



MEDIA STATEMENT

THURSDAY, 21 October 2021

COGHSTA MEC BASIKOPO MAKAMU OFFICIALLY INTRODUCES THE VINGERKRAAL INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS UPGRADE (ISU) PROJECT

Limpopo MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Basikopo Makamu has officially presented the construction of the Vingerkraal Informal Settlements Upgrade (ISU) Programme to residents in the area at the Vingerkraal Multi-Purpose Centre under the Bela Bela Local Municipality.

The programme incorporates the construction of Engineering Services – including water, sanitation, roads, and stormwater reticulation on 1000 sites, and the construction of 215 fully subsidized housing units.

“The delivery of quality houses and services as committed to by our government is non-negotiable, and we will ensure that this project is completed with military precision so that the people of Vingerkraal can benefit from it within the set target of 18 months after the site handover to the contractor,” said MEC Makamu.

The MEC has acknowledged that the provincial department previously had an undesirable history of not meeting housing delivery targets timeously, but that changes had been enforced to employ strict and continuous monitoring of projects.

“We are very serious about improving the momentum on completing and handing over houses and services to our people.

Earlier this month, during the official visit by Minister Mamoloko Kubayi to our province, both COGHSTA and the National Department of Human Settlements established an intervention team to respond to the housing delivery challenges that we have experienced over the past financial years.

This project and the timeous completion thereof will be some of the first fruits of that team’s work,” said the MEC.

MEC Makamu was joined by Minister in the Presidency, Pinkie Kekana, Waterberg District Executive Mayor, Morris Mataboge and Bela Bela Executive Mayor, Jeremiah Ngobeni.

The MEC further promised that the construction of the ISU Project will bring much needed local beneficiation as both skilled and unskilled labour will be sourced from the area. MEC Makamu added that in allocating the homes, “priority will be given to the disabled, senior citizens, child headed households and military veterans in Vingerkraal.”

COGHSTA has appointed the Housing Development Agency, an agency of the National Department of Human Settlements, as the agency responsible for the implementation of the project.

Eskom has been brought into the team, and power supplier has already appointed a contractor for the installation of the network and the electrification of units.

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