

## Community forum plans to boycott elections

SIPHELELE NKETO

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POLITICAL parties have been mobilising residents to go out in large numbers to vote, however, members of the Route 56 Matatiele Forum said they will persuade Matatiele residents to boycott the elections on May 8 instead.

At a media briefing held in Matatiele on Tuesday, March 12, the forum said they will visit all villages in Matatiele to ask residents not to vote.

The forum's leader, Nhlahlaha Dhlamini, said residents have been voting for better service for years but their lives have not yet changed.

"We have been asking for tar roads on all routes leading to the Lesotho border, but our government has done nothing. Many communities in Matatiele are depending on streams to get water and taps are dry," said Dhlamini.

Dhlamini said that going to the streets to protest for better services will not help so, instead, they will boycott the elections. He believes that, by rejecting the elections, it will force government to address their complaints.

The forum was established in January

2017 as a non-profit organisation to promote the restoration of human dignity and values, to fight for better services and promote unity within Matatiele villages.

The announcement received lots of criticism from political parties. Democratic Alliance (DA) Alfred Nzo regional acting chairperson, Wonga Potwana, did not support the forum's move, saying it is against the rights of people.

"The members of the forum should organise the community to vote and continue fighting for better services," said Potwana.

Thobile Mfene of the African National Congress (ANC) in the Alfred Nzo Region said the party has been talking to the members of the forum about the poor state of roads in Matatiele, adding that many roads are receiving attention.

He also noted that, due to heavy rains, the construction of roads is being delayed. "Voting is the right of everyone entitled to vote, members of the forum must change their minds," he said.

He agreed that many roads in Matatiele are in a bad state, but said that government is addressing the problem.

He said the ANC will organise a meeting with members of the forum.



PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

Pastors and senior government officials at the funeral service of the six children who drowned.

# Community mourns drowned pupils at mass funeral

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SIX children who drowned while attempting to cross the Mxgojeni River near the Preyistata village were laid to rest at a mass funeral at Popopo Primary School last Saturday, March 16.

The funeral service was attended by Eastern Cape Province Premier Phumulo Masuale, Matatiele Local Municipality Mayor Momelezi Mbedla, politicians and grieving families.

On March 6, the pupils were allegedly swept away by a flash flood while returning home from school. Eleven of the 17 pupils were rescued by members of the community.

School governing body member Nogeckhaya Magadla said when she arrived at the scene she stopped three pupils who were trying to cross the flooded river.

"I saw the children crying for help next to the river and the water capacity was high. It was the first time I've seen



Eastern Cape Premier Phumulo Masuale interacts with families of the victims.

this river flooded," Magadla said, adding that parents and community members who were at the scene also cried for assistance to rescue their children.

Mbedla thanked the community for working together during this time of mourning while the premier sent messages of condolences to the families.

"This tragedy has brought us pain

and shock and we never expected it to happen in our area. A bridge will be constructed for the safety of the community and pupils," said Mbedla.

The six victims were Hlalumathi Mbuleka (8), Sinekhaya Mfolozi (7), Masixole Moleko (6), Sixolile Ndleleni (7), Elomso Nsimbi (6) and Boitumelo Lehenya (5).

## 'Together we can clamp down on crime'

A NUMBER of criminal incidents have been reported in the past weeks. To combat its spread, police called on residents and business owners to work together with the SAPS in order to clamp down on crime.

Police advised businesses to join local police forums to discuss safety threats and measures to end crime.

To reduce risks of rape and sexual offences, residents are warned not to walk alone at night and avoid accepting lifts from strangers.

SAPS spokesperson Captain Dumisani Ncongo said neighbourhood

watch groups need to be established to improve safety and reduce risks of burglaries.

"At home, keys must not be left under doormats or flowerpots because thieves understand where to look for hidden keys.

"Doors must be locked at all times by residents," said Ncongo.

### OTHER SAFETY TIPS THAT NEED TO BE ADHERED TO INCLUDE:

- Lights must be on when you go out.
- If you go away for a long time, connect lamps to automatic timers so that they

turn on at night and off again during the day.

- Never go alone to withdraw large sums of money.
- Never expose cash at the ATM and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Keep garage doors closed and locked and make the home look occupied to make it difficult for thieves to break in.
- Always be alert before parking a vehicle at home.

To report crime, residents can call the Kokstad Police Station at 039 797 1123/32.

— Supplied.

## SAPS caution against load shedding thieves

The SAPS would like to caution the public to be extra vigilant during times of loadshedding.

Businesses can be easy targets to burglaries and thefts when alarm systems and cameras may not be functioning optimally as criminals thrive during periods of darkness.

Promptly lock all open doors and burglar gates and be aware of the loadshedding timetable to better prepare yourself.

Ensure at all times that large shrubs and hedges on your property are removed or trimmed very low for better visi-

bility.


Make sure that cellphones are charged beforehand in case of emergency.

Stock up on torches and solar powered lighting to keep your premises well lit.

When driving, be careful at intersections where robots are not working to avoid collisions.

Make sure gas stoves and other electrical appliances are physically turned off during power cuts to prevent fatal accidents or fires.

— Supplied.



**DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**RE-ADVERTISEMENT**

**SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS AND CCTV FOR THE DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA MUNICIPALITY**

**TENDER NO: PWBS-070/17/18**

Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality is requesting bids from a suitably qualified and experienced service provider to provide proposal for supply, delivery and installation of access control systems and CCTV for the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality.

This bid will be evaluated in terms of the 80/20 Preferential Procurement Point System and the points will be allocated as follows. 80 - Price, 20 - BBBEE.

The compulsory briefing meeting will be held on **29 March 2019 at 10h15 at Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality (Creighton Office)** and bid documents will be obtained on the same date from **08h00 to 10h00 at the SCM Office**. The cost of the bid document is **R397.00** which is non-refundable.

**MANDATORY DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID:**

- Valid original Tax Clearance Certificate or Tax Compliance Status PIN
- A certified copy of the most recent Municipal account in which the business is registered. District Municipality (water) and Local Municipality (rates, electricity and other). A letter of exemption can be obtained from the Municipality for incumbents who do not pay for services together with a letter of proof of residency
- Certified copy of a Certificate of Company Registration with the Registrar of Companies and CC's (CK)
- Certified copy of B-BBEE Certificate/certified Affidavit
- Certified copies of ID's
- Form of offer
- MDB 1, 4, 8 and 9
- Registration with CSD.

Bid documents must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the **TENDER NUMBER AND CLOSING DATE** and dropped off in the tender box at the **Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality Offices, Main Street, Creighton** by no later than **05 April 2019 before 12h00**.

Late or faxed bids **WILL NOT** be accepted. Failure to comply with the above conditions will invalidate your offer.

**NB:** Bids will remain valid for a period of **90 days** from date of the closing of the Bid.


**Enquiries may be directed to the following persons during office hours (08h00 - 16h30).**

**Procedure related enquiries:** Miss N. Holiwe, on tel. (039) 833 1039.

**Technical enquiries:** Mr J. Sondezi, on tel. (039) 833 1038.

*The Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality reserves the right not to make an appointment.*

**Mr N.C. VEZI: MUNICIPAL MANAGER**



**ERRATUM**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)**

• **Remuneration: Negotiable** - Ref. No. 03/2019

The afore-mentioned position was advertised in this publication, dated 15 March 2019. Harry Gwala Development Agency serves to inform:

Enquiries for the above position may be directed to: **HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST**, on tel. (039) 834 1362/834 2740/834 1510 and NOT Chairperson of the Board.

Please submit your application stating the reference number and the name of the position clearly marked to: **CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD**, Harry Gwala Development Agency, Private Bag X507, Ixopo, 3276, or delivered by hand to: **Harry Gwala Farmers Market, ERF 226, Portion 27, Ixopo, 3276 and NOT Human Resources.** CLOSING DATE: 15 APRIL 2019.