulu azoletha inqalasizinda, athuthukise umnotho adale namathuba omsebenzi. Wonke lamaProjekthi sizowenza ngokubambisana noHulumeni weSifunda nokaZwelonke. Siphinde sibambisane nosomabhizinisi abazotshala imali kuvuleke amathuba osomabhizinisi abancane.

We strongly condemn the stopping of projects in Durban by different business forums. We believe that we should find a common ground and engage properly. The stopping of projects will chase away investors.

We will be embarking on tours to attract investors but if we will be having these disruptions we will defeat this bigger picture. In June this year, we will be accompanying the Provincial MEC for Economic Development to London. We want to attract more investments to the city but we will be asked about the level of disruption by certain business forums. This thing must stop because it deprives people of job opportunities.

This is an important budget which will bring and renewal in our lives. It is the budget of radical socioeconomic transformation and jobs. It is the budget of service delivery. It requires us to make difficult but necessary compromises, important to ensure that this budget is a platform for radical, inclusive growth and job creation.

Programme Director,

Last year we were at Curries Fountain and we made a commitment as the Municipality to work with you and to ensure that we budget according to your needs. We are here again and have made progress in number of areas. In some areas we are at the planning phase in other areas we are at the implementation phase. We have lined up a number of electrification projects for informal settlements and we will also be building the houses.

Also what is important that we have started with our Inner City Regeneration project which is aimed cleaning the city and raising it standard. We have engaged with business and there is a huge interest in our project. Last month I launched a Point Water Front development project, we had a sod turning at the promenade.

We want to do and we are committed in changing lives of our people for better. We have no doubt in our minds that whatever we said during our campaigns we will be able to achieve.

We are guided by the Freedom charter. When we campaigned we promised to work with you. We are still committed in delivery of service within our budget.

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 is more than optimistic that our budget will assist us in ensuring that we take care of the needs of the poor, to 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.

By working together, we can move South Africa forward.