

BUDGET SPEECH DELIVERED BY EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MANGAUNG, CLLR. THABO MANYONI ON THE OCCASION OF THE TABLING OF IDP AND BUDGET FOR 2014/15 TO 2016/17 HELD AT KAIZER SEBOTHELO HALL, BOTSHABELO

**Honourable Speaker, Councillor M. Siyonzana
MECs and MPLs
Chief Whip of Council, Councillor Z. E. Mangcotywa
Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Constance Rampai
Members of Mayoral Committees
Director General of the Free State Province
Free State Provincial Police Commissioner,
Mayors present
Speakers present
Fellow Councillors
Acting City Manager, Mr G.M. Mohlakoana
Municipal Managers
Municipal officials
Business leaders
Distinguished Guests
Members of the Media
Ladies and Gentlemen
BaahibaMangaung**

During the past few months of the present almanac, three important events took place, which have a bearing upon us, the people of Mangaung. In no order of importance, the *first* event relates to the celebration of the life and times of Bram Louis Fischer, commemorated on the 23rd of April 2014. On that occasion we were celebrating the faultless commitment and sacrifice Bram Fischer made towards ensuring that we inherited a South Africa that was endowed with possibilities for all, black and white, Jews and Gentile alike.

The *second* event was the holding of the national and provincial election on the 7th of May 2014 to choose the best among us to lead the country into the second phase of our

transformation towards attaining the objective of a democratic, non-sexist, non-racial and a prosperous South Africa. Without any equivocation, in a free and fair election, our people chose the movement of Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Denis Goldberg and Ahmed Kathrada as truly well constituted and suited to lead them to this new dispensation.

Honourable Speaker, it is to the *third* development that we wish to implore this august assembly to pay particular attention. This involves the consultative processes undertaken by the municipality between the months of November 2013 and April 2014 to canvas the inputs of the community for incorporation into the municipal Integrated Development Plan for the 2014/2015 financial year.

Our presence here this morning is a culmination of a long and arduous journey of consultative a process reminiscent of participatory democracy. Indeed an umbrella concept characterizing both the IDP and Budget processes is public participation. Thus, a critical question may be asked:

‘To what extent is this IDP and Budget based on the will of people?’

The Freedom Charter states that: “[O]nly a democratic state based on the will of the people, can secure to all their birth right with regard to colour, race, sex and belief ...All people shall be entitled to take part in the administration of the country...”

By this phrase, the 1955 Congress of the People envisioned the peoples’ government to explore participatory democracy beyond the slogan ‘The People Shall Govern’.

Today I stand here to reaffirm the resolute commitment of this Council to always give precedence to the will of every citizen of the City. As a matter of fact, throughout twenty years of democracy, the budget of the ANC-led government has never been about figures but a reflection on the needs of the people. It has been about provision of democratic and accountable government to communities. And, it will always be!

In his articulation of a relationship between budgets, values and visions, BikkhuBodli examined that:

“The progressive vision flows from a different set of insights than its two rivals. Central to this vision is the understanding that people are essentially social beings whose own good is intimately tied to the good of others. Society, from this perspective, is not a chance assemblage of discrete individuals, thrown together in a brute struggle for dominance. It is, rather, a vital organism in which people are living, breathing cells. Like any organism, the social body comprises cells of diverse types, with their own functions and capacities, but it invariably thrives best when all thrive together. Greed and selfishness may be deeply rooted in human nature, but they do not define us, nor does their persistence require that we use them as the guidelines to budget priorities and national policies. Rather, in this vision, greed and selfishness are seen as deviations from our finer inclinations”.

In the same vein, particularly in the spirit of celebrating 20 years of democracy and freedom, we have thus drafted our budget in a manner that:

- Reaffirms a people-centred budget;
- Seeks to restore the confidence of local communities in their City; and
- rebuilds and improve the basic requirements for a functional, responsive, accountable, effective, and efficient developmental municipality.

Honourable Speaker, perhaps it important at this stage to interpolate briefly to share with all present here today about the developmental challenges identified during the consultative process. Catalogued in a descending order of priorities, the developmental challenges identified included:

- a) Upgrading and maintenance of roads raised by 36 wards;
- b) Control and maintenance of storm-water system raised by 29 wards;
- c) Maintenance of parks and sports facilities raised by 24 wards;
- d) Fixing of water leakages including reservoirs raised by 23 wards;

- e) Erection of street humps raised by 20 wards;
- f) Provision, connection and/or maintenance of waterborne sewer system (including upgrading of VIP toilets) raised by 20 wards;
- g) Maintenance/ installation of high masts, street lights and energizing raised by 17 wards;
- h) Address illegal dumping raised by 17 wards;
- i) Address and maintain (*vacuuming*) of VIP toilets raised by 14 wards; and
- j) The need for installation and maintenance of electrical boxes raised by 14 wards.

Honourable Speaker, all of these developmental challenges from the consultative engagements are not new. For an elaborate response and our contribution towards eradicating these, the City has developed a Mid-Term Report that provides a detailed account of its performance since 2011.

The Mid-Year Report should be perused against the backdrop of the eight development priorities that has been adopted by Council and constitute sign-post in our path towards the attainment of the developmental goals.

Honourable Speaker, please allow me to briefly share the following statistical facts may assist our appreciation of the developmental challenges the municipality which is facing:

- 63% of households earned less than R3 200 a month in 2010 (25.3% earned between R1 600 and R3 200), constituting only percent less comparable to national average. The largest population segment consists of people within the working age of 15-65, the majority of whom are youth.
- Of importance, however, is that the population has increased by 16% between 2001 and 2011 (Stats SA; Census: 2011).
- A study conducted in 2010 indicated that housing backlog in the municipality stood at 53 820, and this number increased to 58 820 in 2011. The demand was mainly found in the affordable (GAP) and rental market.

- The attendant pressures of urbanisation, migration, population increase and declining economic performance in all factors of production collectively places strenuous demands on the services government provides.

As we respond to the clarion call of our people as espoused in the IDP, we have not lost sight of the ball, but we remain committed in delivering on the eight developmental priorities as adopted by Council during 2011. Also, inspired by the wise-sayings of BikkhuBodli who argued that:

“To translate its insights into policies, the progressive vision entails values that guide the design of a budget. A budget consonant with this vision would be one that combines compassionate policies for the less fortunate with an endeavor to provide everyone with maximum opportunities for personal development at multiple levels...A truly progressive budget should have the potential to initiate the kind of social transformation necessary for this more expansive vision of human life to flourish”.

Ours too, is a progressive Budget that initiates a social transformation according to the dictates of our developmental priorities which are:

- 1) Bringing stability to the institution;
- 2) Improving of the financial position of the City;
- 3) Promoting a Clean and Green Environment;
- 4) Enhancing Economic Development;
- 5) Developing Integrated Public Transport;
- 6) Facilitating Rural Development;
- 7) Facilitating integrated Built Environment; and
- 8) Promoting Land Development.

Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework Outlook

Operating Revenue

The total revenue budget for 2014/15 financial year is projected at **R7,069 billion**, with the allocation for the outer two years of the Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) of **R7,458 billion** and **R7,912 billion** respectively. Revenue to be generated from rates and service charge, constitute a significant part of the revenue basket of the City. The main contributors to the operating revenue are the following:

Rates	R 1 billion (representing 17% of total operating revenue)
Electricity	R 2.3 billion (representing 38% of total operating revenue)
Water	R 678 million (representing 11% of total operating revenue)
Sanitation	R 240 million (representing 4% of total operating revenue)
Refuse Removal	R 154 million (representing 2% of total operating revenue)

In order to support the mentioned operating revenue, The City is proposing the following tariff increases:

- Assessment rates be increased by 6%.
- Sewerage charges be increased by 6%.
- Refuse removal tariff be increased by 6%
- Water tariff be increased with an average of 11.45% for residential properties and with an increase of 15.22% for non-residential properties and the details in terms of our step tariff structure is as outlined in the Budget Document;
- Electricity tariffs be increased with an average of 7.35%;

Social Investments

There are currently 14, 067 indigent households receiving free basic services in the City and in the coming financial year, R165 million will be spent on providing Free Basic Services to 30,000 households. This amount will grow to R368 million in the outer two years. Indigents and qualifying households will receive the following benefits:

- 10 Kilolitres of water
- 50 Kilowatts of electricity
- Indigent owners and child-headed families will receive a 100% rebate from rates;
- All residential properties with a market value of less than R70 000 are exempted from paying rates;
- All qualifying senior citizens and disabled persons are exempted from paying rates on the first R250 000 value of their residential properties;
- All Churches and registered Public Benefit Organisations (PBOs) are also exempted from paying assessment rates.

Operating Expenditure

The Operating expenditure is budgeted at **R5,924 billion** for 2014/2015 financial year, and the allocation for the outer two years of MTREF is **R6,328 billion** and **R6,710 billion** respectively. Key highlights of the operating Expenditure Budget are as follows:

Personnel costs

Personnel costs grow by 15.91% (R 186,160 million) based on the 2013/14 Adjustment Budget of R 1,170 billion to R 1,356 billion in 2014/15. This expenditure category constitutes 22.89% (2013/14 - 21.59%) of the operating budget. The allocation for the two outer years of the MTREF period is R 1,454 billion and R 1,552 billion respectively.

The City has made a significant progress in resourcing the Finance, Planning and Human Settlement Departments. Processes are underway to strengthen the capacity of the Engineering Department to deliver municipal services optimally.

Already, this investment in strengthening institutional capacity has had positive results which include:

- Improved billing system and credible consumer database;
- Improved liquidity position: cash on hand has improved to 37 days in 2012/13 financial year, from the low of 7.5 days in the 2010/11 financial year;
- Improved credit rating that enables the City to obtain credit at competitive rates in the open market; and
- Improved from disclaimed audit opinions over the past five financial years, to a qualified audit opinion with a few matters of emphasis for 2012/2013 financial year.

General Expenditure

General Expenditure is projected at R 634,197 million for the 2014/15 budget year, which is lower than the 2013/14 Adjustment Budget of R 711,858 by R 77,661 million (-10.91%). The allocation for the two outer years of the MTREF period is R 656,299 million and R 675,623 million respectively.

Bulk Purchases

Electricity

Electricity contribution to the bulk purchases costs is R 1,350 billion (2013/14 - R 1,250 billion). The increase in the electricity purchases costs is R 100 million (8.0%) and the electricity purchases constitutes 22.79% of the operating expenditure budget. The bulk electricity purchases allocation for the two outer years of the MTREF period is R 1,458 billion and R 1,574 billion respectively.

Water

Water purchases for the 2014/15 budget year is estimated at R 394,58 million, 11.98% (2013/14 - R 352,367 million) representing a growth of 8.91%. The allocation for the two outer years of the MTREF period is R 424,346 million and R 455,385 million respectively.

Repairs and Maintenance

The City is making significant investment in repairs and maintenance to secure the service delivery infrastructure assets (*roads, water reservoirs, storm-water system, electricity, waste water purification, plants, housing, street lights, etc*) community assets such as *parks, recreational facilities* and other assets (*service delivery fleet*) of the City.

In the 2014/15 financial year, the City has budgeted R419 million (this represent an increase of R60.2 million (16.78%) on the 2013/2014 adjustment budget of R359 million)) and will be spending R449.9 million and R484.8 million respectively in the outer two financial years.

Capital Investment

In responding to the needs of community, the City has budgeted **R1.469 billion** to finance its Capital Programme to facilitate service delivery, refurbish infrastructure and utilities and develop new assets in the coming financial year.

We will also be investing **R1.403 billion** and **R1.180 billion** in the outer years 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 to implement these infrastructural projects that are aimed at facilitating service delivery.

SPATIAL INTEGRATION AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The City will be investing R163, 5 million over the MTREF to promote integrated human settlement by reticulating municipal services at the informal settlements, acquiring land for housing development, the activation of Botshabelo and ThabaNchu Development Node and implementing Cecilia Park and Brandkop 702 land parcels. The following are some of the key development projects that will be implemented to ensure spatial integration:

- R35.6 million for acquiring land along N8 for human settlement;
- R10.6 million for internal services (water and sanitation) Bloemside School Sites (324 residential erven);
- R835 000 for Township Establishment – Botshabelo west Extension

The City will be formalizing the following informal settlements (WinkieDireko, Macufe, Silahliwe, Sthwalandwe, Matlhagantlheng, Saliva and Seboile) during this financial year.

We have since 2011, embarked on a comprehensive integrated approach to spatial development. This approach seeks to revitalize community development and enhance social cohesion while reducing the cost of living for the poor.

In pursuit of spatial integration and social cohesion, we are rolling out several projects as part of the seven (7) land parcels. Three (3) of these parcels have already been released for development. Progress can be registered on the Hillside View development, with the developer having taken site since April 2014. Applications for 400 social housing units have been submitted to the Social Housing Regulatory Authority.

With regard Vista Park II and III, land development processes are at an advanced stage, with the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping report already approved in August, 2013.

The City will invest R77 million in the MTREF period for the development of Cecilia Park and Brandkop 702 land parcels. Brandkop 702 and Cecilia Park urban designs have been approved and the processes of appointing service providers for detailed designs are at advanced stage.

The City will be investing R116 million over the MTREF period in developing the Botshabelo and ThabaNchu Development Node that will be a mixed-use development node with special emphasis industrial and commercial development.

With regard to the ThabaNchu – Botshabelo node, 8 of the 14 identified pieces of farmland have been acquired at a total cost of R 4. 470,000. The six remaining portions are in the process of being acquired.

Nine (9) villages in ThabaNchu, 12 business sites in the CBD of ThabaNchu are in the process of being transferred to the City by the national department of Land Affairs for further development.

We will ensure that social housing remains a critical component of mixed housing development to be facilitated at the seven land parcels and thus, lay a foundation for planting the seeds of an inclusive city.

Informal Settlement Upgrading

In the coming financial year we will spend R19. 2 million for the development of prioritized informal settlements

The City has embarked on an extensive programme to upgrade informal settlements. In this regard, formalization of several of these informal settlements has been completed. Amongst these are: Khayelitsha, Botshabelo West, Caleb Motshabi, Freedom Square, Sonderwater, Sesolesha Ext.14 and 17. As a result of concluding these developments, we will be electrifying about 3306 of households in next the financial year.

The City has issued 7 438 households with title deeds to promote the security of tenure, and a further 3 481 households were issued with site permits in order to promote orderly planning and settling within informal settlements in the Municipality.

The Brandwag Social Housing Project is planned to deliver a total of 1051 housing units.

- To date 402 rental units in respect of Phase One have been completed.
- 495 units are under construction as part of Phase Two.

- Thirteen new and refurbished blocks (308 social housing units) are at 90% complete. All the units are expected to be occupied by the end of the second quarter of 2014.

This project provides affordable shelter to communities in the area closer to work opportunities.

Developing Integrated Public Transport

The City will invest R30 million obtained from the Public Infrastructure and Systems Grant for the development of IPTN.

The City is at an advanced stage in developing an Integrated Public Transport Network (IPTN). A series of stakeholder consultations have been held and these culminated into a Transport Summit that was held on 22 and 23 May 2014. **About 5000 stakeholders participated actively in the mentioned stakeholders sessions.** The City is finalizing the design for Phase One of the Project that entails non-motorised transport facility, walkways, cycle lanes, facilities for people with disabilities, identification of truck and routes such as Moshoeshoe Road and acquisition of land, and construction of BRT bus stops. This Phase is aimed at alleviating transport problems of the needy communities in the City.

It is anticipated that the IPTN will ease traffic congestion during peak hours and increase facilities for the disabled, pedestrian and cyclists, reduce high number of accidents and related social costs. It will further improve the condition of public transport vehicles, reduce the costs of transportation for the poor and reduce the cost of transport for potential entrepreneurs who will be creating jobs.

Infrastructure Development and Service Delivery

The City will spend R151 million in the 2014/15 financial year and R234.11 million in the outer financial years. Key projects to be implemented are as follows:

- R126.9 million will be spent in the MTREF period to build an additional 10 mega litres Sterk-Water Waste Water Treatment Works that will service ± 26 500

households units from the south eastern area of Bloemfontein and specifically the three land parcels namely *Vista Park 2, Vista Park 3 and Hillside View*);

- R130 million over the MTREF period for upgrading the Bloemspruit Waste Water Treatment Works;
- R25 million for refurbishment of sewer systems in the next two years;
- R15 million for Botshabelo and ThabaNchu Internal Bulk Sanitation for 2015/2016 financial year;

Since 2011 the City has made significant progressive in building bulk water, sanitation and electricity infrastructure and reticulating these services in providing municipality services.

Notable, achievements include:

- Building bulk infrastructure for water and sanitation projects is underway. 2 reservoirs – Naval Hill (*35 million litres*) and Longridge (*45 million litres*) are practically complete and will be servicing the residents of Bloemfontein, Airport Development Node, new Vista Park Development, Grassland and Rocklands. The North Eastern-Waste Water Treatment Works is 75% complete and when completed will benefit 45 000 households. *The Sterkwater WWTW's civil construction is 100% complete while Electrical & Maintenance work is 90% complete and it will serve approximately 26 500 households from the south eastern area of Bloemfontein (Vista Park and Hillside View);*
- The City has completed upgrading the sanitation network at Freedom Square at the cost of R65 million, resulting in the servicing of 4300 stands. The project is practically complete and has benefited the community by changing their lives from an unbearable situation of daily sewer blockage to a new free flowing system.
- We are implementing Water Demand Management Programme to reduce non-revenue water and ensure that water is conserved for future generations. *The net result was the reduction of Non-Revenue Water from 43.1% in 2011/2012 to 30.3% in 2012/2013.*

VIP Eradication

We will spend more than R100 million in the coming financial year to eradicate VIP toilets and provide waterborne sanitation services in Botshabelo and ThabaNchu.

There are currently 16 contractors that have been appointed since December 2013 to eradicate the Ventilated Improved Latrines (VIP) and provide water borne sanitation in ThabaNchu and Botshabelo. To date, about 1,153 stands have been upgraded.

Bulk Water Supply and Reticulation

Regarding the bulk water supply projects – the City will be investing R200.8 million in the new financial year and R317.7 million in the outer financial year to implement a number of strategic projects related to bulk water supply.

Honourable Speaker, the following projects need to be flagged and highlighted:

- R42.1 million for Longridge Reservoir Supply Line, which will service 26 500 households in Vista Park and Hillside View developments, 6500 in Grasslands and alleviate pressure in high lying areas of Rocklands and Phelindaba.
- R102 million in upgrading the Maselpoort Water Treatment Works for ensuring reliable water supply and attainment of Blue Drop Status;
- R45 million for metering of unmetered sites;
- R49 million for replacement /refurbishment of valves in Bloemfontein, Botshabelo and ThabaNchu; and
- R20 million for water connections to households.

The City will spend additional R45.8 million over the MTREF for Water Demand Management by refurbishing water supply systems and replacement of water pipes.

Roads and Storm-water

We will spend R190.8 million in the next financial year and R543 million in the outer two years to upgrade roads and storm-system within our municipal area. This will entail, primarily the upgrading of roads and storm-water, resealing of streets, rehabilitation of selected streets and this include:

- R10 million for rehabilitation of Road B3 Botshabelo – between sections B and C
- R29.4 million for upgrading of Maphisa Street; and
- R23.2 million for upgrading of Road 350 – [*Tsela e tlohangka section D, e fetangkamoraSepetlele ho yamabitleng*].

The City has completed upgrading and rehabilitating an aggregate of 34 kilometres of road network represented amongst others by Raymond Mhlaba, Hanger/ Harvey, Church; St. Georges, HokathoVaphi/ Leepile, Bot roads, Tona, Khumalo, Lovedale, Sesing, Cooper Avenue as well as Zim, Dlabu and Makholoawe.

Refuse removal

The City will be spending R49.3 million over the MTREF to upgrade and rehabilitate land fill sites in Botshabelo and Bloemfontein. R20,2 million will be spend in developing a transfer station in ThabaNchu. We are appealing to the citizen not to dumps waste at open spaces.

Electricity

We will be investing R33.4 million this financial year to electrify 3306 households. R33.8 million will be spent in the outer years to provide more households with electricity connections.

The City will invest R4.4 million in the next financial year to install 20 highmast lights in areas such as Rocklands, Albert Luthuli, Sejake, Caleb Motshabi, Grassland Phase 4, Bloemside Phase 9, Bloemside 7, Phelindaba, Namibia, Freedom Square, MK Square, Turflaagte and Khotsong.

We will be investing R54.4 million in 2014/15 financial year for building sub-stations and a further R120.6 million will be spent to refurbish the electricity network. R120 million will be spent in the same period to replace electricity transformers.

The City has made significant progress in ensuring that 218 680 formal households representing, 94.2% of total households in Mangaung have access to electricity services. In the current financial year we have through, Centlec provided electricity connections to 3982 households and 107 high mast lights have been installed in the municipal area as part of public lighting.

Centlec has succeeded in training 119 youth in electricity related training courses such as (trade test, phase 1 apprentice, trade test preparation) during the course of this financial year for the departments of Public Works, Education, Manguang Metro and Local Government Sector Education Training Authority (LGSETA).

Building equitable, cohesive, sustainable, caring and safe communities

The City will invest R80 million for the following:

- Construction a swimming pool at ThabaNchuMmabana Stadium,
- Upgrading of Selosesha, Botshabelo and Billy Murison Stadia;
- Rehabilitation of the Freedom Square Sport Centre
- Building a multi-purpose Centre in Grassland 2;
- Construction of Johnson Bendile Stadium.

Furthermore, the City through its partnership with the city of Ghent in Belgium has opened a furniture repairs factory through which currently, 25 youth entrepreneurs are being trained to repair and manufacture furniture.

The following programmes have created 4004 jobs:

- Roads Rehabilitation and Sidewalk Rejuvenation;
- Airport Development Node;

- Parking marshals and;
- Batho Greening project and HlwekisaMotjha Cleaning project.

The municipality has rehabilitated the athletic track at the Free State Stadium to IAAF Class 1 standard and ***upgraded 36 Tennis Courts in and around Mangaung***. The Bloemanda and Heidedal swimming pools have also been refurbished.

The City together with the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, is upgrading Seisa Ramabodu Stadium. The project commenced in April 2013 and is anticipated to be completed in November 2014. To date the project has employed 69 employees, both unskilled and semi – skilled.

A new community hall at Botshabelo Section N is about to be completed.

Creating a clean, green and healthy environment

The City will invest R54.2 million in 2014/15 financial year and R104.8 million in the two outer years in implementing social services projects. Some of the projects to be implemented include:

- R69.9 million over the MTREF to relocate the Zoo and construct an open range zoo at Kwagga-fontein;
- R54.3 million for construction of ThabaNchu Regional Park
- R4 million to develop a new park in Kagisanong; and
- R2.7 million to develop an new park in Botshabelo “B” section.

Honourable Speaker, over and above upgrading existing parks such as the child-friendly Kiddo Choene Park at Heidedal the City continues to expand its greening footprint with substantial investments made in upgrading Naval Park and other inner city parks – including the Hoffman Square development currently underway.

Economic Development

We will be investing R190 million to reticulate water and sanitation services and construct roads at the Airport Development Node.

The City has implemented a comprehensive Pavement Rehabilitation Project to rejuvenate the Central Business District (CBDs) of the City. Five emerging contractors have been appointed and 3000 job opportunities have been created. The project is implemented within the realm of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and 70% of the project costs will be used for salaries and purchase of material. The City has already spent R24 million to implement this project. The results attained were improvement in the image and the aesthetics of the CBD and the business sector has made reciprocal investment in refurbishing their business premises.

We will invest R36 million in the next financial year to continue Pavement Rehabilitation Project and this will be extended to Botshabelo and ThabaNchu Central Business Districts. This will create will 5000 employment opportunities.

We will be spending R47.1 million over the MTREF period to upgrade City entrances of Bloemfontein, ThabaNchu and Botshabelo.

The City will spend R23.5 million over the MTREF period in implementation Phase 2 of Naval Hill Redevelopment.

We will invest R5 million from the Neighbourhood Development Partnership Grant in the next financial year to upgrade the Waaihoek precinct as part of City Rejuvenation and the City's contribution towards the preservation of the Wesleyan Church. This project will kick-start the revitalisation of downtown and progressively integrate the whole of the City and link to the envisaged construction of the Provincial Legislature at Raamkraal. The City can potentially leverage additional R194.5 million in the outer years for the revitalization and redevelopment of our townships.

The IDP and Budget I am placing before the Council today, represents the product of a truly collective effort by the Mayoral Committee, all councillors, directorates of this Council, and most significantly, the fellow citizens of Mangaung.

By these projections, we seek to give full account and/or respond accordingly on the needs of the people of Mangaung. Hence the Council always waits with eager expectation for your continued support and active participation in all of its activities.

I hereby table the Reviewed IDP for 2014/15, the Budget for 2014/15 to 2016/17 and Budget Related policies for approval

I thank you.