

ADDRESS BY THE PREMIER OF LIMPOPO, DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA, TO THE
BAKENBERG CLUSTER COMMUNITY, MOGALAKWENA MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG
DISTRICT ON SERVICE PROVISION MATTERS

21 OCTOBER 2026

Programme Director, MEC for COGHSTA Mr Pule Shayi,
Members of the Executive Council,
Executive Mayor of Waterberg District Municipality, His Worship Cllr Jack Maeko
Mayor of Mogalakwena Municipality, His Worship Cllr Ngoako Taueatsoala
Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional and Khoisan Leadership, Hosi Pheni Ngove
Senior Traditional Leaders,
Representatives of Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Municipal Infrastructure
Support Agency (MISA), ESKOM, Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL), Lepelle-Northern Water
(LNW), South African Police Services (SAPS) and South African Local Government
Association (SALGA)
Fellow Residents of the 46 Villages of the Bakenberg Cluster,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Members of the Media

Thobela

Re boela Mogalakwena lehono ka morago ga go tsenela ga rena peleng ka Mokopane
Cluster ka gwedi ya May 2026, re tšwetša pele poledišano ya rena ya thwii le ditšhaba
tšeo re di hlankelago.

Ka morago ga go ela hloko ka kelohlolo le tirišano ye e tseneletšego le batho ba
Sehlopha sa Bakenberg, re dumelela polelwana ya motheo ya temokrasi e irwala go ya
go kgato ya mafelelo: batho ba tla buša.

Go ba gona ga rena mo lehono ke tiišetšo ye e phelago ya therešo yeo - mmušo ke wa
lena, gomme ke lena le ikarabelago.

The various matters you raised are receiving our active attention. Through the District
Development Model, national, provincial and local spheres of government are working
together as one unified stakeholder to deliver solutions.

On the critical issue of water, many villages have highlighted general shortages,
inconsistent supply and boreholes needing repair. We have engaged the municipality,
which has stepped up efforts to address these matters. We will monitor implementation
closely, especially given current weather conditions and our absolute imperative to
secure and save lives.

Mabapi le ditsela le mananeokgoparara, re amogela ditlhohlo tše kgolo kudu tšeo di
kgokaganyago metsana ya lena ye 46 le mabitla, dikolo, dikliniki le makgotla a setšo. Le
ge re dirile kgatelopele ye e sa fetogego re katološa dinetweke tše kgolo tša ditsela go

ralala le Mogalakwena mo mengwageng ye masometharo ye e fetilego, re a tseba gore go sa na le tše ntši tše ntši tšeo di swanetšego go dirwa.

Let me provide concrete updates on specific roads you raised: Road D192 (Jakalaskuil to Dipere bridge): This vital road requires major rehabilitation. Maintenance centers (Mokopane, George Masebe, and Marken) have intervened; blading was completed on 13 and 14 October, making the road drivable while long-term rehabilitation is pursued.

Kgalakwena Welisizwe Bridge: RAL has finalised designs for a conventional bridge construction and a secure detour/access road is currently maintained by the SANDF.

Road D2644 (Uitspan to Skrikfontein): Flood damage to the bridge halted public transport and cut off access to Jakalaskuil Clinic. Spot regravelling and the installation of culverts are scheduled for November 2026, alongside outsourced bridge repairs through RAL.

On healthcare access, we have listened to your urgent calls. I am pleased to announce that Jakkalkuil Village Clinic (Ward 8) will commence operating 24 hours starting 01 November 2026. Furthermore, to address mobility challenges caused by damaged bridges in Ward 7, the Waterberg District Department of Health has deployed additional mobile clinic vehicles, with regular schedules actively servicing Uitspan, Thekwani, Daggaskraal, Skilpad and Mamatlakala. These are just but highlights of work that we are doing.

Concerning high mast lights, the municipality has formulated recommended solutions and is actively working to restore and expand lighting for community safety.

Finally, we are introducing a concerted Rural Waste Management rollout. Under Section 24 of the Constitution and the Waste Management Act, clean living environments are a fundamental right. Rural waste management is challenging due to distances, but through practical solutions - such as the allocation of 33 skip bins to the Bakenberg cluster at no cost to communities - and expanding community-based recycling, we are keeping our villages clean and protecting public health.

These examples reflect our ongoing commitment. We shall not tire and we shall not relent until every community experiences the tangible dividend of a developmental government.

I thank you.