

SPEECH BY LIMPOPO PREMIER DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA UNVEILING OF THE NEW  
YELLOW AND WHITE FLEET AT OLD PETER MOKABA, POLOKWANE, CAPRICORN  
DISTRICT

03 DECEMBER 2025

Programme Director,  
MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Mr Ernest Rachoene,  
Capricorn District Executive Mayor, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo,  
Polokwane Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr John Mpe,  
Chairperson of the RAL Board, Mr Moss Tseli,  
Head of Department, Mr Motlhanke Phukuntsi,  
RAL CEO, Mr Makhitha Chesane,  
Senior Management,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Members of the Media,

Avuxeni, Ndi Masiari, Thobela, Good Day, Goeie Dag,

It gives me great pleasure to stand before you at this memorable occasion that signifies a defining chapter in our journey to transform the lives of our people. Today reminds us that true progress is a process that meaningful change is built brick by brick, decision by decision, just as Rome was not built in a day. Yet every milestone, every step forward demands courage and decisiveness anchored by sound leadership that makes decisions in the best interest of the masses.

Leadership is not the art of occupying a chair or wearing a title; it is the quiet courage to decide when others hesitate, the steady voice that brings direction when is needed. True leadership dances not in the spotlight of positions, but in the rhythm of conviction, in the brave step taken for the greater good, in the unwavering resolve to choose what is right over what is easy and seeking to provide answers to the masses who look to us with hope.

Programme Director, we gather here today because decisive leadership was shown by MEC Rachoene and the entire collective in the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure. Their unwavering commitment has resulted in the procurement of this expanded yellow and white fleet that will undeniably transform the lives of our communities.

Today's unveiling may appear, on the surface, to be a simple handover of vehicles. But in truth, it is a declaration of intent, a statement that this government takes service delivery seriously. It is a promise that we will meet our people where they are, in their streets, in their villages, and in their daily struggles.

For years, our communities have not hesitated to tell us where we fall short. They have written letters, contacted councillors, spoken at imbizos, and used every platform possible to voice frustrations about delayed road maintenance and slow repairs. These

concerns were not unreasonable. They came from citizens who rely on us for safe roads, functional public buildings, and dignified public services.

Yesterday, when we welcomed new employees at Jack Botes Hall, I emphasized that when service delivery concerns are raised, our response must be immediate and visible. Today, we demonstrate that commitment again.

Ladies and gentlemen, almost a year ago, on 09 December 2024, we stood on this very ground unveiling a fleet meant to strengthen our service delivery machinery. Today, we return to the same ground with even greater purpose. The fleet unveiled today includes 5 dozers, 5 graders, 8 front loaders, 5 tipper trucks, 24 bakkies, 17 sedans, 6 minibuses, and 20 trailers — a total of 105 units. Each one of these vehicles symbolizes trust, accountability, and our solemn commitment to the taxpayers of Limpopo.

But let us be clear: a fleet only becomes meaningful when it turns into action. Once these vehicles leave here today, their impact must be felt immediately. Roads that have long deteriorated must begin to show progress.

Government facilities that have waited for routine repairs must not wait another year. Our communities know that we may not have the R350 billion required to upgrade all 13 000 kilometres of gravel roads, but they expect those roads to be at least drivable. That expectation is valid. It is fair. It is our responsibility.

And so, the work of #Dikgerekgere must intensify.

Colleagues, investment without discipline means nothing. These vehicles must be used correctly, monitored closely, and maintained consistently. Misuse of government property is not a small offence, it is a breach of public trust, and we will not tolerate it. We are rebuilding internal capacity, and our people are gaining confidence in a government that can execute major projects with its own hands.

To the HOD and departmental leadership, the success of this fleet rests heavily on your shoulders. Vehicles must not sit idle, nor be reserved for selective use. They must not become personal convenience. They must be in the field, serving communities daily.

To the operators of these vehicles: when you drive into a village or town, you carry the image of the state. Your professionalism, your care, and your dedication speak louder than any speech. Treat this fleet as an instrument of change.

Progress is not loud. It is not glamorous. It is a road once filled with potholes now safely used by ambulances. It is a school with functioning infrastructure. It is a clinic that welcomes patients without leaking roofs. That is the progress we expect from this fleet.

Today, we strengthen government's capacity and reinforce our promise to rebuild trust. Let us go forward with clarity, discipline, and purpose. The people of Limpopo deserve nothing less.

I thank you.