



**Remarks by Her Worship, Mayor Zandile Gumede at Women's
Day
8 Sept 2017 – Moses Mabhida Stadium**

- Programme Director,
- Deputy mayor and EXCO members,
- City Manager,
- Councillors,
- DCMs present,
- Senior officials
- Ladies and Gentlemen,
- Sanibonani

I would like to take this opportunity and thank you for coming to this wonderful Women's Day Celebration. This event was supposed to have taken place last month, unfortunately we couldn't continue with it. Same thing happened last year and I know some of you thought this day was not going to come but it is here.

I will not disappoint you and I will always make sure that I fulfill my promises. I promised to have this event and I made sure that I leave NEW YORK last night to be with you. To me you are special because of your role in service delivery. ITheku lonke limiswe inina. As a woman Mayor am proud to be surrounded by women of service delivery.

The Month of September is a Heritage month but it is also a Month of Public Servants.

The month is generally used to celebrate and recognise public servants who follow the "Batho Pele" principles which require them to be polite, open and transparent and to deliver good service to the public.

- Public servants have a responsibility to interact with, listen to and learn from the people they are employed to serve.
- Duties must be carried out according to set service standards that guide what must be delivered and to what quality.
- Citizens have the right to redress if they are unhappy with the service they received and public servants must honour such requests.
- Public servants must facilitate equal access and be courteous when providing a service. Public servants have a responsibility not to waste resources and deliver services that are cost-effective and efficient.

Programme Director,

Earlier this year I convened a Lekgotla and I raised the issue of low staff morale. I was clear to the DCM for HR – Ms Dumisile Nene that she must encourage and reward workers. I will repeat today, workers who do well must be paid accordingly. Those who are lacking must be encouraged.

Women must be encouraged to apply for senior position. My vision is to see more women from the city to be promoted to become managers. I want to see more women occupying senior position at the Engineering department. Women are capable of being something big in life. Masingazenyenzi njengabantu besifazane ngoba ayikho into engasehlula.

In closing,

My message for women's day:

- We must together deal with issues of women abuse in our community and at the workplace
- We must together confront rape and violence against women by working with those in authority.
- We must also empower women for them to benefit economically
- We must support women and encourage women to support one another