

**BUSHBUCKRIDGE URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT**



**Bushbuckridge Local Municipality**

**KGOSHI DG MASHEGO LEGACY PROJECT**

Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Project of the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, one of the Presidential Nodal Projects, Mpumalanga Province.

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**BACKGROUND**

As in many countries, much of South Africa's rural areas are sparsely populated. The manufacturing base is weak due to poorly developed infrastructure. Local governments have little or no tax base and weak human capacity. Agriculture and other natural resource base activities provide the basis for many livelihoods. However, many rural and urban areas in South Africa are diverse with fragmented built environment and lack of basic services while also feature concentration of poverty and relative prosperity. Therefore, Renewal Development Projects guided by Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy (ISRDS) and Urban Renewal Plan became prime important to bring major development impact to those dilapidating and underdeveloped areas. The Integrated Rural Development Strategy (ISRDS) and Urban Renewal Plan are the formal, programmatic expression of the need to maximise the impact of public investment in poor areas. Private investment into such development-deprived areas is also encouraged in order to build the local economy in complementary to development initiatives driven by government.

The Bushbuckridge Local Municipality launched a super development programme, the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Project during the end of 2004 with the aims to kick-start development in their area. The Renewal Scheme is aimed to provide urban related facilities in an integrated, well planned business district. Not only will the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal provides commercial and tourism facilities, different nodes and modes of transport, public and social facilities and office parks, but also a sustainable human settlement. In addition and more importantly, the renewal scheme aims to address the socio-economic disparities and challenges that characterise the local area/region such as unemployment, poverty, crime, fragmented infrastructure, environmental degradation and others. The success of the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Programme will improve and ensure better living conditions of the local community while also ensure sustainable livelihoods and environment in line with sustainable development imperative/objectives, as prescribed by strategic development plan, Municipal's Integrated Development Plan(IDP) and United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

The Bushbuckridge is one of the 23 Nodal Points identified and prioritised for development by the President of the Republic of South Africa in 2001. As a result, it become prime important for the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal to attain its development objectives/goals and bring major development impact to the area and livelihoods of the local community. The Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal has reached an implementation stage, however, after a holistic, plural and participatory comprehensive planning session. Even though financing of some projects of the Urban Renewal Programme still remains a challenge to the municipality, however, there are few projects that are under implementation in Maviljan 525 KU, during the financial year of

2009/2010. These include R40 and R533 Boulevard Development Projects, Bushbuckridge Tourism Information Centre and Bushbuckridge Traffic Station. In nutshell, the success of Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal will bring lot of opportunities to the locals and reduce poverty, unemployment and crime that destabilise the area of Bushbuckridge.

## PROJECTS

In summary, identified Projects of the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Programme and related projects that need to be coordinated, integrated and aligned are articulated below. The implementation of the Urban Renewal Programme also needs commitments from provincial and national departments, and private sectors in order to succeed. The below mentioned projects will be implemented through the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Programme. All the projects need to be coordinated and integrated with the Urban Renewal Framework/Plan and Control Measures adopted by the municipality.

1. Bushbuckridge Housing Projects (BHP).....4 identified sites, within Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Project Area.
2. Multi-Modal Transport Facility Project (MMTFP).....behind the Bushbuckridge Shopping Centre
3. Bushbuckridge Shopping Centre Renovation and Extension.....existing Shopping Centre and New Site opposite to it and adjacent to the R40 Road.  
  
Phase 1: Renovation of the existing Bushbuckridge Shopping Centre  
  
Phase 2: Construction of the New Shopping Complex
4. New Bus Depot for Great North Transport.....Dwarsloop
5. Government Offices Complex/Thusong Centre.....Municipal Precinct
6. R40 Boulevard Development Project.....along R40 Road, within Bushbuckridge Inner City.
7. R533 Graskop Road Boulevard Development Project.....along R533 Road, within the Bushbuckridge Inner City.
8. Maviljan Stormwater and Drainage Project.....along R533 Road, within the Bushbuckridge Inner City.

9. R40 By-pass/Ring Road.....joining R40 to MP Stream.
10. Tourism Information Centre.....new site opposite to Twin Cities Shopping Centre on the way to Khanyisa Nursing College.
11. Sports Precinct/Centre.....old Mapulaneng College Sports Ground.
12. Radio Bushbuckridge New Station.....next to Tourism Information Centre, opposite to Twin Cities Shopping Centre.
13. Light industries, emergency centre, and fire-station site.....towards Dwarsloop.
14. Mapulaneng New Police Station.....area behind existing GNT Bus Depot and opposite to Mapulaneng Magistrate Court.
15. Thabakgotla/House of Traditional Authorities of Bushbuckridge.....part of Thusong Service Centre, within Municipal Precinct.
16. Town Hall & Library.....part of Thusong Service Centre, within Municipal Precinct.
17. Community Hall and Day-care Centre.....part/adjacent to Bushbuckridge Secondary School and Maviljan Regional Offices.
18. Inyaka Dam Development and related Projects.....part of the Maviljan Development/Urban Renewal Project area.
19. Energy Centre.....Mphenyatsatsi area, part of Maviljan Development.
20. Township Regeneration Strategy for BLM.....the whole Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, including Maviljan Urban Node.
21. Informal Market Stalls and Development.....part of Old Mutual Complex Renovations (Phase 1 Development).
22. Bushbuckridge Traffic Station.....opposite Municipal Offices, Old Testing Station of the former Lebowa Government.

23. Projects that still to be accommodated within the Urban Centre:
  1. Clinic
  2. Heritage, Museum and Cultural Village/Centre

## **STAKEHOLDERS AND ROLE-PLAYERS**

Stakeholders and role-players of the Bushbuckridge Urban Renewal Project include the following:

1. Bushbuckridge Local Municipality
2. Traditional Authorities of Bushbuckridge
3. Bushbuckridge Community
4. Bushbuckridge Community Development Forum for the Urban Renewal Project
5. Businesses operating within the Bushbuckridge Town.
6. National Departments
7. Mpumalanga Provincial Departments
8. Urban Renewal Project Team that include Truly African Solutions and Mosomo Arch Engineers (Pty) Ltd.
9. Taxi Associations operating in Bushbuckridge Town
10. Disability Group
11. Youth
12. Religious groups
13. Political organisations operating in the area.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

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