CHAPTER 1:
EXECUTIVE MAYOR'S FOREWORD & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Executive Mayor's Foreword

This being my first full year report as Executive Mayor of Metsimaholo Local Municipality, and the second annual report of this term of Municipal Council.

I acknowledge and thank positive contributions by all councillors from various political parties represented in our council. The objective and philosophy of council, I need to reiterate, remains the same which is to mainly improve the quality of life of our communities.

The current five year term of council(2021- 26) , will strive to improve on the achievements of the previous council terms and accelerate the provision of the much-needed municipal services; focusing on five developmental local government key performance areas(KPA's) namely: infrastructure and service delivery, institutional transformation and development, local economic development and planning, financial viability, and good governance & public participation.

I can proudly state that necessary process and steps have taken place towards the end of the financial year 2022-23 to fill critical positions with suitable and competent individuals, with a view to the "operation clean audit 2024-25 target. We need to inculcate in all concerned a culture of excellence, care, accountability, and good governance. The turning point for clean governance, administration and consequently clean audit. This is not entirely lodged solely on the shoulders of administration but requires collective effort from all relevant stakeholders(i.e. council, administration, business, and members of community), to take part and engage in a collective responsibility with prestige, impunity, and integrity.

Chapter 4 of the Municipal Systems Act (MSA) compels the municipality to create conducive environment and conditions to enable communities to participate in Municipal affairs. Our municipality as a community centered institution, values the role of its stakeholders, at all times. We have notably benefited from support programmes and initiatives by our external stakeholders namely Sasol, Seriti Mine, Rand Water and others.

It is therefore, my pleasure to present to you the following:

Basic Services

Water –Notwithstanding the water challenges in Deneysville/ Refengkgotso, Our Municipality continues to provide communities with clean water both from our sources and Rand Water respectively. Currently the water purification projects are underway to ensure good water quality and compliance.

Sanitation : At Orangeville, the construction of a water works treatment plant also underway. This will strengthen the capacity and sewer treatment within the area and comply with green drop status.

It is confirmed that about 12 400 households receive free basic water and electricity, and we continue to

appeal those qualifying and deserving households to register as indigents.

Electricity - The project of electrifying households Themba Kubheka in Refengkgotso is at an advanced stage, and is envisaged to fast-track its completion .

Roads – We acknowledge the decaying state of our roads infrastructure within our Municipality jurisdictions; However in partnership with businesses and stakeholders Sasol has donated with most critical maintenance of the main road that runs through Zamdela to the railway line. Furthermore, assisting the Municipality with paving a main road that runs through Amelia to Mooidraai.

Economic Analysis

The importance of providing support and opportunities to disadvantaged persons cannot be underestimated. It is thus important to roll out targeted support programmes to provide necessary skills and knowledge to organized groups and individuals to venture into relief programmes to address the poverty endemic amongst our communities. To this effect Municipality continues to implement job creation initiatives through Expanded Public Works (EPWPs) and Community Works Programme (CWPs) wherein more that 1000 participants benefited.

Performance overview:

We have made positive strides in the right direction to ensure that sustainable municipal governance principles support our continuous drive to deliver municipal services which reflects our passion for our community needs, which will always be the catalyst to keep us focused on our mandate to serve with pride. The Municipal Council has thus far approved Performance Management System Policy(PMDS) with an intent to inculcate culture of performance amongst all levels of employees. It is believed that this initiative will promote accountability and accelerating service delivery. Above all, it will ensure that the Council's strategic Objectives are realized through systematic process of Performance Management System

Finally, let me acknowledge the following:

- Our roads need to be put in a condition suitable for promoting economic development.
- We must create an environment for growth and investment; that will contribute to sustainable job opportunities for our communities.

Going forward; council, business, and residents must unequivocally strive towards the eradication of key municipal developmental and service delivery challenges. This calls for joint planning that prioritizes core challenges into implementable projects and interventions.

I, therefore, beseech you, municipal council, administration, and community at large to join me on this demanding and challenging but conquerable journey.

Hon Cllr ZJ Zwane
Executive Mayor