

# MEDIA STATEMENT

---

## **STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

---

**Attention: News Editors / Journalists / Press Members**

**Date: 09 June 2023**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Local stakeholders turned up in numbers to get first-hand feedback on water and road infrastructure-related matters today, 09 June 2023.

The meeting was called by Council Speaker Councillor Mtutuzeli Matyumza to share important information regarding work that's being done to address challenges related to water and our road infrastructure. Stakeholders from different walks of life attended the meeting at Noluthando Hall to hear feedback and express frustration regarding service delivery related issues. Stakeholders at the meeting included councillors, officials, business people, taxi operators, community activists and residents from different parts of Makhanda.

The Executive Mayor Councillor Yandiswa Vara and the Director of Engineering and Infrastructural Services Ms Asanda Gidana gave a comprehensive report of the work that is being done to address water and roads issues in Makhanda. The presentation was handed out to the stakeholders who attended the meeting. It will also be uploaded onto our website ([www.makana.gov.za](http://www.makana.gov.za)) for people who weren't able to attend the meeting.

### **ROADS**

A number of projects to address our roads network are (see attachment) are in advanced stages. These projects will make a big difference to the state of our roads. Pothole patching is ongoing, focusing on main routes as well as Festival hotspots. The road grading programme will resume on the week of 19th June, as the grader is currently on repairs. The programme will prioritise main gravel routes. Cleaning of verges is taking place simultaneously with pothole patching.

*Makana Municipality shall strive to ensure sustainable, affordable, equitable and quality services in a just, friendly secure and healthy environment, which promotes social and economic growth for all.*

...a great place to be

## WATER

Interim water supply measures in place to ensure water is available to all communities include the following:

- Water rationing/shedding, of **one day ON and two days OFF**. Consumers store water for two days in private containers for the period that water is off.
- Reservoirs [east and west] are mainly filled to reasonable levels (70%) and water is then released to all areas, at the same time. **There is a delay in filling up the network due to the pipeline running empty on Water OFF days. As a result, low lying areas receive water while high lying areas struggle to obtain water due to network not getting full as some residents in low lying areas fill water storage tanks, even on the Water ON days.** This makes tinkering to these areas a necessity.
- Four tankers have been assigned to deliver water daily until 18:00 to the following areas: Nompondo, Joza Street, Vellem Street, Ext 5 and Upper Phumlani Upper Fingo, Upper Vukani, Cradock Heights, Upper Fort England, Settlers Hospital, Upper Hlalani, Eluxolweni, Ext4, Vergenoeg, Oatlands North and Somerset Heights.

The attached report also explains in detail what has been done and plans to deal with water challenges.

ENDS

**Issued by the Makana Municipality Communications Office.**

**Enquires:**

**Mr Anele Mjekula, 083 768 0515.**