

MAYOR'S FOREWORD

South Africa as a nation, has held successful and peaceful general elections on 22 April 2009 for the Fourth Parliament of the Republic. These provincial and national elections were certified to have been free and fair to a larger extent. This is a clear demonstration of the growth of our young democracy.

In accordance with the provisions of the laws that govern the affairs of the municipality we have embarked upon a process of consultation with the local community with a view to present the IDP and Budget for the 2009/10 Financial year.

Chapter 4 of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 makes community participation in the affairs, programmes and activities of the municipality a legal obligation.

This IDP is therefore the culmination of a lengthy process of consultation with the local community.

Accordingly, this IDP carries the aspirations of the masses of our community which the 2009/10 Budget must seek to finance. Therefore, this IDP must be seen as a beacon of hope that will continue to guide us over the next financial year in our collective endeavors of building a better life for all our communities.

Critical to this is the question of compliance with the laws of the Republic. For an example, before the end of May 2009 we must have presented to Council the final budget for the forthcoming financial year.

In this regard, section 24 of Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003 prescribes that **"...the final budget must be tabled 30 days before the start of the budget year."**

We remain committed to the realization of the 5 National Key Performance Areas of municipalities, being the following:

- Good Governance and Public Participation
- Municipal Transformation and Organisational Development
- Basic Infrastructure and Service Delivery
- Local Economic Development
- Municipal Financial Viability and Management

This IDP together with its projects and implementation focus relates more strongly to the capital budget.

Our IDP and 2009/10 Budget will go a long way in improving the quality of life of our community by broadening accessibility and alleviating poverty.

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Mayor, Umzimvubu Local Municipality