



**GAUTENG PROVINCE**  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**ATT: ALL NEWS EDITORS**

**DATE: SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 2017**

### **Daggafontein Mega Project to fight the in-formalisation of Ekurhuleni**

The new mega project launched at Springs in Ekurhuleni will curb the informality of the metro. The project is going to yield 16940 mixed houses.

These houses will include RDPs, Community Residential Units, low cost houses, rental stock, bonded houses and Financed Linked Individual Subsidy Programme houses. The project is expected to create 7 500 job opportunities during construction and around 3500 after.

Speaking at the launch of Daggafontein Mega Project over the weekend, Premier David Makhura said that Ekurhuleni was too informal.

“Around the metro there has been an explosion of informal settlements. There has been a collapse of law enforcement and planning because everywhere, even what used to be formalised townships, there is in-formalisation. The six mega human settlement projects that will be built in the area, will give form to the new direction the city is taking,” he said.

Makhura said that the ANC government had delivered in other areas and the pressure was not in the scale of Ekurhuleni.

The Premier also refuted allegations that Ekurhuleni was being prioritised because it was the only metro government by the ANC.

“Ekurhuleni has the largest backlog of housing delivery and the largest number of informal settlements. There is a science to this. The fact we have six mega projects in the area is derived from the backlog,” he said.

Makhura said that government had been worried about the slow delivery in Ekurhuleni and that previously money was not spent in housing and had to be returned.

“It is not a function that whether this is an ANC municipality or not it is derived from the scale of the backlog we are facing,” he said.

The Premier said that the public –private partnership was important as government has spent a lot of money procuring land.

“When you do that you are driven by the price of land, not what is the appropriate place where you want to do development. We have changed the approach, as part of mega cities, we talk to developers, who own the land, be partners and bring bulk services when the development sits well with our vision of the province. If the development does not sit well with our plans we disapprove it,” he said.

Makhura said that government used its power to nudge the development in the direction the government wants to take as it had the power to agree or disagree to the partnership.

MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and Human Settlements, Paul Mashatile, said that because the Daggafontein was an integrated development, other government departments will be roped in so that development can move at the same time.

“The Departments of Transport, Education and Health will come and look at the whole design so that these things are linked. In most cases we start with infrastructure such as roads, sewer, and electricity so that when you build houses they are already there,” he said.

As part of boosting the local economy, Mashatile said that the developers will source most of the material from the local community and local business people will be able to participate as sub-contractors.

The MEC also warned local business people not to form the so called business forum that demand money from the developers without working.

Premier Makhura also called for a consultative process by the community to change the name of Daggafontein to a more inspirational and acceptable name.

**Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government. For more information contact the Department of Human Settlements – DDG: Keith Khoza on 082 823 9672/071 609 0010.**

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