



Statement by the Mayor of Walvis Bay,

Cllr Trevino Forbes,

At the Ordinary Council Meeting for 2024,

06 March, 18:00

WALVIS BAY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- **Honorable Regional Councilors**

- Fellow Honorable Councillors
- Mr. John Esterhuizen, Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Municipality of Walvis Bay
- Members of Management and staff of
the Municipality of Walvis Bay
- Members of the Media
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good evening

Today marks our first meeting following the passing and funeral of the Late President, HE Dr. Hage G. Geingob. As we mourn his loss and honor his memory, we are reminded of the importance of unity and progress in our community.

I stand before you with a vision for the way forward in our town. One key initiative is the progress on the establishment of an in-house pothole repair team.

By creating a dedicated team to address our town's road infrastructure, the council can ensure smoother and safer travel for all residents. The team was established two years ago but was not operational due to a lack of equipment and materials which now has been resolved.

The Council will continue with four external pothole contracts. These contractors will be assigned to the critical areas. Roads in Kuisebmond and Narraville that have been identified for urgent repair are amongst others:

1. Agaat Street
2. Khomas Hocland Street
3. Sixteen Avenue
4. Johannes Nampala Avenue
5. Nathaniel Maxuilili Avenue
6. Dune Street

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents for their commitment to settling their accounts, as this has contributed immensely towards allocating funds for these projects.

I am pleased to announce that the road works in partnership with the Road Fund Administration (RFA) will officially commence from mid-2024 onwards. The roads that will undergo rehabilitation are primarily serving the Port of Walvis Bay.

The roads have been prioritized with the following being of highest priority:

1. Hanah Mupentani Street
2. 3rd Street East
3. Railway Street
4. 5th Street East
5. 6th Street East
6. Rikumbi Kandanga Road

Rehabilitation and construction of these roads will significantly improve the town's transportation network, enhancing connectivity and promoting economic growth.

In addition to our roads, the Council is committed to enhancing the cleanliness of our town. A clean environment not only improves the quality of life for our residents but also reflects our town's pride and commitment to sustainability. Five million NAD has been set aside for this, and this includes the provision of wheelie and street bins.

In the same breath, the Council has started to engage the private sector, in assisting with keeping the town clean through cleaning campaigns.

I would also like to provide an update on Farm 37 and the Boundary expansion progress for Walvis Bay. Currently, those who were allocated plots at Green Valley have started moving. The council is in the process of installing communal water meters while working on providing individual water meters.

One of the biggest problems with the relocation to Green Valley is the availability of transport, especially for school-going children. This has been temporarily resolved through the assistance of King Charcoal, who will be providing bus services from Green Valley in the mornings to Narraville and Kuisebmond and back again in the afternoon for the school children.

Currently, Council is busy with a land development project in Narraville extension 8, where 35 million has already been spent.

The servicing of this extension is envisioned to be completed by early April 2024, which will make available 225 erven for sale to the public. In addition to Green Valley, this shows the Council's commitment to land delivery for its residents.

To close off, the Council is currently awaiting Ministerial approval for their application for boundary expansion for Walvis Bay, as the council will run out of land for residential land development projects.

This application is crucial to our town's growth and development. By expanding our boundaries, we are securing a prosperous future for generations to come.

In honor of the Late President, let us continue to work together towards a brighter tomorrow where no one should be left out. Together, we can build a town that we are proud to call home.

Thank you.