

OPENING REMARKS BY THE MAYOR OF THE THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY DURING , STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION HELD AT NORTHAM PLATINUM ZONDEREINDE REC CLUB ON THE 15-16 MARCH 2023.

Programme Facilitators,
Our Speaker;
Members of the EXCO present here,
The Chairperson of MPAC,
The Chairperson of Audit Committee,
Fellow councilors,
Our Municipal Manager and all Management Team
All Sector Departments and all Stakeholders present here,
Our labour unions representatives, SAMWU and IMATU
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Good morning!!! Dumelang!!!

Let me take this opportunity to greet and welcome all of you gathered here today and tomorrow in this important session. We meet here to remind ourselves of the promises we have made as government towards making the lives of our people better.

Local government is and will remain the implementing agent of government's transformation and delivery programs. Two parallel and reinforcing roles of local government are sustainable upliftment

and empowerment of local communities and the sustainable creation of an environment for economic development and opportunity.

The primary vehicle for carrying out these roles is service delivery. Local government should therefore create the capacity to be able to deliver the required services.

Our Facilitator, today's engagement is very imperative and it flows positively with the aims and the objectives of this strategic planning session, as a platform to self introspection using the tools of analysis as captured as SWOT. We are therefore called upon to analyse the narrative our people have in order to give concrete expression on how we have fared thus far and where we need to take our Municipality forward.

All of us here as a collective are aware that our Municipality has been in uncertainty, which resulted with two visits by the MEC of Coghsta on two occasions due to political instability.

There is some huge backlog in terms of service delivery. It is us as this collective that we need to steer this Municipality in the right direction and that should start with this very same engagement we are having here at Northam Platinum Zondereinde Rec Club for this coming 2 days.

Let us work together and move this Municipality forward. It is in our hands that service delivery machinery moves with speed to turn the living conditions of our people.

We will make our Municipality a better place to be, there is a lot to be done, to get where we want to be. As elected leaders we are dependent on you as appointed officials to implement the strategic objectives and/or goals we are going to set after this session, we are here to work with you as the implementing agents. And we commit ourselves to give you undivided support at all times.

All of us gathered here we are aware of the audit outcomes we have received in the past financial years are we are going to improve from such outcomes, we should all ask ourselves as to where do we really want to go, don't we need to have a clean audit opinion, and together we can make it. Let us make this Strategic Session to be fruitful.

I wish you everything of the best in your commissions and encourage everyone to participate fully.

I thank you, and let us move Thabazimbi Local Municipality forward.