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DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

LEFAPHA LA MMUSO WA SELEHAE LE MATLO

UMNYANGO WEZOHULUMENI BASEKHAYA KANYE NOWEZINDLU

THE ADMINISTRATOR



11046942

**Cllr Marti Wenger**  
**The Executive Mayor**  
**Midvaal Local Municipality**  
**P O Box 9**  
**Meyerton**  
**1960**

**Dear Cllr Wenger**

### **COMMENTS ON THE 09/10 REVIEWED INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Department of Local Government and Housing (DLGH) wishes to congratulate the municipality for the timeous preparation, review and adoption of the final Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for the 10/11 financial year and its subsequent submission for commenting in line with Section 32 of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000. The department further wishes to express appreciation to the Municipality for its continuous cooperation and active participation in efforts, through the July-to-July roadmap, aimed at strengthening joint planning and budgeting among the three spheres of government in the pursuit of a globally competitive Gauteng.

In terms of Section 32 (2) of the MSA, I have concluded that there are no issues requiring amendment on the IDP. However, as part of an ongoing effort to ensure inter-governmental alignment as well as the effective delivery of the developmental mandate of local government, several issues are hereby brought to your attention for consideration in future planning and budgeting. Given developments at national and provincial government levels that have implications for planning/budgeting and monitoring/evaluation for all of government (including municipalities), and the local government elections in the next few months, I have deemed it prudent to structure this letter in a manner that communicates critical points to be noted by each municipality as we move into the next five-year IDP cycle.

- 1. Recurrence of Issues:** In the past year, several issues were raised through MEC comments pertaining to your municipality that, because they were not being adequately attended to, were recurring. These issues were highlighted in detail in the comments on the 2009/10 IDP. The incumbent letter deliberately does not speak to specific issues that the municipality must attend to. Municipalities are urged to take the comments made in the past four years on the IDP, and the Auditor-General's reports as input into the new planning cycle for the next term of local government;
- 2. Towards outcome-based planning:** Most importantly, the twelve outcomes adopted by cabinet in January 2010, and embedded into the work of ministries and

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other spheres of government through signed delivery agreements, will become the programmatic threads around which planning/budgeting and monitoring/evaluation across all spheres of government will be structured. The extent to which plans and budgets programme and implement these outcomes and their outputs will become an important factor in determining the allocation of resources across government. Thus, IDPs over the next five years must be structured in a manner pursuant to the said outcomes and outputs. The establishment of the Gauteng Planning Commission is of further benefit to these attempts. It is envisaged that the GPC will play a leading role in entrenching these outcomes across the spheres of government in Gauteng as a critical ingredient to the pursuit of a competitive Gauteng City Region.

**3. 5 Year IDP and differentiation:** The IDP remains the principal strategic planning instrument within each municipality, with a five-year time horizon. Hints on the plan becoming a three-year operational planning instrument have not as yet amounted to policy and/or legislation. Taking into account the outcomes as the new structuring thread for planning/budgeting, the IDP must still provide an analysis of the level of development in a municipal space, outline a vision, and detail strategies, programmes and projects that are linked to a spatial logic, to budgets, and monitoring/evaluation instruments and processes as detailed in Chapter 5 of the Municipal Systems Act. Discussions are underway around the need to simplify and differentiate IDPs in line with the size and capacity of each municipality however no concrete decisions have yet been taken in this regard;

**4. Local government elections:** In the next few months, dates will be announced for the upcoming local government elections. That process will entail the closing of business for the current municipal councils and the introduction of a new council, amounting to an interregnum. At this point of transition, normal council processes (including the adoption of the IDP and Budget), will somewhat be affected. However, Councils are encouraged to adopt the budget and IDP in line with the provisions of both the MSA and the MFMA. The new Council will in accordance with section 25 (3) of the MSA consider adopting the IDP as prepared and adopted by the outgoing Councils. Should the incoming Council take a principle decision to adopt the existing IDP, provisions of section 29 (1) (b)(i), (c), (d) of the MSA will apply; allowing for limited adjustments to the existing budget (which is supposed to be already aligned with the IDP). However, should the incoming Council opt for substantive amendments to the IDP; section 34 of the MSA will apply. In such an instance, the January 2012 budget adjustment process should be utilized as a platform to ensure realignment with the revised IDP.

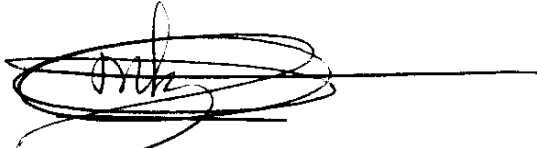
#### **Conclusion:**

As we work towards the third generation of IDPs, we need to collectively intensify our efforts aimed at intergovernmental development planning to ensure that the state functions better. The adoption of the 12 outcomes with their outputs, coupled with the recent formation of the Gauteng Planning Commission present an opportunity for all of government within the province to better align priorities and resources for improved development impact. The third generation IDPs will be

expected to serve as an expression of government's collective effort towards the attainment of outcomes and outputs in a given municipal space.

***Counting on your unwavering commitment towards a Globally Competitive Gauteng City Region.***

Regards



HMZ Mmemezi 2010/12/15

MEC: Gauteng Department of Local Government and Housing

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