

For immediate release

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NW PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INVESTORS CONFERENCE

The North West Provincial Government hosted a successful Investors Conference in Sun City Resort over the weekend for their smart and mega cities project. The two-days conference started on Friday 15th September with dinner hosted by the Acting Premier of the North West Province and MEC for COGHTA, Honourable Nono Maloyi.

The North West Housing Corporation hosted the second day of the conference wherein the pledge of commitment was made by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Infrastructure SA and National Student Financial Aid Scheme (Nsfas) for smart and mega cities project.

“Everything depends on what the North West province does now,” Maloyi said.

“These latest developments of Smart and Mega Cities give new momentum to the tasks of economic development, spatial planning, and governing urban growth in the country and the province.”

Maloyi said the project is in line with the National Development Plan of eradicating informal settlements, building integrated urban settlements and fast-tracking housing provision by providing diversity in housing products and finance options.

“And so, the work starts now. The risks are too great for failure. We believe the outcome of this conference will map out the future for Smart and Mega Cities project and all involved for many years to come. From 15 September of this year going forward, we want to transform the province into a construction site,” Maloyi said.

The Smart and Mega Cities project is a culmination of concerted efforts by the Acting Premier, the provincial Human Settlements and the North West Housing Corporation working in line with the Accelerated Service Delivery Programme – Thuntsa Lerole which

was launched in Mamusa Local Municipality on 26 July, and currently being rolled out in the four districts of the province.

North West Housing Corporation CEO, Bishop Sello Mogodiri said the Smart and Mega Cities project is a significant milestone in the life of the department, his organisation, and the province.

"We are facing unprecedented moments in the province. This has never been done before. While the aim is to facilitate the provision of affordable housing for low to moderate-income earners in the province, we believe that housing has a significant impact upon investment, productivity, and participation, as well as consumption. This is the message we want to carry to potential investors. And also, that the acting premier is truly a gift to the North West province," Mogodiri says.

The Smart and Mega Cities project is being implemented in Madibeng/Lanseria, Marikana, Matlosana, Mogwase, Moretele, N14 Ventersdorp, JB Marks, Mahikeng mixed human settlements and Student City, Potchefstroom, Rustenburg and Taung.