



SENQU

MUNICIPALITY

# UPDATE *Newsletter*

APRIL-JUNE 2022

QUARTER 4



4

**INSIDE  
THIS  
ISSUE:**

Eastern Cape Province  
launches Rhodes Snow  
Festival to welcome  
winter season



6

Mguli multi purpose  
shearing shed  
handover



8

Infrastructure Development  
within Senqu Local Municipality  
– Road Maintenance Programme



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Mayor's forward
- 4 Eastern Cape Province launches Rhodes Snow Festival to welcome winter season
- 6 Budget for MIG Projects 2022/2023
- 7 Mguli multi purpose shearing shed handover
- 8 Infrastructure Development within Senqu Local Municipality – Road Maintenance Programme
- 9 What is Monkey Pox?
- 10 Safety tips for a night out #SAPSHINT
- 11 stop gender violence
- 12 senqu municipality council

## Vision

*"A Leading Rural Municipality with a viable and modern Economy"*

## Mission

*In pursuit of its vision, Senqu Municipality will create conditions for decent living of its citizens by consistently providing high quality services, ensuring equal access, developing, and maintaining sustainable infrastructure and encouraging innovation to support rural and local economic growth while protecting the environment.*

## Values

*To achieve its mission, Senqu Municipality embraces the following values:*

- People first (Batho pele)
- Integrity and honesty
- Transparency and fairness
- Accountability
- Excellence
- Humility
- Respect and tolerance for cultural diversity
- Discipline



# Mayors Forward



Over a month ago, I presented the State of the Municipality Address to the communities of Senqu LM from different corners of this jurisdiction and on different platforms.

In section 25 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) each municipal council must, after the start of its elected term, adopt a single, inclusive and strategic plan (IDP) for the development of the municipality which links, integrates and co-ordinates plans, takes into account proposals for the development of the municipality which aligns the resources and capacity of the municipality with the implementation of the said plan.

Therefore, the State of the Municipality Address I presented was informed by the objectives and priorities as set out in the IDP, which specifically addressed the ability to provide a budget that is strategically and financially credible.

As part of the address, we have also included projects from sector departments with the aim of improving the coherence and impact of government service delivery.

Our capital budget totals R73,29 million for the 2022/23 budget year from which a total of 48,23 per cent, or R35,35 million of the capital budget, is funded from our own cash-backed Capital Replacement Reserve (or CRR). This is a big deal, especially during these times where most

municipalities in the Eastern Cape - let alone in the country - received a negative audit outcome. The municipality's good governance and good financial planning has resulted in the Senqu Municipality's being placed in the top 5 according to the Afrika Ratings.

Among the good stories that we can tell about Senqu, there is also a big predicament which has affected not only the country, but also our area. Gender Based Violence and the hike in car theft, more especially in Sterkspruit, is a big concern.

I plea with the communities to view fighting gender based violence as everyone's business and to be cautious of their surroundings, avoid driving late at night/early hours of the morning when roads are quiet. If possible, never drive alone and DO NOT pick up hitchhikers.

Lastly, remember wearing of masks no longer a requirement as it said by the Department of Health.

STAY SAFE AND ENJOY THE READ.





## Eastern Cape Province launches Rhodes Snow Festival to welcome winter season

*Article by T.N Reporter*

The Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency (ECPTA), in partnership with the Joe- Gqabi local Municipality and Senqu local municipality, officially launched the Snow Festival in the quaint little town of Rhodes as part of welcoming the winter season in the province.

Winter in the Eastern Cape is filled with festivals, from the Kirkwood Festival, National Arts Festival and the Snow Festival, and this year all three festivals took place simultaneously.

The launch of the Snow Festival focused on the introduction of volunteer tourism and exposing the hidden gems of the highland region and festivities of the snow festival, following the announcement of the complete lifting of restrictions in the country. Some of the activities on the itinerary also included food and wine pairing at the Silkbush Estate and welcoming Spanish students for the Volunteer Tourism Programme.

Chairperson of the ECPTA board, Tracy Putzier, said that this first-of-a-kind event has potential to become much more than just a festival, but a community-driven and owned project which creates sustainable jobs and provides business opportunities in the Highlands region.

“We at ECPTA are proud to be associated with all provincial signature and small-scale events that help us to create jobs and grow the provincial GDP. We understand that events play a critical role in provincial tourism because they act as draw cards to the province,” said Ms Putzier.

Putzier further said that events are visitor number drivers and that they play a crucial role in providing a tangible reason for people to visit the province.

“Events are triggers for diversified tourism offerings and are also catalysts for economic growth and job creation. They have the potential to deliver outstanding return on investment and, therefore, there is considerable value in hosting them in our province,” Putzier said.

Putzier called for the promotion and action of exceptional customer care service when dealing with tourists in order for their experiences to prompt them into more return visits.

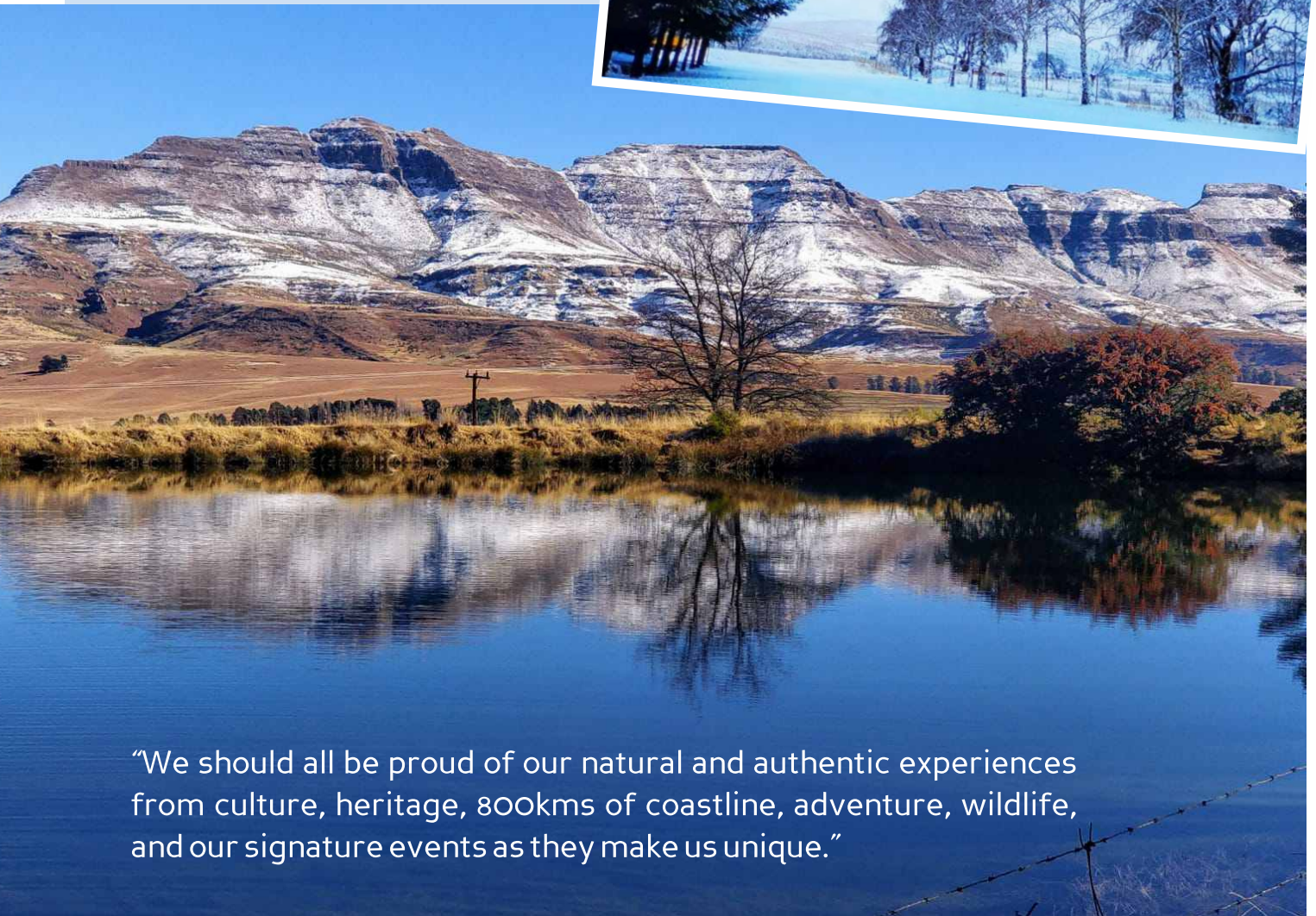
“When tourists visit our shores, all they want is to explore our beautiful province. They want to feel welcomed and they want to feel safe; we must work together to ensure that they are safe. Communities need to help us rid our province of criminal elements that render our province unsafe,” said Putzier.

“We should all be proud of our natural and authentic experiences from culture, heritage, 800kms of coastline, adventure, wildlife, and our signature events as they make us unique.”

According to Putzier, the Eastern Cape is a destination for all seasons as she further invited visitors to explore the winter season in style.



*“As Eastern Cape ambassadors, we should also explore our own province as well so as to spread the word about the beauty that is the Eastern Cape and there is no better way to market this province than by word of mouth.” Putzier said*



*“We should all be proud of our natural and authentic experiences from culture, heritage, 800kms of coastline, adventure, wildlife, and our signature events as they make us unique.”*

# Budget for MIG Projects 2022/2023

---

## BUDGET ALLOCATION

A new **Driving License and Testing Centre** will be built in Sterkspruit and the allocated budget for the project is **R 6 580 000**

Construction of **interlock paved streets** in Khwezi Naledi (Steve Tswete) Ward 14 has been allocated **R7 275 795**

Construction of **New Cemetery** in Barkly East - **R5 452 00**

Construction of **Blue-Gums Sports field** - **R2 500 000**

**New Solid Waste Site** – Herschel  
- **R2 820 00**

**Upgrade LG Solid Waste Site**  
- **R6 928 030**

**New Waste Site** – Rossouw  
- **R6 392 000**

## FROM OUR REVENUE

**New Tienbank** Ward 10 Access to Property (180 Properties) - **R188 000**

Construction of **interlock paved streets in Khwezi Naledi** (Steve Tswete) W 14 - **R6 824 204**

**Renewing of the Transwilger Bridge** in Ward 14 - **R1 880 000**

New Rest in Ward 8 **Construction Paving** - **R940 000**

**Herschel Community Hall** - **R893 000**

**Renovations** of Barkly East Town Hall - **R8 235 320**

**Fencing of cemeteries** at Joveleni, Hinana and Voyizana - **R806 857**

Lady Grey and Herschel **cemetery layout plans** - **R300 000**

Barkly East and Lady Grey **Boundary Fence** - **R350 000**

**Construction of transfer Station** in Rhodes - **R1 200 000**

**Pre-paid electricity meters**  
- **R1880 000**

**Lining, fencing and upgrading of primary storm water channel** thorough Kwezi Naledi - **R 5 640 000**



## Mguli multi purpose shearing shed handover



In an effort to strengthen Inter-governmental relations, the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform along with Senqu LM handed over a fully-fledged multi-purpose shearing shed in Ward 12 Sterkspruit.

The wool producers were also furnished with equipment such as a wool compressor as it will assist with the resilience of the wool, the baler machine for compressing wool that are easy to handle, shearers and trolleys. This equipment will enhance farmers' productivity.

Senqu Wool Growers are known as one of the best wool producers in the Eastern Cape. Despite not having formal facilities, in 2017 farmers produced wool worth R342 000. In 2018, they produced more than R429 000; 201 000 in 2019, while in 2020 they earned R446 000 and for 2021 the wool production are yet to be announced.

"The shortage of jobs in South Africa requires our youth to be innovative and flexible in order to sustain themselves. I therefore encourage Senqu youth to look into wool production as it is evident that Senqu region is doing well in that regard," says Senqu Mayor, Cllr V Stokhwe.

Mr Nqgola from land reform mentioned that there are various farmer support initiatives that are available through government and encouraged

the farmers to take advantage of these farmer support programmes offered by government and not to stop visiting their local offices for any clarification or support.

### **Ukhuseleko lwe zilwanyana:**

Ukuba uzixabisile izilwanyana zakho kufuneka ubonakalise inkathalo, Zazi ukuba zivalelwe nexesha lokulala kwaye ziyoluswa ngxesha lasemini.

### **Indawo ezikhuselekileyo zokutyisa imfuyo:**

Kubalulekile ukuba imfuyo yethu siqiniseke ukuba onke itya kwindawo ekhuselekileyo ngokubiyelwa ngocngolingaqhawulwa.

Kubalulekile ukuba uthe uban walibona ucingo luqhawule alilungise ukuze izilwanyana zingezi endleleni kuba zenza umonakal ongathethekiyo.

### **Amacebiso okhuseleko**

#### **ABELUSI**

Mabathi rhoqo basebenzise amalaphu abomvu xa beweza imfuyo

Mabasebenzise indawo ezikhuselekileyo zokuweza imfuyo ngamaxesha afanelekileyo

Xa kuthe kwakho othe wakubona okungalunganga nxibelelana nabasemagunyeni kwzinombolo zilandelayo:

**0800 644 644** Lisebe LeZothutho eMpuma Koloni onkanye u **10111**.



# Infrastructure Development within Senqu Local Municipality – Road Maintenance Programme

Senqu Local Municipality (SLM) is performing the different Municipal Services that are based on the Devolution of Powers and Functions as contained in Municipal Structures Act, Act 117 of 1998.

One of the objects of Local Government is to: “ensure that the provision of services to communities is done in a sustainable manner.”

This object is very critical as it seeks to achieve a balance between implementing capital projects whilst, at the same time, ensuring that the existing infrastructure is taken care of in a form of maintenance as failure to do so will lead to its deterioration, as is the case now. Hence, this article is aimed at elaborating on the latter.

Most Municipalities tend to focus on the development of new infrastructure and less attention is given to the existing ones. This approach ends up causing a lot of strain on the existing infrastructure as inadequate maintenance results in its being in a bad state.

Road and stormwater infrastructure is one of the key performance indicators that falls within the devolutions of powers and functions of Senqu Local Municipality. It is an indicator that plays a pivotal role in Local Economic Development as a Municipality whose roads and stormwater infrastructure services are in a good state will attract various forms of investment opportunities. As much as the development of roads and stormwater infrastructure is important, so is the maintenance of the existing one and more emphasis should be given to the latter.

It is, therefore, on this basis that the Municipality has prioritised the maintenance of Roads and Stormwater infrastructure. An ideal scenario is that the road design whose lifespan is fifteen years, should see maintenance activities kick in at around two-thirds of its lifespan, which in this instance is at ten years.. Maintenance activities can be done in different forms depending on the availability of the financial resources. These range from:

**Potholes patching** - this approach is most suitable when the road surface is damaged; however, there should be no structural damage to the portion that is to be patched.

**Potholes patching and sealing** – this approach is most suitable when the road surface is damaged and there are crocodile cracks. Sealing can be done through slurry or single or double-layer aggregates.

**Structural layers correction and sealing** – this approach is most suitable where structural layers are damaged.

It has become evident based on the previous maintenance that the Municipality did, that this was not sustainable as the approach of road maintenance was unfortunately a one size-fits-all approach. The other main factor that was against the Municipality was the type of material that was used for road patching as during inclement weather, especially in winter, it had to be pre-heated and this is taking a very long time and, in some instances, it was not durable.

The Municipality, therefore initiated an approach of coming up with a diversified and customized approach that will consider the type of defects envisaged in the road infrastructure under consideration. To this end, an initiative of road maintenance through pure Labor-Based Surfacing training was introduced where theoretical and onsite accredited training was conducted for a total of thirty-two beneficiaries (a combination of permanent Municipality employees and Expanded Public Works Programme beneficiaries. This training was for a period of twelve weeks.

The Municipality is therefore manufacturing the road maintenance material from raw materials that are mixed with customised binders. The manufactured product is used in both warm and cold weather and does not require pre-heating. This maintenance approach is more sustainable based on the methodology employed and the material is very durable, thus easy to use. The most important factor is the cost component as the normal cold premix bag cost around R 130 per 30 kg bag. The Municipality, through this initiative, will save about fifty percent of the cost.

Onsite training was conducted at Mokhesi village access road as its state was bad. Based on the work already done, it is evident that the maintenance done has brought about a significant improvement and the road users are commending this initiative.

**One of the objects of Local Government is to:**

**“Ensure that the provision of services to communities is done in a sustainable manner”.**





# MONKEYPOX



## WHAT IS MONKEYPOX?

It is a rare disease transmitted to humans from infected animals such rodents, and monkeys. Once a person is infected by an animal, person-to-person transmission may then occur.

### MONKEYPOX IS TRANSMITTED THROUGH:

- Physical contact with bodily fluid of infected persons
- Contact with materials used by infected persons (bed sheets, towels etc), and surfaces that have been used by a person with monkeypox
- Respiratory droplets or oral fluids (e.g., fluid that comes out of the mouth and nose during breathing, talking, sneezing, and coughing) or fluids during sexual intercourse.



## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



RASH ON FACE



RASH ON HANDS



RASH ON LEGS



SWOLLEN  
LYMPH NODES



BACK AND  
MUSCLE ACES



INTENSE  
HEADACHE



HIGH FEVER

## TREATMENT

There is no treatment for Monkeypox and most people recover within a few weeks after being infected. Stay at home (isolate) and avoid close contact with other people for a period of 21 days or until fully recovered.

## HOW TO PREVENT GETTING MONKEYPOX

- Wash hands with soap and water frequently or an alcohol-based hand rub
- Clean and disinfect any contaminated surfaces
- Avoid contact with contaminated materials of an infected person (ie: bedding)
- Wear a mask when handling any clothes or bedding of an infected person
- If contaminated materials need to be cleaned, wash them with warm water and detergent.

**IF YOU HAVE A NEW OR UNEXPLAINED RASH, SORES, OR OTHER SYMPTOMS VISIT YOUR NEAREST CLINIC OR COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CENTRE TO SEEK FOR IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.**

It is important to diagnose Monkeypox on time to aid in the efforts to contain the transmission of the virus and avoid more cases from occurring.

For more information on Monkeypox, visit the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) website: [www.nicd.ac.za/monkeypox](http://www.nicd.ac.za/monkeypox)



**GAUTENG PROVINCE**  
EDUCATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**GGT2030**  
GROWING GAUTENG TOGETHER

# Safety tips for a night out

## #sapsHINT



- **Safety in numbers**

Going out in a group and staying together, reduce the risk of being targeted by criminals or anyone that is up to no good.

- **Drink responsibly**

Know your limit and never lose control by consuming too much alcohol. Keep a close eye on your drinks and never leave them unattended at any point.

- **Keep away from hostile situations**

If there is an argument, stay away. Do not intervene. Call security or the police.

- **Keep your phone charged and save emergency numbers**



**10177** for a medical emergency or to report a fire

**112** in any emergency from your cellphone

**10111** in case of POLICE emergencies



# WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBOURS SAY?



Police: 10111  
Stop Gender Violence: 0800 150 150  
Childline: 0800 055 555

There is no excuse for abuse.  
People can only help if they know.  
**TELL SOMEONE.**

**Violence and abuse are poison to society. Let's make it stop.**

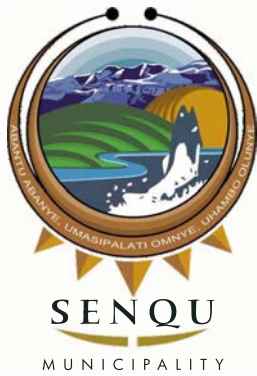


government  
communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA







# SENQU MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL



CLLR B. LAWU  
ANC PR

## **Barkly East Administration Office**

Town Hall in Barkly East  
Cnr Molteno & De Villiers Street  
P/Bag X15  
Barkly East | 9786  
Tel: 051 603 1401  
Fax: 045 971 0350

## **Lady Grey Head Office**

19 Murray Street / Private Bag X03  
Lady Grey | 9755  
Tel: 051 603 1300/1301  
Fax 051 603 0445

## **Sterkspruit Admin Office**

79 Main Street | P/Bag X5058  
Sterkspruit | 9762  
Tel: 051 603 1409  
Fax: 051 611 0042

**Traffic Office: 045 971 0089 / 0132**  
**Email: [info@senqu.gov.za](mailto:info@senqu.gov.za)**

**[www.senqu.gov.za](http://www.senqu.gov.za)**