

Thank you Programme Director

The purpose of this gathering this morning is to give testimony to the fact that as a municipality we take serious obligation to promoting public participation as a constitutional right guaranteed to you as a sector and key stakeholder in the value chain of a developmental local government.

This gathering further demonstrates your commitment to fostering a living partnership between yourselves and us the municipality on the other hand. Remember there are two parties to any partnership, there must be willingness to have the partnership on both sides. There must also be commitment to honour and fulfil the duties given to both parties in pursuit to the partnership. Lastly, there is a common goal and objective to the partnership.

In addition to these, honesty is the life blood of this partnership. As a starting point, I take this opportunity to show our commitment and willingness to foster for youth development and to advance youth intensive programmes. The presence of both the NYDA..... in our midst today is the first signal to my case in point. This fact amplifies our voice to increasing youth access to information on addressing the broad developmental needs of the

young person linked to social, physical and emotional growth in order young people are assisted to meet their basic needs and to build individual assets and competencies.

This exercise must at the end of the day **dovetail** our quest to transforming our LED strategies including the youth policy and strategies with regards to Economic participation, education and training, Sports, Recreation , Arts culture and Heritage, Safety Security and Justice, Environment and Tourism.

Therefore, it is our view that focus must be sharp on those because of the following grounds, and criticism must enable us to move forwards with a determined belief that together we will make it.