

Budget Foreword from the Executive Mayor

It is a privilege to introduce the budget of the 2012/13 financial year. Our municipal plans and strategies are supported by this budget. The Key Performance areas find expression in terms of; Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development, Local Economic Development and Growth, Institutional Development and Transformation, Financial Management and Viability and Democracy and Good Governance.

The budget is informed by the IDP process which allowed an input from our communities. As informed by the IDP processes, we then divided our finances to satisfy each yearly requirement in order to achieve long term goals in the annual budget.

This budget has been crafted at a challenging time, when the municipality has just emerged from the violent protests which occurred in March 2012. We cannot despair but move on and continue striving to provide an excellent service to the people of Lesedi. I am humbled by the support we received from our community, different spheres of government and the private sector from local and other provinces.

Whilst the global environment is engulfed with uncertainty, the municipality is forging ahead, regardless of the socio- economic challenges it is faced with, to ensure that programmes are implemented to achieve the goal of attaining a better life for the inhabitants of Lesedi.

On the 9th February 2012, during the State of the Nation Address, the President of the Republic of South Africa committed to our people that : “We are going to launch a huge campaign of building the infrastructure nationwide. This will boost the level of economy and create job opportunities.” This commitment to strengthen the infrastructure was further entrenched by the Premier of Gauteng, in her Budget Vote held on 11 June 2012. As the municipality we are also aligning ourselves to that commitment. We affirm that through improved roads, we can ease communication and enable business to flow. The Social dialogue with business has also indicated the need to improve the infrastructure, in order to create a conducive environment for business and investment.

Once more, the municipality has done well in practicing sound financial management by acquiring an unqualified audit opinion from the Auditor-General. This would not have been possible without the commitment of staff in the municipality.

The operational budget for the financial year 2011/12 was at R458 884 091, in 2012/13 it is at R 521 338 750. This shows an increase of 13 %. On the other hand the capital budget for the budgeted year 2011/12 was at R45 274 000, for 2012/13, it is R 67 664 000. This shows an increase of 50%, this further reflects the municipality's commitment to deal with the increasing demands of service delivery.

We are confident that the indigent policy will accommodate our indigent households so as to make their lives better.

To conclude, I would like to express gratitude to all members of Council and the Lesedi community, for the deep interest which they always show and valuable contributions they make in shaping the outlook of the budget and placing at the centre of our planning processes, critical priorities of our communities.

Lerato Franscina Maloka (Councillor)

Executive Mayor