

Background

We are here because we want to improve the lives of the people from this area. This is my fourth time in this area as the Mayor. I came the other year for a Women Month programme, I also visited this area after the October 2017 storms. I visited this area when to launch phase 1 electricity programme and today am here to bring more services.

The last time people complained about offices, clinic, dirt in the area, roads, storm-water pipes, electricity, housing and other projects. I am going to give progress on the work that is being done together with your councillors.

Demographics

- The eThekweni Municipal Ward 86 & 89 are located in Umlazi Township in Southern Region, which is approximately 25km from the Durban CBD.
- The Umlazi Ward 86& 89 consist of Informal, formal and temporary settled communities which are residing within Ward.
- Most of the households in the wards have electricity, water is available through stand-pipes and sanitation is available through Communal Ablution Facilities.

- These wards are well integrated and close to the already existing residential developments of Umlazi Township, U Section and Loftus Park.
- Further to the above the Ward 86 & 89 is in a close proximity of Community Facilities, Schools, Clinics shopping Malls viz Philani Mall, Harbour Crossing and Galleria Mall. There is also an Industrial area which is approximately 5km away from Ward, where most people work

Poverty and Unemployment

The area is poverty is stricken and it is highly concentrated with informal settlement.

Most people in the area work in Amanzimtoti and Isipingo, with closure of many factories in the south most of the people are not employed. The growing of this settlement including Zamani is because of urbanisation, people moving closer to the city with a hope of finding opportunities.

Social Cohesion

This area like Bhambayi in eNanda, it is a settlement with residents from Africans and Indian race. We encourage social cohesion amongst the groups with a hope that nobody will plant seeds of racism. We discourage racial and xenophobic tensions – residents must learn to live together.

Tuberculosis

EThekweni has 3.6 million people and these numbers are growing. We are the economic Hub of the Province and we are affected by urbanisation. People come to our city looking for opportunities and they settle anywhere. This creates a problem of overcrowding and spread of communicable diseases. TB is still the leading cause of death in eThekweni by 21 % and it is followed by Diarrheal disease and HIV sitting at above 8%.

To address social and structural drivers and alleviate this issue, as well as focus for impact, the EThekweni District has identified 4 high transmission informal settlements considered geographically as priorities which includes: Malukazi, Bhambayi, Amaoti, Amatikwe and Cator Crest to increase case finding and identification of TB contacts and refer those diagnosed positive to clinics for initiation of treatment.

Cancer

This programme was supposed to have been done during the October month of cancer awareness. However, we will continue because many women continue to die due to cancer in South Africa.

Cervical cancer kills 4000 women per year in South Africa. That is almost 11 women per day or 333 per month! The sad part is that with early detection, treatment is possible and success rates are good.

I urge you to fight cancer by going for the pap smear in government hospitals and clinics. You have stated that the basic components of cervical cancer control are primary prevention, early detection, screening programmes and diagnosis and treatment.

As eThekweni Municipality we couldn't agree more. It is a shocking statistic that only 30% of all cancer deaths are not avoidable. The rest is due to our poor choices:

- Poor diet - consisting of mainly processed foods, high in saturated fat lack of veggies and fruits.
- No exercise – we are living a sedentary lifestyle more and more
- Substance abuse – smoking and excessive alcohol intake

Infrastructure and Service delivery

- We have a Pump station worth R40million project in this area
- We have completed Phase 1 electricity project in the area and phase 2 is in progress
- Housing numbers are in progress
- Relocation of Zamani is in progress