

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

DRAFT MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

Friday, 25 August 2023 (at 09:00) Chamber

PRESENT:

Democratic Alliance

Maseko, LM (Chairperson) Murray, C Sileku, I

African National Congress

Mesuli, K

Apologies

De Villiers, P (GOOD) Marran, P (ANC)

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry

Mr Simmers, Minister: Human Settlements Ms V Njalo, Head of Ministry

Department of Infrastructure

Ms J Gooch, Head of Department Ms C Smith, Deputy Director General: Finance Ms L Schuurman, Deputy Director General: Human Settlements Mr L Fourie, Deputy Director General: Roads Mr G Van Schalkwyk, Head of Strategy Mr G Code, Deputy Director General: Public Works

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all in attendance and allowed members and Departmental officials to introduce themselves.

Minister Simmers provided a brief overview of the Departments strategic goals for the financial year.

2. Briefing by the Department of Infrastructure

The Department briefed the Committee on its focus points for the current financial year.

They listed the multi-social economic challenges and the four key interventions that would address spatial transformation as follows:

- 2.1 Prioritisation of infrastructure for maximum impact;
- 2.2 Municipal infrastructure;
- 2.3 Private sector partnerships; and
- 2.4 Innovation and future planning.

Further discussions ensued on the report by the South African Institution of Civil Engineers. The Infrastructure Report Card outlines and assess various infrastructure from across South Africa. Paved roads were identified as a country wide failure as mentioned in the report, except in the instance of the Western Cape. They advised that systems must be put in place to manage the failing infrastructure country wide.

The Department continued to brief the Committee on the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP); a programme managed at a municipal level. The EPWP was introduced to reduce poverty by providing income relief through the creation of temporary work for the unemployed. The Department informed the Committee that no exiting strategy or certificate handover was developed for persons who were employed under the EPWP. Minister Simmers indicated that he intends to draft a letter to the national minister of Employment and Labour regarding an audit geared for the monitoring of all EPWP processes across all municipalities in the Western Cape. This would ensure that one person per family will benefit from this programme and would afford each person with the correct stipend for the work delivered.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation by the Department.

3. Consideration and adoption of the Draft Committee Minutes of the meeting that was held on 11 August 2023

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Minutes which were considered and adopted.

4. **Resolutions/Actions**

- 4.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department provide it with the following:
 - 4.1.1 The Expanded Public Works Programme Framework Policy;
 - 4.1.2 The diagnostic project implementation template specific to individual municipalities; and
 - 4.1.3 A list of the Provincial Roads infrastructure.

The meeting adjourned at 12:16.

M. Maseko

MS LM MASEKO (MPP) CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

DATE: 25 August 2023