



MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

23 JULY 2024

CONSTRUCTION OF MAHIKENG STUDENT CITY COMMENCES - MEC FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS, GAOAGE OAGENG MOLAPISI CONFIRMS.

The new, recently appointed MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Mr Gaoage Oageng Molapisi has confirmed during his budget vote speech that his department will keep its side of the bargain to accelerate service delivery and begin the construction of Mahikeng Student City - a project implemented by the North West Housing Corporation (NWHC).

"We are glad to announce that the construction of the Mahikeng Student City with its amenities such as a library gym, and sporting and medical facilities will commence in August this year," Molapisi said.

Molapisi was delivering his budget speech at the official opening of the provincial legislature in Mahikeng on Tuesday, July 23. He said the facility is earmarked to accommodate the student population growth and help to stave off an acute shortage of accommodation for students at the university, TVET, and nursing colleges.

Molapisi also added that this development is envisaged to contribute to the economy of the environment in which the student city is built and this he said, is likely to upturn the investment in the province and add spin-offs.

"The Investor Conference hosted by the former Acting Premier Nono Maloyi in 2023 had spin-offs that yielded about **R132 billion** pledges in investments. We expect immediate job creation with the roll-out of this infrastructure that would yield in the region of 3600 temporary jobs," Molapisi said.

CROSS-BORDER PROPERTIES

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 23 First Street, Segarona Building,
Industrial Site, Mahikeng, 2745

Tel: 018 381 5029 / 0647
Fax: 018 381 5847

Email: Info@nwhc.co.za
www.nwhc.co.za

On cross border properties, the MEC said the Provincial EXCO has resolved that properties belonging to the NWHC in the Free-State, Gauteng, and Northern Cape provinces be disposed of. He said all relevant processes are in place to ensure the implementation of the resolution.

ON TITLE DEEDS

On the title deeds, the MEC noted that the NWHC has registered a great milestone in handing over the pre-1994 title deeds mostly in townships constructed during the now defunct Bophuthatswana homeland.

"The entity was able to issue one hundred and thirty-three (133) title deeds in the previous financial year and we are still soldering on to ensure ownership and restoring dignity to the people of the North West," Molapisi said.

He said the estimate in this budget year is two hundred (200) registered title deeds.

ZERO LETTERS FOR MABOPANE, WINTERVELDT, AND GA-RANKUWA RESIDENTS (99-YEAR LEASES)

The MEC has confirmed that the 99-year leasehold or what is commonly known as the 'long lease' has been defrayed in parts of Mabopane, Winterveldt and Ga-Rankuwa. He said zero letters were given to beneficiaries who have paid for their property, a house or land they occupy in full. He said the zero letters were referred to the conveyancers to transfer into the name of the clients for the purpose of registering a title deed on their behalf.

"We issued four thousand eight hundred and eighty-six (4886) Zero letters in the 2023/24 budget year. The process to verify more beneficiaries is ongoing," Molapisi said.

ENDS

For media inquiries please contact:

Neo Maja
0637042038
nmaja@nwhc.co.za

Madala Thepa
0606036395
imthepa@nwhc.co.za

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 23 First Street, Segarona Building,
Industrial Site, Mahikeng, 2745

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 North West Housing Corporations