



**Dear Residents of Johannesburg,**

Thank you to the residents of Lehae Phase 1 for welcoming us into your community and for speaking honestly about the challenges you face every day. Your courage in raising difficult issues is what drives real change. I was encouraged by your resilience and commitment to building a better Johannesburg. During the recent Mayoral Imbizo hosted by Ward Councillor Sithembiso Zungu, I stood alongside members of the Mayoral Committee and City officials not only to listen, but to take responsibility for action.

These engagements are not symbolic - they are where we confront problems directly, together. Residents shared serious concerns about crime, illegal land occupation, illegal dumping, road infrastructure, water and electricity challenges, and the pace of delivery service. I want you to know that I did not come to Lehae with prepared speeches; I came to listen to your lived reality. Your voices shape our priorities, and your experiences guide the decisions we take as a City.

I heard clearly the frustration about the ongoing water interruptions. Access to reliable water is a basic right, and I understand the hardship that outages cause for families and businesses. My administration is strengthening coordination with Johannesburg Water to improve response times and ensure that residents receive honest and timely updates during disruptions. You deserve leadership that communicates openly, even when challenges remain.

Walking through Lehae Phase 1 with residents and officials made it clear that road conditions require urgent attention. Working with the Johannesburg Roads Agency, we will prioritise technical assessments and implement immediate interventions where possible while planning sustainable long-term upgrades. Improving access roads is not only about infrastructure - it is about dignity, safety, and opportunity.

Safety and crime prevention dominated our discussions. The MMC for Public Safety, Dr Mgcini Tshwaku, and JMPD Chief Patrick Jaca are committed to strengthening visible policing, improving response times, and intensifying coordinated operations in hotspots. Our goal is simple: residents must feel safe in the places where they live, work, and raise their families. Illegal land occupation was also raised as a major concern affecting community stability.

Through coordinated operations with law enforcement and relevant departments, we will continue to protect public land while ensuring interventions are guided by fairness, community engagement, and the rule of law. An imbizo is only meaningful if it leads to real change. Every issue raised has been referred to the relevant departments, with clear follow-up actions underway. We will continue to monitor progress and communicate honestly about achievements and challenges.

My commitment is that you will not be left in the dark - we will walk this journey together. I know that trust is earned through consistent action, not promises. My administration remains focused on restoring service delivery, strengthening safety, and working side by side with residents to build communities we can all be proud of. Johannesburg belongs to all of us, and together we will continue to move our City forward.

*Until next time,*

**Johannesburg Executive Mayor Councillor Sello Dada Morero**

