



**CLLR ANDREW MAPHETLE – EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF  
POTCHEFSTROOM  
SOD TURNING EVENT – MOOIRIVIER MALL  
BANQUETING HALLS  
11H00  
MONDAY 07 AUGUST 2006**

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Councilor Rainy Martins – Member of the Mayoral Committee for Health and Social Services standing for the Executive Mayor of the Southern District Municipality Councillor Pinky Moloi;

Councilor Lucky Tsagae – the Speaker of the Potchefstroom City Council;

Colleague Councilors present here today;

Mr Radinaledi Mosiane – the Municipal Manager of the Potchefstroom City Council;

Mr Badirwang Moumakwe – Deputy Municipal Manager of the Potchefstroom City Council;

Mr Jaco Odendaal – Manager of Mooirivier Mall (Pty) Limited;

Other members of the company;

Ms Dorothy August on behalf of the Registrar of the North West Univeristy;

Members of the Media;  
Distinguished guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Last year in June – the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2005 to be exact, the Potchefstroom City Council signed a Deed of Sale for this 6,8 hectare of land adjacent to the River Walk Mall for the development of the new Mooirivier Mall. The process of acquiring and selling this piece of land to the developer was not easy.

As a developing City – the City Council of Potchefstroom sees this as one of the many projects undertaken by this municipality in its endeavor of reducing unemployment and poverty. The new Mooirivier Mall that will be erected here – will not only offer us entertainment and shopping pleasure but will be one of the distinguishing icons of the City. As a modern complex situated next to the famous N12 route from Johannesburg to Cape Town – this Mall will create approximately 1 000 permanent jobs after completion. During the building process, this Mall will create more than 900 temporary jobs and will put bread on many indigent households.

As the caring political leadership of this City – let us ensure that only deserving unemployed persons benefit from the building process. We have committed Ward Councillor and Committees that could assist in compiling a database of such individuals. Programme Director, it is vital that we all note the effort taken in establishing this Mall. We have gone to great lengths confirming that the developer adheres and promotes the objectives of the Broad-Based Black Empowerment Act 53 of 2003.

We are also humbled by the commitment of the developer, Mooirivier Mall (Pty) Limited, to the policy of targeted preferential procurement aimed at upliftment of the residents and businesses of Potchefstroom that qualify in terms of the Broad-Based Black Empowerment Act 53 of 2003 as Previous Disadvantaged Individuals.

The developer is also committed to the establishment of an aggressive, yet realistic goal of 50% for the participation of a possible number of previously disadvantaged individuals.

Its focus, will however be on the previously disadvantaged individuals residents of Potchefstroom and will use its best endeavours to engage as many broad-based black empowerment companies and residents from this area as possible.

We have also received an offer from the developer as part of their social responsibility to build a Youth Centre to the value of R2.25 million. This centre will serve as an important one-stop shop for services that could benefit our young people. We would all understand the high rate of unemployment amongst our young members of the society – and many of them have matriculated and can be equipped with training on various fields. It is also pleasing that note that a local contractor and sub-contractor will be appointed for this purpose.

The Mooirivier Mall (Pty) Limited has assured me that they will provide the services of their professional team [the same team that will be working at the new Mall] to help at the building of this youth centre at no cost. With regards to shareholding at Mooirivier Mall (Pty) Limited, a decision was made in line with that of the Terms of Conditions of the Sale Agreement between the Potchefstroom City Council and the developer, to allocate 10% shareholding in the completed Mooirivier Mall Shopping Centre to previously disadvantaged individuals firstly, and secondly to all other residents of the Potchefstroom community at cost price.

To achieve this goal, 1 million shares valued at R550.00 per share will be available to the various parties once the Shopping Centre starts trading in March / April 2008. this will be available for purchase for the period of 6 months to all previously disadvantaged individuals and thereafter for an additional 6 months to the residents of the Potchefstroom community. An additional 20% shareholding in the Mall will be available 12 months after completion, to any black economic empowerment company that wishes to invest in the project at the then current prevailing market value.

In consultation with the Potchefstroom City Council, Bham Tayob Khan Matunda, the black economic empowerment consultant, will appoint a Community Liaison Officer to represent the community on this project in facilitating potential employment and supply agreements.

Ladies and gentlemen – like any other municipality in the country, Potchefstroom is faced with high unemployment, poverty, and the effects of HIV/AIDS and other diseases. But it is also imperative to note all the bold steps that this municipality is taking to address all these challenges posed.

The Potchefstroom City Council is committed to creating employment and reducing poverty in our locality. We are committed to ensuring that only deserving people are employed during the building process to at least bring food to deserving families. We have gone to great lengths confirming that the developer adheres and promotes the objectives of the Broad-Based Black Empowerment Act 53 of 2003 and this means that many of the services and products that will be utilized during this process, will be from black service providers and or local. After this R400 million facility that is coming to our City, Potchefstroom will never be the same again.

Ladies and Gentlemen – the Potchefstroom City Council is committed to changing the lives of its people for the better. Like the issue of the name change that is on everybody's lips these days, this Council will ensure that this issue is handled with all the respect and dignity it deserves. Change is not easy and we should all accept that. I assure you that the leadership of this municipality is doing its utmost best in carrying this process over.

We know that there are other sectors of our community that are not on the same deck with us, and we will do our best and be patient enough of taking them along this journey. These are after all, the responsibilities and principles of our democracy that we have to honour. It was never our intention to oppress some of our community members. Differences will always be there – and we should respect other person's different views on this matter. Potchefstroom belongs to all who live in it – Black and White!

I thank you.