OSS MAYORAL OUTREACH PROGRAMME HENRY BONA ZONE SPEAKING NOTES, 25 MARCH 2023

As a caring and responsive government, we have a duty to ensure that quality services are delivered in communities and people should not travel long distances to access such services. It is for this reason that the leadership of the municipality decided to adopt the Operation Sukuma Sakhe approach to fast track service delivery to communities.

We started this programme in 2019 and we are pleased that we have been able to visit all 17 zones and 111 wards in the municipality to interact with communities and intervene on service delivery challenges.

The OSS Mayoral Outreach Programme sees the leadership of the Municipality visiting at least 12 wards of the municipality monthly. These visits give us an opportunity to address service delivery challenges raised by communities on the spot.

We are here today to report back on the progress we have made to address the challenges you raised in our previous engagement.

WORLD TB DAY

Today's programme coincides with the commemoration of the World TB Day to raise public awareness about the devastating health, social and economic impact of tuberculosis (TB) and urge acceleration of efforts to end this global TB epidemic.

Despite significant progress over the last decades, TB continues to be the top infectious killer worldwide, claiming over 1,5 million per year. Drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) poses a major health threat and could put at risk gains made in efforts to end TB. •

Despite being preventable and treatable, TB remains the leading cause of death in South Africa, especially to people living with HIV (53%).

In line with this year's theme "Yes! You and I Can End TB," let us avail resources for the development of new TB diagnostics, treatments and vaccines, as we did for COVID-19.

Let us get screened and tested for TB. It is quick, easy and free.

JOB CREATION

Job Creation is an apex priority for this government. In this regard, the

municipality has planned to attract more than R200 billion in investment in the next five years that is likely to yield close to 200 000 jobs.

This investment will come from the following catalytic projects:

- R8 billion Keystone Logistics Park Development in Hammarsdale
- Cato Ridge Freight and Logistics development with an investment value of R18 billion

- R10 billion Brickworks Development in Avoca, north of Durban
- R7.5 billion The Durban Film City at the former Natal Command building
- R7,7 billion Sappi Saiccor Mill upgrade and expansion project.
- R6.5-billion Auto Supply Park by Toyota and R3 billion for the manufacturing of the new Corolla Cross
- R1.8bn Whetstone development which forms part of the Aerotropolis development in the Dube Trade Port

The city has also adopted a Mayoral 10 Point Plant to reshape the economic future of the people of eThekwini.

At the heart of this bold plan is the establishment of the Enterprise Supplier Development Fund (ESD) which was launched in October 2021.

We want to make a call to our corporate partners and industry stakeholders to take advantage of this ESD Fund platform by pledging support in order to

ensure that we implement a truly integrated world-class enterprise and supplier development programme.

This programme focuses on the following four key areas:

- Infrastructure Fund, where infrastructure suppliers will be supported with large scale financing and strategic technical partnership resources.
- Enterprise and Supplier Development Fund, targeted at 51% or more black owned SMMEs. Support will include working capital funding, technical development support as well as access to markets.
- Youth Fund focusing on the development of youth owned enterprises, job creation and skills development.
- Social Development Fund for social enterprises across the municipality's rural and township economies.

It is through the eThekwini's Enterprise Supplier Development and Infrastructure fund that local entrepreneurs will be able to build businesses that can usher us into a future of inclusivity, sustainability, and restore the

dignity of those who were previously excluded from the mainstream economy.

DELIVERY OF BASIC SERVICES

Most areas in this zone were hardest hit by the 2022 April floods. This resulted in the interruption of basic services such water and electricity. While these services have been fully restored in some areas, we still have communities that are still experiencing water and electricity challenges.

Apart from load shedding, the electricity challenge is also compounded by high levels of theft and vandalism of our infrastructure. Therefore, we urge members of the community to work with us to safeguard this infrastructure.

We want to assure you that work is underway to repair the infrastructure that was severely damaged during the floods. We are pleased that this week, the National Treasury transferred R1.5 billion flood relief funding to help us acceleration the repair of roads, water and sanitation infrastructure.

CRIME

As eThekwini Municipality, we are deeply concerned that we contribute 50% of crime in the province according to the latest crime statistics.

We are also concerned about the ongoing killings of public representatives including councillors and traditional leaders. Recently, we have seen an increase in mass murders, particularly in this zone.

To address this scourge of crime in our city, we have ongoing engagements with the Minister of Police, General Bheki Cele to strengthen our crime prevention strategies.

In December last year, we also convened a crime and social cohesion currently implementing the following interventions:

- Deployment of multi-disciplinary teams to deal with the killing of community leaders. We are pleased that arrests are being made is some of the cases.
- The installation of CCTV to go beyond the CBD for the purposes of crime prevention.
- Deployment of dedicated teams to deal with bad buildings, drugs, and illegal liquor outlets.

In our effort to increase police visibility on our streets, the Municipality continues to recruit Metro Police Officers and our intention is to reach a target of 5000 law enforcement officers. Currently, we have 200 Metro Police trainees who are at college. The recruitment of an additional 200 members is being finalised. As from next year, the municipality will be recruiting 400 new police officers annually.

In an effort to involve communities in the fight against crime, the city has established Community Safety Forums and the Local Drug Action Committees. This structure is instrumental in galvanizing communities to form a united front against crime and other social ills that are affecting our communities.

Working with all spheres of government, we are addressing challenges related to the environmental design such as poor road infrastructure in rural areas and informal settlements, streetlights and proper numbering of houses. These challenges prevent the police from executing their tasks effectively.

We are also using technology to prevent crime (smart policing). The city has embarked on a programme to install CCTV cameras in all corners of the city including townships and rural areas for the purposes of crime prevention.

Let us continue to work together to make eThekwini the most caring and liveable city.