



MAKANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

EXTERNAL IEWSLETTER





A relief on Makana roads

Various road construction projects are progressing well in Makhanda. This work brings much-needed relief to local motorists who will be driving on the upgraded roads.



Expired goods confiscated

Various types of expired goods were confiscated, and numerous shops were closed in Makhanda on Tuesday 26 November, following a successful operation.

Refuse Collection schedule

Mondays: CBD, Sunnyside Transit Camp, Phaphamani

Tuesdays: Albany Road and surrounding areas, Seymour, from M - A Street, Vukani

Wednesdays: Joza, Extension 8, Extension 4, Extension 6, Zolani, Eluxolweni, Lingelihle, Ethembeni

Thursdays: Somerset Street, Hill 60, Graeme College area, African Street, Extension 9

Fridays: Extension 7, Tantyi, Xolani, Extension 10



Good progress on the upgrade of local roads

Various road construction projects are progressing well in Makhanda. This work brings much-needed relief to local motorists who will be driving on the upgraded roads.

MAKANA WAY

Phase One of the upgrade of Makana Way started from the R67 and it is currently moving towards the Extension 9 Hall. The section in front of the Extension 6 Indoor Sports Center is currently open to traffic.

SANRAL SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY PROJECT
The Sanral Social Responsibility
road construction project is
progressing well.
Sanral has committed to
upgrading 10km of road in
Makana Municipality, as part
of their social responsibility
program.

Roads currently being upgraded in this project are:

- Hlalani taxi route, Victoria Road (Engcakeni), via Foley's Ground Indoor Sports Center, up to Eluxolweni to join Ncame Street (2.9 km);
- Albany Road (past Mary Waters up to Phumlani joining Daniel & Ncame Streets (4,8 km);
- Trollope Street to 11th Avenue in Hoogenoeg (1,8 km);
- Fitchat Street (joining Albany and M Streets) (0,5 km);
- H up to Edward Street (0,4 km);
 Edward Street (0,6 km)

In Albany road one lane has been completed and the road is open to traffic. Victoria road has been











completed (both streets), while work on the Hlalani main road is progressing well. More updates will be issued as more streets are completed.

ALBERT AND M STREET UPGRADE

Paving work on Albert and M Street is progressing well.

The plan is to complete the section from Nathaniel Nyaluza Secondary School up to Jacob Zuma Drive before starting work on the other side of the road. This is to ensure that traffic continues to flow while the work continues.

More updates will be issued as the work continues.













Makana Municipality launches Festive Season Road Safety Awareness Campaign

Various key stakeholders joined Makana Local Municipality to launch the Festive Season Road Safety Awareness Campaign on the Rhini Junction on Tuesday, 03 December 2024.

The Executive Mayor of Makana Municipality, Cllr Yandiswa Vara acknowledged the importance of the job that the various stakeholders are doing and thanked all them for the continued role they play in ensuring that local people are safe on the road.

The Executive Mayor emphasised the importance of safety during the operation.

"I would like to appreciate your commitment and plead for continued commitment during this time, but in all that you do make sure that you are safe, your safety comes first."

Stakeholders at the launch included the Department of Transport (Traffic Services), South African Police Service (SAPS), South African Emergency Services (Ambulance Services), Local Security Companies (Hi-Tec Security and Smhart Security), local towing companies, local tyre company, Makana Traffic and Fire Departments.

Some of the key areas of focus for the campaign and during the roadblock included:

- fatigue or driver fitness
- drinking and driving
- use of seat belts
- checking vehicles for roadworthiness

Public Safety and Community Services Portfolio Chairperson, Cllr Thandolwethu Vayo thanked all the stakeholders for ensuring that the programme was a success.

Makana LM Director of Public Safety and Community Services Ms Ntombesizwe Notyeke was in attendance.



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MAKANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



Goods confiscated during compliance operation

Various types of expired goods were confiscated, and numerous shops were closed in Makhanda on Tuesday, 26 November, following a successful operation.

The successes include the following:
-Twenty (20) shops inspected in the CBD. -Twelve (12) shops closed.Two (2) cash loan businesses closed.-Five (5) bakkies of expired food confiscated and destroyed.
-Fines will be served with non-compliance/ contravention notices for building control, fire and town planning.

On 20 November 2024 Makana Local Municipality as well as various stakeholders met with local spaza shop owners to discuss the new bylaw and its impact on the regulation of spaza shops. The exercise was part of an effort to get owners to understand what's expected of them to run their businesses legally.

President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the nation last week, where he announced decisive measures to address the recurring foodborne illnesses that have claimed the lives of at least many children across the country. These include the immediate closure of spaza shops implicated in the deaths and stricter regulations to protect communities.

To register spaza shop owners need to do the following:

- Completed business license application (available at the LED Department)
- Certified copy ID or passport of the applicant
- CK document (if one doesn't have that a tax clearance certificate)
- Copy of lease agreement (if applicant doesn't have a lease then a consent letter from the landlord)
- Application fee of R524.70.
- If the applicant is a foreign national they must have proof of legal papers



to be in the country.
It is the responsibility of the business owner to ensure that the premises in which the business is operating adheres to all municipal bylaws & all other laws of the country.

These inspections will also be conducted in formal businesses. During the festive season people will go out to buy food in preparation for the holidays. One of the main concerns is that local residents will buy food in bulk to last the entire festive season.

The operation was initiated in 2022 to ensure the safety of our residents. Since then the campaign has gained momentum and resulted in the confiscation of several expired food from negligent shops. The multidisciplinary & interdepartmental operation is aimed at eliminating criminality and general lawlessness from our communities.

The ultimate objective of the operation is to create a safe and secure environment for all.

The stakeholders carrying out the operation are focusing on the prevention and combating of various crimes and addressing safety concerns of the residents of the

municipality:

- Business premises searched for illegal activities and compliance with by-laws.
- Checking businesses and confiscating counterfeit goods.
- Illegal power connections.
- Possession and dealing in drugs

The operation was led by the Makana Local Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr Yandiswa Vara, Public Safety and Community Services MMC Cllr Thandolwethu Vayo, Local Economic Development and Planning MMC Cllr Mzobanzi Nkwentsha as well as Grahamstown Police Station, Station Commander Colonel Mbulelo Phika.

Stakeholders that participated in the operation were: Makana Local Municipality:Traffic officers, Fire officers, Health inspectors, Building Control, Town Planning, LED - Business Compliance; South African Police Services; Home affairs; Sarah Baartman Consumer Rights Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT).

The operation will continue until all local businesses comply with the necessary regulations and ensure their businesses are up to the required standards.









The office of the Speaker engages Ward Committee members

Makana Local Municipality
Council Speaker, Cllr Mabhuti
Matyumza and his office met
with ward councillors and
ward committee members to
discuss the Indigent Registration
Awareness Campaign.

The meeting was set up to bring ward councillors and ward committee members up to speed with the campaign and to get their support to bring awareness to the campaign and get as many indigent residents registered.



New councillors sworn into the council

Two new councillors were officially sworn into the Makana Local Municipality Council, following the removal of five Proportional Representation (PR) councillors.

This follows correspondence from the IEC to the Makana Municipality instructing the municipality to replace five councillors from the Makana Citizens Front (MCF).

The following councillors were sworn in on Friday, 29 November 2024:

- Paul Notyawa
- Lena May

The two councillors join three councillors of the MCF who were sworn in during a Special Council Meeting by the Speaker on 14 November 2024.

As a result of being the candidates at the top of the party list for the Makana Citizens Front have been declared elected to Makana Local Municipality, as prescribed in item 18 of Schedule

1 of the Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act No. 117 of 1998).

The five members of the MCF in Council currently are:

- Lena May
- Kungeka Mashiane
- Lungile Mxube
- Paul Notyawa
- Philip Machanick

These councillors replace the following outgoing councillors who ceased to hold office in the municipality:

- Lungisa Sixaba
- Thandisizwe Matebese
- Amanda Deke
- Zonwabele Mantla and
- Milo Geelbooi

The official swearing in of the two councillors was conducted by the Council Speaker, Cllr Mabhuti Matyumza in his office at the City Hall on 29 November 2024. The Speaker welcomed the new councillors and said he would ensure that they would be orientated and trained in terms of the code of conduct, rules and regulations of councillors.





Environmental awareness campaign

Makana Municipality in collaboration with various stakeholders organised an **Environmental Awareness** Campaign to educate the community of Makhanda about various environmental issues affecting them and their surroundings. The Environmental Awareness campaign took place on 21 November 2024 at Noluthando Community Hall in Joza. The campaign started with a cleanup campaign(clearing an illegal dumpsite and beautifying it), tree planting at Noluthando Community Hall and at a local pre-school), and starting a vegetable garden at the pre-school in front of Noluthando Community Hall.

Stakeholders at the campaign included Makana Local Municipality, Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment(DFFE), Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform(DRDAR), Department of Water and Sanitation(DWS), Rhodes University, Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism Agency, PETCO, National Research Foundation (NRF), River Rescue. Community members and SMMEs that are interested in environmentrelated projects such as recycling, bioprospecting etc, packed the Noluthando Community Hall to participate in the campaign.





Smart prepaid electricity meter roll out

Makana Local Municipality recently secured a grant from National Treasury in partnership with Landis+Gyr to implement a smart prepayment electricity metering project to improve electricity service delivery. These new smart prepayment meters will help reduce outages/faults in the electricity system caused by electricity tampering and meter bypassing. This will result is a stable electricity supply which will enhance revenue collection and improved electricity service delivery.

Makana Municipality will, in consultation with residents, embark on a process of installing smart electricity meters in various areas in Makhanda that will resolve issues with technical and non-technical losses resulting in a stable electricity provision in the area. The adoption of smart meters across various regions worldwide reflects a collective move towards more efficient, reliable, and sustainable energy systems.

The benefits of smart electricity meters for both Makana Local Municipality and its citizens:

- Enhanced control over your energy consumption, by providing real-time data on electricity usage.
- When the meters are configured as post-payment, secure remote digital meter reading eliminates human error in manual reading and estimates, thereby ensuring accurate charges for energy consumption.
- When the meters are configured as prepayment, the Municipality will be able to provide enhanced customer support by being to



remotely read the prepayment tokens entered, to easier resolve customer queries.

- Smart meters support the integration of renewable energy sources into the home, allowing for a more sustainable energy consumption model.
- Through these capabilities, smart meters empower consumers with greater transparency and control over their energy use, contributing to both individual savings and broader environmental benefits.
- Daily electricity usage and trend analysis can be monitored by the municipality for improved customer service.
- The Customer Interface
 Unit or the meter's display
 will provide valuable energy
 usage information and enable
 consumers to better control
 and manage their electricity
 consumption.
- Makana municipality will be able to remotely monitor electricity consumption and detect faulty meters or fraudulent activities.
- For Makana Municipality, the incorporation of the smart meter solution signifies the municipality's commitment to leveraging technology to improve its operations and services.

This reflects an effort to not only enhance the municipality's internal processes but also to foster a more informed, engaged, and collaborative community, all working together towards more sustainable and efficient energy use.

PROCESS OF INSTALLATION

- Installation program will start end November 2024 and run through to April 2025
- Community awareness campaigns with educational messaging about the smart prepaid meters will be conducted
- Homeowners will be notified of potential installations seven days prior to the installation date through various platforms
- The contractor will request property access for installation of the new smart prepaid meter and removal of old meter. This could require access to the house itself
- The property's electricity will be interrupted during the time when the old meter is removed and the new meter fitted
- Final meter reading is being recorded, for postpaid meters
- The remaining credit on prepayment meters will be entered into new meter, please ensure that all existing tokens are entered into the current prepaid meter before replacement
- The new smart prepaid meter will be installed immediately after the removal of the old meter, and electricity will be restored to the property.
- All installers will carry clear identification cards, please ensure inspection before allowing access to premises

Your cooperation during this process will be highly appreciated

Makana residents encouraged to register for indigent relief services

The indigent registration campaign continues until 2025. This service is available to everyone who meets the requirements for indigent relief, including those who have been adversely affected by the deceased municipal debt. Please follow the instructions to apply. Makana Municipality is presently running an Indigent Awareness Campaign to raise awareness of the organization's indigent relief assistance among poor households.

Individuals who are unable to pay for the Municipality's essential services and meet the requirements for indigent relief, as well as households affected by the deceased municipal debt, can seek information about financial assistance at the municipality's Finance Department.

Batho Pele's ideas, among other virtues, inspire social renewal, which forms the cornerstone of the Makana Municipality. The Indigent Relief Program is one of the social packages that are an essential component of the services provided to our communities considering this.

In terms of ensuring that it continues to improve the provision of essential services to its impoverished neighborhoods, Makana Municipality is setting the standard.

Makana Municipality is presently running an Indigent Awareness Campaign in Makhanda and the neighboring communities to help those who are struggling



financially, as well as seniors, those with special needs, the jobless, and more, in order to keep them receiving essential municipal services. The indigent registration campaign will take place from 12 November 2024 until 17 February 2025.

To be eligible for the program, you must be a South African citizen with valid identification, have a total household income of less than R4200 per month, be the owner, occupier, or resident in the registered yard of a property used for residential purposes, you must be a full-time resident (live there permanently) and not own more than one property.

Applicants are required to bring or present the following documents, a copy of your ID,

if you earn a salary, bring a pay slip not older than three months, a bank statement for the last three months, your municipal

account or electricity tokens from where you live.

- If you are unemployed, bring an affidavit (stamped letter) stating that you are currently unemployed.
- If you receive a Sassa grant, bring a letter from Sassa confirming your grant and your Sassa card.

Subsidies for the poor registered in the Makana city area include:

- Urban residential properties: 6 kiloliters of free water, 50 kWh of free electricity, free basic water, refuse collection and wastewater treatment.
- Informal residential properties receive 50 kWh of free electricity distributed by Eskom.
- Indigent assistance shall be credited to the monthly account of the municipality for the property concerned and shall not exceed the total monthly account of the municipality.

















A brand new compaction unti truck

Makana Local Municipality received a brand new compaction unit truck, which was purchased with funding from the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism on Tuesday, 06 November 2024.

The Sarah Baartman District Municipality together with a representative from the department handed over the vehicle to Makana Local Municipality on Tuesday.

The truck will assist greatly in speeding up refuse removal

in Makana. Accepting the truck, Public Safety and Community Services MMC, Cllr Thandolwethu Vayo thanked the department and the district municipality for assisting the municipality to acquire the compaction unit truck.

Makana Municipality visits Settlers Hospital





Makana Municipality visited Settlers Hospital to investigate reports of intermittent water supply.

On Friday, 22 November 2024, the Acting Director of Infrastructure and Technical Services Directorate, Mr Reinhardt Britnell, inspected the water supply in various sections of the hospital and found them to be in order.

The municipal team led by the acting director visited the hospital three times this afternoon.

After inspecting the entire hospital, they found that only the laboratory building was without water.

They checked the municipal water meter inside the hospital grounds and confirmed that the municipal water supply to the premises is in good working order.

It was concluded that the lack of water supply to the laboratory building is an internal hospital supply issue.













Meaningful engagements during Mayoral Imbizo meetings

Makana Local Municipality conducted clustered Mayoral Imbizo meetings all around the municipal area during November 2024. The meetings formed part of the Mayoral Imbizos 2025 - 26 Integrated Development Plan Review.

The municipality drafts and adopts a five year IDP for its term of office. The plan must be reviewed every year.

The purpose of this is to table the inputs that were made by the ward Councillor during the oneon-one session with the Manager IDP.

In these Mayoral Imbizos

these inputs are validated and confirmed with the residents of the ward.

Other issues discussed in the meeting include:

- Supply of water in Makhanda
- Infrastructure development and investment
- Sanitation
- Bucket system in Makhanda
- Sanitation Bulk Infrastructure Investment
- Roads and stormwater
- Department of Transport Projects
- Municipal Disaster Response Grant Project
- Small Town Revitalisation Project
- Sanral Social Responsibility

Project

- Electricity
- Collection of household refuse
- Illegal dumping sites management
- Management of landfill site
- Upgrade of sport facilities
- Upgrade of informal settlements programme (UISP)
- Makana infill area housing programme
- Support of SMME Development
- Promote and support informal trading
- Communication strategy employed to engage residents
- Financial viability and management
- Ward development priorities





A safer festive season for all

The Sarah Baartman District SAPS launched the Safer Festive Season operation on Wednesday, 06 November in Makana Local Municipality in Makhanda.

SAPS members from all over the Sarah Baartman District converged in Makhanda to officially launch the campaign, which will move to all local municipalities in the district. The purpose of the campaign is to combat crime through decisive police action and robust community involvement.

Makana Local Municipality
Executive Mayor, Cllr
Yandiswa Vara welcomed all
the stakeholders that were
present to the programme.
The Executive Mayor said the
programme had become a norm
when approaching the festive
season or when there is going
to be a major programme in the
municipality.

"Mine is to welcome you here. I think ours as Makana

Municipality, representing the community of this municipality, will be to pledge our support, because what we are doing here marks the state of readiness for the festive season. We are here to launch the safer festive season operation. This is not new as we have been following the code of conduct (of SAPS) as it was read here. Ours is to pledge our support and also plead with the community of Makana to provide all the necessary support to SAPS, their stakeholders and the security cluster. This is because SAPS alone cannot fight or achieve the fight against crime. Fight against crime needs meaningful participation from all of us here. We wish you all the best as Makana Municipality throughout this journey. We appreciate the work that you are doing."

SBDM councillor Simpiwe Rune offered a message of support on behalf of the Executive Mayor Deon De Vos who was overseas and couldn't attend the programme.

"As the SBDM, we appreciate being part of this event. We also appreciate the working relationships between SAPS and Makana Municipality and all the other municipalities in the District. As councillor Vara has made it clear that you are not able to make it alone, but community involvement is very much important in this regard. We are pleading with the community members to work with us as leaders of the municipalities and also work with the police in terms of combating crime in all sectors and areas of our municipalities."

SBD Police Commissioner Major General Zolani Xawuka was the keynote speaker of the day. The Commissioner said he wanted to declare that they were ready for the festive season and that they have a plan for it. The Commissioner said as the SAPS they acknowledge the support that they always receive from the Makana Municipality Executive Mayor.

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"We have decided to launch this event firstly here in Makana because the Mayoral Committee that is led by the Executive Mayor is always assisting. Yes, we are going to launch in all our municipalities in the district but we have decided to start here. I think it worthwhile to explain that as the management we have taken a decision to have these launches in all the municipalities. We know that we have hotspots in Makana and that includes Joza."

The Commissioner further said that the most notable cases this year especially in Makhanda are related to Gender Based Violence (GBV).

GBV is the most common crime in Joza and it is a problem, according to the Commissioner.

The Commissioner said another problem was murder and they were calling on everyone to assist SAPS in fighting these challenges.

"I would like to urge all those that will be travelling around the roads to obey the rules of the roads and not to drink and drive. The people should celebrate the festive season responsibly."

Makhanda Station Commander Colonel Mbulelo Pika made the vote of thanks saying that he and the whole community of Makhanda were very happy for the opportunity to host the first of the numerous programmes of the safer festive season operation.

"We thank you that this event has started here in Makana. We have always been on here and will never disappoint you. The members you see here are here to serve."

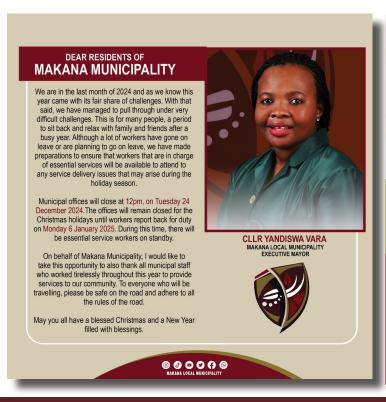
Stakeholders that participated in the operation, include: Makana Traffic and Fire Departments, emergency services, local security companies, CPF, Home Affairs, Social Development, and various community based organisations.



After the District Safety Season Launch, SAPS, Makana Officials, Home Affairs Immigration Officials and the Sarah Baartman District Health Inspector visited at least four foreign national owned spaza shops in Joza.

Lots of expired cooked and raw food, meat products, dairy products, fizzy drinks and children's snacks were confiscated and will be disposed of by the Makana Municipality department of Public Safety and Social Development.

Three foreign nationals were arrested as they could not produce work permits and licences. Out of the three, two owned a shop in Joza Street and their shop had to be closed. They were given warnings as they are selling gas without permission or licence.









The water team worked tirelessly to repair various huge leaks around Makhanda during November. Led by the Water and Sanitation Manager, Mr Chris Qwane, the team worked long hours including a 16-hour shift to repair the burst pipe at Oatlands & King Streets.

Makana Municipality is aware of the water outages around Makhanda, and we would like to reassure residents that we are doing the best we can under difficult circumstances to find a permanent solution to the water challenges.













Makana Local Municipality met with local funeral palours

Makana Local Municipality met with local funeral palours on Tuesday, 19 November, 2024 to discuss issues affecting undertakers, the municipality and residents.

The municipality is in the process of rebuilding relations with local undertakers in a bid to iron out challenges and ensure that the local industry is well regulated. This process is led by the Portfolio Chairperson of the Public Safety and Community Services Directorate Cllr Thandolwethu Vayo.

Numerous issues came up for discussion, signalling the need for continued engagements between the municipality and the undertakers.

Issues raised in the meeting include the following:

Only one operational cemetery

(Mayfield)

- Road condition bad when its wet
- Need for consistent maintenance
- Need to have permission for burial rights
- Only headstones are allowed (no gravestones)
- For exhumations undertakers need permission from Makana if the body is moved locally. If moved to another area both municipalities/local authorities must give permission
- Exhumations must be done by a funeral parlor that has an exhumation certificate
- Undertakers are not allowed to reuse a grave or coffin after exhumation
- A corpse is not allowed to spend the night at home. It must arrive in the morning
- Pauper burials are budgeted for by the district municipality
 Cllr Vayo said the municipality

needs support from the undertakers to change the situation for the better, adding that they should be spokespersons of the municipality when dealing with residents around these issues. Families who can't afford to bury people were advised to approach their ward councillor for help.

It was agreed that there needs to be an awareness campaign around indigent and pauper burials to educate the community on the steps to follow when confronted with these types of burials.

The next meeting will be held next week at the City Hall. For more information please contact the Parks and Recreation Department on 0469401106.



On 20 November 2024 Makana Local Municipality as well as various stakeholders met with local spaza shop owners to discuss the new bylaw and its impact on the regulation of spaza shops. The exercise was part of an effort to get owners to understand what's expected of them to run their businesses legally. Spaza shop came in large numbers to engage with the municipality on issues related to their businesses as well as the new bylaw.





























All vendors near schools need valid permits to operate. Let's work together to ensure vendors meet food safety standards.



VENDOR CERTIFICATION









Principals, School Governing Bodies, and Management Teams should monitor food sold on or near school premises. A safe school is a successful school!



SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY









Under new bylaws for township economies, all vendors must align with food safety standards. Support your school by choosing reputable vendors.



BY-LAWS FOR SAFETY









0800 029 999. Let's keep our kids safe!









Positive response to wellness program







The Department of Sport,
Recreation, Arts & Culture
(DSRAC) in collaboration with
Makana Municipality invited local
organisations to an Outdoor
Wellness program on 20
November 2024. The Wellness
program took place at Rhodes
University, Makana Makana Local
Municipality, in partnership with
key organisations, both public
and private.

Participating organisations gathered their resources and shared the responsibility of planning the event to guarantee its success. DSRAC encouraged participation in physical activities whereby employees were introduced to a different approach regarding wellness events apart from the usual health screening. The programme was planned in anticipation that participants would appreciate an opportunity to distress, socialise & build new networks. Following the successful programme workers returned to their workspaces encouraged and inspired to take good care of their health.

