CHANGE THAT MOVES SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD AGAIN

THE DA’S 2016 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS MANIFESTO
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THE DA’S VISION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
South Africa has made significant progress in many ways since 1994. But, our country is now at a crucial crossroads. Constitutional and democratic institutions are under threat, as highlighted by the Constitutional Court’s Nkandla ruling. More than 8.2 million South Africans do not have a job, inflation is putting the most basic goods out of the reach of the majority of South Africans, the economy is suffering and we face a credit rating downgrade. Corruption and empty promises are holding us back. This makes the 2016 Local Government Election the most crucial election since 1994.

South Africans now face a choice. We can either choose the status quo of corruption, empty and broken promises, poor service delivery and high unemployment. Or we can choose the radical change that DA-run local governments’ can bring. Our governments’ will be honest and responsive, will stop corruption, provide better services, and work hard to create many more jobs and opportunities for all.

We need change to move forward again and realise the potential we know South Africa has. That change starts with building cities and towns with clean and honest government that are free from corruption, that are to provide good services, enough jobs, and opportunities for all South Africans. The DA is the only party in South Africa that is able to and has proven that it can deliver on this commitment. Where we govern we want to continue to make progress and where we do not currently govern, our offer to voters is to bring the change we need to move forward again.

Local governments are potential drivers of change. Caring and responsive local governments can materially improve the lives of residents through the provision of water and sanitation, electricity, refuse removal, fire-fighting services and public transport that benefits all residents. Well-run cities and towns also inspire the confidence of business and attract job-creating investment which in turn helps reduce unemployment and provides people with access to life-changing opportunities.

The key to successful local government is about being committed and determined to doing the basics right. Delivering basic services to all residents, and improving access in areas where they are needed most requires hard work. The basic role of local government is about ensuring that the lights stay on, water is accessible, traffic lights work, repairs and maintenance are carried out timeously, that residents are billed accurately and fairly. It is about ensuring that all residents of our towns and cities feel included, and ensuring that services are accessible to all through pro-poor delivery.

Since winning and making significant progress in creating this kind of caring and responsive local government in the City of Cape Town, the DA has repeated this success in the many more municipalities where we now govern. From Midvaal in Gauteng, to Karoo Hoogland in the Northern Cape, more and more people are realising that DA-local governments change communities, and the lives of those who live in them, for the better.

Part of achieving this progress has been a commitment to collaboration with partners in the private sector and civil society who can help make our cities and towns the engines of change and development.

Our governments are open and honest with the communities we serve. Under a DA-government, yes means yes and no will mean no. If we can do something for an individual or a community, we will do it, and if we cannot, we will say so and why we cannot and try our best to find an alternative solution working with the local community.

Our local governments will work hard for you and your family to deliver better services and help create jobs over the next five years. If we fail, then hold us accountable at the next election. Where we are already in government the DA is working toward making our Vision 2029 of a better South Africa for all a reality.

The core of the DA offer is a focus on the following:

1. Creating more opportunities and jobs
   - Investing in infrastructure led growth that provides the environment conducive to private sector investment that creates jobs.
   - Creating a comprehensive Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), which fairly benefits all recipients.
   - Establish Local Economic Development (LED) one-stop-shops to provide information on investment opportunities to drive and promote job creating investment.
   - Ensuring that municipal officials prioritise all applications relating to job creating investments.
   - Working with local small and micro enterprises, business chambers and regional economic development agencies to promote local businesses regionally and nationally.
   - Implementing bus and taxi transport systems where they are most needed and ensuring integrated public transport systems in metros by using single ‘Smart’ ticket systems - which allow commuters to use all forms of public transport (such as bus and taxi) with one ticket.
   - Working with the private and non-profit sectors to ensure that a range of housing opportunities are available for different income levels.
   - Speeding up the delivery of title deeds to state-subsidised housing so that recipients have legal ownership of their homes.
   - Using government infrastructure to connect disadvantaged communities to the internet, by using municipal facilities such as public libraries and clinics to create Wi-Fi hotspot hubs.
   - Partnering with the private and non-profit sectors to provide capped free data at universal hotspot in municipal buildings and other government facilities, allowing all residents to access the internet.

2. Making local government responsive
   - Attracting the next generation of municipal officials through graduate recruitment programmes.
   - Working with provincial governments to increase access to drug and alcohol addiction treatment programmes to increase access to treatment options available.

3. Providing better service delivery
   - Fixing potholes and maintaining all municipal roads.
• Providing access to electricity, potable water and sanitation.
• Weekly refuse collection from formal and informal areas.
• Prioritising the regular maintenance and refurbishment of municipal infrastructure.

4. Stopping corruption
• Establishing an effective system to process complaints and to report corruption.
• Appointing all government staff fairly, based on the value that they add.
• Excluding councillors and other public representatives from the EPWP recruitment.
• Opening up the tender process at the adjudication stage.
• Opening up Council meetings.

5. Providing meaningful redress
• Establishing and maintaining inclusive community amenities and spaces.
• Connecting people from diverse backgrounds through efficient, affordable, safe and reliable public transport.
• Implementing truly Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) that benefits the many, and not just a connected elite.
• Ensuring that urban planning and zoning considers the integration of different communities and income levels.

6. Making communities safer
• Developing specialist crime prevention units in metros to focus on specific priority crimes like gangsterism and drugs.
• Prioritising the establishment of municipal law enforcement services for traffic policing and crime prevention.

This manifesto is the DA’s offer to every voter in South Africa. It details exactly how we will deliver the change that stops corruption, create jobs and improves service delivery. More importantly, this document does not only make promises of a better future, it illustrates the progress we have already made in the municipalities we currently govern.

DA-run governments are recognised as among the best in South Africa by national government and a variety of other agencies. While we recognise that where we govern there is still much to be done to redress past imbalances, we are working every day to ensure further progress is being made that improves the lives of all residents where we govern.

Mmusi Maimane
DA Leader
VISION 2029 — A BETTER FUTURE

Imagine a better future for our country. In 2029, after 10 years of a DA-run national government, this better future is a reality.

Inspired by the extraordinary potential of everyday South Africans and the values of freedom, fairness and opportunity, DA national, provincial and local governments have worked hard, together with all South Africans, to make this change possible.

In 2029, health care works for all and our reimagined education system is giving more people more opportunities.

Our country is now a dynamic and vibrant nation, a leader in the developing world and a beacon of hope. We are a hub of innovation with a strong economy that is providing millions of jobs. In this future, if you work hard, you can succeed.

For those who are unable to take advantage of these opportunities, there is a sustainable social safety net.

DA governments care, are lean, clean, responsive and citizen oriented. This means that in 2029 there is the lowest level ever of public sector corruption. South Africans feel safer than ever before because they are protected by a police force that is well trained and equipped, a police force that cares about the communities it serves, and a justice system that works fairly for everyone.
THE DA’S VALUES
The DA’s Values

Freedom

Freedom is the hard-won right of all South Africans. Everyone has the right to express their freedom, mindful that their choices come with responsibilities towards others. This includes the freedom to earn a living and accumulate wealth, live where we want, love who we want, say what we believe, develop our talents and pursue our dreams.

Freedom is the engine of progress that will drive South Africa forward. It inspires our people to be innovative and allows the entrepreneurial spirit to thrive. In an environment of maximum freedom, everyone is empowered to participate in a growing economy and live a dignified life.

People cannot be free without a respectable standard of living, which requires access to education, healthcare and quality basic services. Government must free people from the chains of poverty and the oppression of crime, giving meaning to the Bill of Rights.

Fairness

A fair society is one in which our achievements should be the result of our hard work and efforts, not our birth. Fairness requires equal and plentiful opportunities, and the means to make the most of them. Equal and fair justice acknowledges the legacy of apartheid and is committed to redress. Fairness cannot be said to exist in a society burdened by large-scale inequality.

All South Africans deserve a level playing field where opportunities are not concentrated in the hands of the few. A fair society is characterised by openness and an empowering abundance of opportunities, coupled with quality education, jobs, security and affordable healthcare. A fair society cannot exist without a capable, service-oriented and clean government. Individuals are free to flourish as fairness rejects unfair discrimination and exclusion.

Opportunity

Access to opportunity gives life and meaning to our hard won freedoms and rights. Dignity is strongly linked to being able to work. This requires a growing economy and an educated society. The job of government is to ensure peoples’ rights to excellent education, quality healthcare and a functional criminal justice system. Government must also provide social protection for South Africans faced with circumstances beyond their control. Poverty and hardship should rob no-one of their opportunities.

When people are deprived of their opportunity to work, their independence and dignity is damaged. This threatens not only them, but also the people that rely on them. People cannot fulfil their potential without a capable state. Government must provide access to electricity, water and sanitation, and reliable public transport. Our leaders must never forget they are elected by the people and must be close and accountable to them. South Africans deserve a government they can trust and that will responsibly spend every cent to create opportunities for all.

One Nation with One Future built on Freedom, Fairness and Opportunity for All.
OPPORTUNITY
Access to opportunities, like jobs, offers people a chance to improve their lives and provide for their families. The ability to work is key to personal dignity, and the DA is committed to creating opportunities for more people to find jobs, earn money and support their families. To make cities and towns drivers of job creating growth, there must be an environment where businesses want to invest, where entrepreneurship can thrive and where government is supportive and enabling of economic development.

It is when a local government creates an environment that allows the private sector and individuals to flourish, that jobs are created and people are able to meaningfully make the most of better economic opportunities.

CITIES AND TOWNS FOR JOBS

Effective DA local governments make starting and growing businesses easier because we know that businesses are the engine of job creation. They can jump-start our country’s economy and provide the jobs that South Africa needs to move forward again. That is why DA governments ensure that regulations are not burdensome or simple and that they do not stifle innovation that will grow the economy and reduce unemployment.

Making more economic opportunity available, to more people, means that local government must ensure that the right conditions exist to empower individuals to succeed. This is why the DA prioritises equitable and fair access to a range of housing solutions, public transport initiatives and Information Communication Technology (ICT) where we govern.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Create a regulatory business environment that promotes growth and innovation by:

- Ensuring that municipal officials prioritise all applications relating to job creating investments so that local economies grow as quickly as possible and create more employment.
- Ensuring that building plans and land use applications are approved in the legislated time frames and, where possible, implementing e-planning systems. This will reduce the time and cost for businesses, allowing them to grow and create more jobs.
- Working with the private sector to identify local competitive and comparative advantage to help established businesses and potential investors understand how they can fit into broader value chains, both regionally and nationally. This will boost manufacturing in our towns and cities, and help existing businesses determine the best markets for growth.

• Working with local businesses to identify and reduce their biggest challenges so that they can grow and create more jobs. This would include eliminating excessive red tape and simplifying regulations, especially those relating to zoning, planning approvals, health and safety, traffic and licensing.

• Establish Local Economic Development (LED) one-stop-shops to provide information on investment opportunities, licensing, land use, planning approval procedures, regulatory compliance investor information and business start-up advice to drive and promote job-creating investment.

• Using incentives, such as tariff rebates, to attract new businesses or sectors in line with each local government’s unique opportunities and business environment.

Rate of Unemployment

Unemployment rate in major SA metros in 2013/2014 financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANC-run Tshwane</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANC-run Nelson Mandela Bay</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANC-run Johannesburg</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DA-run City of Cape Town</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where the DA Governs

Midvaal’s Local Economic Development (LED) Success

The DA-run Midvaal Municipality in Gauteng has worked hard to attract job-creating investment. This involved creating an efficient and well-governed municipality which inspires the confidence of businesses seeking to partner with accommodating and innovative local authorities. Increasing the accessibility of senior officials and public representatives gave businesses, such as Heineken, Nampak and Everite, the assurance that the municipality will be responsive to their needs and concerns. This has contributed to Midvaal becoming an economic success with the lowest unemployment rate in Gauteng. Midvaal is an example of a municipality which is creating new opportunities by doing more, doing better, and attracting the right kind of investment.
• Using innovative spatial planning techniques that promote economic investment. This will include planning urban developments to promote inclusivity, access to public transport, and telecommunications connectivity. Such planning will ensure that the unemployed in rural and urban areas have greater access to work opportunities.

• Continuing to oppose legislation, such as the Licensing of Business Bill, which enforces rigid requirements on small and micro enterprises. This threatens the livelihoods of those employed in the informal sector.

• Developing an informal trading policy that makes it easier for residents to obtain licensing and public space tenure to trade and to improve the ease of doing business. This, in particular, assists residents from disadvantaged communities.

• Making non-core and non-strategic assets, like land parcels and underutilised public facilities, available for development through public-private partnership to stimulate economic growth that creates jobs. Our governments will also use these assets innovatively to respond to challenges, including initiatives like the use of the City of Cape Town-owned Steenbras power station during load shedding.

• Lobbying national government to change the regulatory framework to facilitate local governments to generate electricity and become independent power producers. This will allow local governments to ensure a stable electricity supply, vital for economic growth and job creation.

**WALLACEDENE TAXI RANK**

**INTEGRATING PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND LOCAL BUSINESS**

The Wallacedene Taxi Rank, located in the Wallacedene informal settlement in the east of Cape Town provides opportunities to local entrepreneurs through the provision of onsite kiosks and trading bays. The development has seamlessly integrated the informal and green economy and is the first public transport interchange in the City to be largely energy and water self-sufficient. This ‘green’ transport facility generates and stores its own electricity through a rooftop solar panel system. It provides all but drinking water through rooftop rainwater harvesting and recycling, providing businesses and commuters with sustainable service delivery.

**THE INFORMAL ECONOMY IN CAPE TOWN**

In recognition of its size and impact, the City of Cape Town is increasingly working to facilitate the informal economy. Estimates by the City found that 161 000 individuals, or 11.3% of the total workforce in Cape Town, were employed by the informal economy in 2015. Nevertheless, informal traders have historically found themselves at odds with local authorities and excluded from support services across South Africa. This has changed where we govern. In line with our commitment to creating an opportunity city, informal traders in Cape Town are provided with security of tenure and basic services, including water, sanitation, electricity and refuse removal, for a subsidised licensing fee.

Where some metros have actively tried to rid themselves of informal traders, the City of Cape Town is trying to help small, under-resourced enterprises grow and increase the number of people they employ. An emphasis on simple and suitable regulations has improved the efficiency of these businesses and strengthened the informal economy’s ability to empower the urban poor. DA governments’ focus on facilitation, and not victimisation, has given more people more opportunities, as well as the dignity of supporting themselves and their dependents.

**STEENBRAS HYDROELECTRICITY PROJECT**

**REDUCING THE IMPACT OF LOADSHEDDING**

The City of Cape Town has succeeded in reducing the impact of loadshedding on its residents and businesses through the Steenbras hydroelectric scheme. Thanks to previous infrastructure investment in Africa’s first hydroelectric pumped-storage scheme, this City-owned, and operated, power station is able to generate electricity during peak periods to make up for the supply shortfall from Eskom. During periods of peak demand, water from the upper dam is channelled through the turbine generator to create electricity. This water is then pumped back up to the upper dam at night using low-cost surplus national generating capacity. The spare electricity generated can be used to make up for the supply shortfall from Eskom, reducing load shedding from Stage 2 to Stage 1 or avoiding load shedding altogether. This innovation mitigates both the economic impact and inconvenience of load-shedding, and saves on the cost of buying electricity at peak rates.

**WHERE THE DA GOVERNS**

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Repealing apartheid-era policies, structure plans, by-laws and other procedures which contradict our commitment to freedom and fairness and which pose barriers to economic development and job-creating growth.

Creating marketing and communication systems to connect businesses with each other, and with residents, so that they can work closely with DA governments and make the most of the assistance and facilitation role that they provide.

FACT:
The City of Cape Town has repealed over 300 such policies and seen a significant increase in the value of new plans lodged with the City.

Local municipalities use Integrated Development Plans to strategise and plan future development in their areas over a five-year period. It involves the municipality and its residents working together to find sustainable solutions.

**ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS**

The DA knows how important providing support for small and micro enterprises, as well as entrepreneurs, is for creating cities and towns that drive economic growth and create jobs.

DA-run local governments do and will:

**Facilitate job-creating investment and growth by:**

- Working with local SMMES, business chambers and regional economic development agencies to maximise the unique opportunities of their local economy. This includes initiatives such as promoting local businesses regionally and nationally.
- Making relevant municipal data available, such as foot traffic in different areas of the city or town, via an ‘open data policy’ and portal. This allows entrepreneurs to develop a range of services and goods, including mobile applications, which can drive economic activity and provide for entrepreneurial innovation which creates jobs.
- Providing incentives, such as rate rebates and preferential tariff structures, as well as coordinated service delivery planning to ensure adequate electricity and a stable clean water supply. This provides an environment conducive to business growth and associated job creation.
- Managing marketing campaigns which communicate economic opportunities with the private and non-profit sectors to attract investment into the area and create jobs. This includes hosting trade delegations from potential investment/trade partners.
- Ensuring that underutilised public buildings and facilities are made available for the social and economic development of the local community, such as providing underutilised public buildings to promising, job creating businesses at a lower than market rate rental.

FACT:
The City of Cape Town has done this with its own under-utilised property by releasing it to help create the Bandwidth Barn initiative, which is helping to incubate ICT entrepreneurs in the City.

WHERE THE DA GOVERNS

**TECH-HUB PARTNERSHIPS**

**BOOSTING JOB CREATION IN WOODSTOCK AND KHAYELITSHA**

Partnering with the City of Cape Town, the Cape Innovation and Technology Initiative (CiTi) has created one of Africa’s leading technology hubs. The Bandwidth Barn in Woodstock and its community-based peer in Khayelitsha are pioneering ‘tech’ incubators and accelerators, bringing entrepreneurs, start-ups and industry specialists together in a vibrant hub for innovation. The initiative showcases how successful collaboration between the technology sector and the public sector can boost the local economy and create thousands of new jobs in the city.

Photo: Bruce Sutherland, City of Cape Town
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

Adequate housing solutions, which provide individuals and families with a safe living environment, are necessary for reducing inequality and addressing poverty and joblessness. DA local governments will give more people in our country access to housing opportunities, giving children safe environments outside of school and their parents peace of mind knowing that their families have a home to call their own.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Work to provide increased and diversified housing opportunities by:

- Speeding up the delivery of title deeds to state-subsidised housing so that grant recipients have legal ownership of the property where they reside or operate businesses from. This provides homeowners with an important economic asset to leverage.
- Planning more housing developments, together with other departments and spheres of government, to ensure that recipients receive high quality homes, built by qualified contractors that will last over time.
- Lobbying national government to release nationally owned land parcels for the purpose of housing developments.
- Working with the private and non-profit sectors to ensure that a range of housing opportunities are available for different income levels.
  - Encouraging the development of GAP housing projects to allow those who do not qualify for government housing subsidies, but also cannot access a bank bond, to buy their own homes.
  - Providing service sites, in conjunction with building material assistance, in communities with significant housing backlogs.
  - Providing municipal rental stock to families who cannot afford to buy their own homes— but do not qualify for state housing subsidies.

FACT:

By early 2016, more than half (14 200) of approximately 25 000 historic title deeds, identified for transfer in 2012, had been completed by the City of Cape Town. These transfers pertain to older housing projects which indicates that the vital process of addressing each case individually is a complex one. The transfer of title deed empowers housing recipients by giving them legal ownership of their homes and an economic asset to leverage. The DA is making great strides compared to other metros in the country— as of February 2015, Nelson Mandela Bay had 50 000 outstanding title deeds and failed to transfer a single one in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years.
Support to communities in need

The DA believes in expanding opportunities to all residents, but we recognise that our history has left some communities vulnerable and in need of additional support. This demonstrates the DA’s commitment to our values of fairness and opportunity, because poverty should rob no-one of their chance for a better future.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Make sure disadvantaged communities have access to more opportunities by:

- Creating a comprehensive Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), which ensures the upliftment and skills development of the participants.
- Ensuring beneficiaries of skills training as part of EPWP are given further opportunities by opening up the local government’s database of EPWP workers to the private sector and other government departments. These databases will contain a profile of each potential employee’s skill level and identity checks, and will therefore facilitate their employment in the private sector.

Where the DA governs

BRICK SKINS PROJECT IN CAPE TOWN

UPGRADING MUNICIPAL RENTAL STOCK

The City of Cape Town has improved the living conditions of those occupying council-owned flats in Hout Bay, Macassar and Nooitgedacht through the Brick Skins Project. The programme seeks to address the cold and damp conditions experienced by residents of these decades-old buildings during the City’s harsh winters. This is done by enhancing the waterproofing and thermal performance of the external walls of the buildings. The appearances of the buildings are further improved by painting the new brick skins.

Where the DA governs

CAPE TOWN’S EPWP OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Cape Town has an outstanding record in its implementation of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). Since 2011, the City of Cape Town has created more than 140 000 temporary work opportunities for unemployed South Africans through this programme. In addition, it has been used to upskill participants to improve their employability, even in areas of public safety, youth development, horticulture and administration. The City is also piloting a project to assist with the reintegration of parolees via the EPWP. Through work experience and training, the employment prospects of EPWP participants, along with others currently registered on the City’s job seekers database, have been improved.

Once skilled, the City makes its database on former EPWP workers available to other government departments and the private sector. This is done to secure participants full-time employment or other opportunities based on their new skills. This database offers potential employers the benefit of candidates that have been screened for basics such as skill level and identity checks.

- Developing safe, reliable, affordable and integrated public transport systems to connect people with jobs, education, skills training and more. This will link disadvantaged communities to economic hubs.
- Offering vulnerable people a hand up out of poverty by assisting them with skills development and providing training and support, in partnership with the private sector, that gives disadvantaged South Africans and small business owners a real chance of success.

FACT: DA-run local governments provided 547 external bursaries in the 2014/15 financial year.

- Planning housing developments as close as possible to transport and education facilities, and economic hubs. This will help build inclusive and integrated cities and towns and improve service delivery.
- Initiating rural development programmes, where relevant, by developing infrastructure, facilitating skills transfer programmes, and directing appropriate investment opportunities, aimed at growing businesses in rural areas so they can employ more people and be more competitive.
PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Improving and expanding public transport is essential for connecting South Africans with opportunities. Affordable, reliable and efficient public transport means that everyone is given a chance to find and keep a job. It means that children can safely travel to school. And it means that everyone can access healthcare. It is also an important step in reversing the legacy of apartheid spatial planning, specifically designed to keep South Africans apart. DA local governments will prioritise quality public transport so that all South Africans have fair access to opportunities and jobs.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Improve and expand public transport by:

- Implementing bus and taxi transport systems where they are most needed, particularly in underserviced communities so that more people can access job and education opportunities.
- Integrating public transport systems in metros by using single ‘Smart’ ticket systems which allow commuters to use all forms of public transport, such as busses and taxis, with one ticket.
- Lobbying national government to give metros control over passenger rail services to make public transport truly integrated.
- Making sure that all public transport is safe, well-maintained, and adequate for the needs of the communities it serves, while striving for better accessibility and affordability for everyone, including the disabled.
- Partnering with the private sector, such as taxi associations, to make sure public transport is efficient, sustainable and integrated. This can be done by including mini-bus taxi drivers and owners in the Municipal Integrated Transport Plan.
- Ensuring reliability and frequency of public transport, so that residents can get to where they need to be, be it work or school, on time.

SUBSIDISED TRANSPORT FOR WORK-SEEKERS

Work-seekers are often unable to afford transport costs when looking for jobs. The DA will seek to implement innovative ways to provide registered work-seekers with free transport within metros. By leveraging the Department of Labour’s Public Employment Service (PES), work-seekers registered on the Employment Services System of South Africa (ESSA) database will be given a reasonable number of free trips on transport options in their specific locations.

The introduction of the DA’s Smart ticket system in metros will allow registered work-seekers to have their Smart cards topped up at suitably equipped labour centres. Users will be able to make a capped number of journeys at no cost, boosting their chances of finding a job.

WHERE THE DA GOVERNS

GEORGE AND CAPE TOWN

Connecting people with opportunities

The MyCiTi and Go George Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems have changed the face of public transport in Cape Town and George. In these cities, people are able to pursue and access opportunities thanks to safe, reliable and affordable public transport. Investment in dedicated infrastructure has laid the foundations for a fully integrated system of public transport in Cape Town, George and their surrounding areas, connecting more and more people as the network grows.

The services also provide innovative transport solutions to people with special needs, including passengers in wheelchairs and persons with guide-dogs.

Since the launch of its first route in the inner-city in May 2010, the MyCiTi bus service has recorded approximately 32.5 million passenger journeys.

“School learners, workers, pensioners and tourists now hop onto a MyCiTi bus to reach their destinations, confirming that the service is embraced by all of our diverse residents.”

- Brett Herron, MEC for Transport
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) not only connects people with education and employment opportunities, but also offers innovative solutions to complicated problems. It affords everyone the freedom to access information and government services, trade, share ideas, stay connected with loved ones, and innovate. Easy access to the economic and personal benefits associated with ICT therefore accelerates inclusion and is critical to redress.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Provide more South Africans with access to ICT, particularly access to the internet, by:

• Improving access to broadband for all people living where we govern by implementing a local government ICT strategy, including:
  - A strategy to improve ICT infrastructure to underserviced areas through incentives to the private sector to provide communications networks.
  - Using government infrastructure, where possible, to run programmes to connect disadvantaged communities to the internet. This will be done by using municipal facilities, such as public libraries and clinics, to create Wi-Fi hotspot hubs.
  - Partnering with the private and non-profit sectors to provide capped free data at universal hotspots in municipal buildings and other government facilities.
  - Supporting and encouraging innovation, which can lead to the development and use of new technologies to allow disadvantaged communities to access the internet where bulk infrastructure (such as electricity and broadband) does not exist.
  - Providing residents with ICT skills training opportunities in public buildings. These skills will be valuable in an increasingly online economy.

The DA-run City of Cape Town has rolled out more than 200 public Wi-Fi zones, used by tens of thousands of residents on a weekly basis. Most of the Wi-Fi hotspots installed so far are in suburbs and centres that have been neglected by commercial service providers, or where residents find commercial internet services too expensive.

ICT IN THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN

LEADING IN BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT

The City of Cape Town is the leading metro in terms of rolling out broadband infrastructure. Initially focusing on government buildings and public libraries, the City (and Western Cape Government) now have 146 buildings connected with plans to connect 400 more. In addition to the improved efficiency and savings in telecommunications, the City owns the infrastructure and generates revenue by leasing it to the lowest cost bidders. The City of Cape Town continues to show how it can save its residents and businesses’ money through innovation and strategic investment.
A good government is one that is responsive to the needs and concerns of the people it serves. In a DA government, when you speak, we listen. We know that the government and its residents must work together to address the challenges and maximise the opportunities to get South Africa moving forward again. DA local governments are committed to being accountable and responding effectively and timeously to the concerns of residents. This builds the trust that will bring about the positive change communities need.

**RECEPTIVE AND CARING GOVERNMENT**

Local governments are responsible for creating user friendly channels through which communities can raise issues and have them resolved to their satisfaction. The DA runs citizen-centred governments which adapt according to the needs of our residents and deliver to all.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Create a responsive local government that listens by:

- Ensuring there is a proper ward committee system in place with membership that is truly representative of the local community so that the needs and concerns of all residents are heard and met.
- Ensuring that, as far as possible, all Council and committee meetings are open to the public. This allows for transparency, stops corruption, and allows residents to engage with their elected representatives.
- Ensuring that IDPs are developed in consultation with as many stakeholders as possible. This will allow all residents to have a stake in the development of the town or city they live in.
- Hosting annual IDP road shows to get inputs from farmers, residents and businesses in rural areas.
- Holding DA public representatives accountable for not responding to queries and complaints. We expect the best possible service from our elected representatives because our governments must put the people they serve first.
- Ensuring that all correspondence is acknowledged within 48 hours.
- Establishing a customer service improvement programme which includes resident satisfaction surveys and measures to reduce the time taken to process and approve municipal applications.
- Publishing Council meeting agendas and minutes, by-laws, IDPs, the budget and other important information online. Such information will also be freely available in libraries, at municipal citizen information centres and on request.
- Ensuring that councillors hold regular meetings where residents and other stakeholders can raise concerns and ideas on municipal issues.
- Ensuring that all correspondence is acknowledged within 48 hours.
- Establishing a customer service improvement programme which includes resident satisfaction surveys and measures to reduce the time taken to process and approve municipal applications.
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- Ensuring that councillors hold regular meetings where residents and other stakeholders can raise concerns and ideas on municipal issues.

**SATELLITE MAYOR’S OFFICE IN SWELLENDAM**

A satellite office for the mayor of Swellendam was established in 2015 in the Railton area in recognition of the fact that, due to apartheid spatial planning, the community found itself unable to easily access municipal services. For poorer residents, the elderly and persons with disabilities, the Mayoral Advice Office improves accessibility and saves transport costs. It offers services previously only available from the main municipal office in central Swellendam. These include applying for indigent status, checking your position on the housing list, applying for job opportunities via the EPWP, querying accounts and lodging complaints about service delivery. Swellendam’s executive mayor regularly works from this office, embodying the DA’s approach to responsive government.

**CAPE TOWN BLOCKS TOLLING OF N1 AND N2 HIGHWAYS**

The City of Cape Town achieved a major victory for its residents in September 2015 when a legal bid to stop the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) from tolling of the N1 and N2 highways in the Western Cape succeeded. The City took this action after recognising that the imposition of e-tolling was of serious concern to many of its residents. This prevented a repeat of SANRAL’s e-tolling fiasco in Gauteng, where the Deputy President himself had to step in when road users widely rejected e-tolls and refused to pay. The City of Cape Town will continue to respond to the concerns of its residents in this regard and to challenge the N1/N2 Winelands Toll Project’s proposed funding model, and will fight against the unnecessary tolling of roads which would hurt poor residents the most and limit their access to opportunities.
RESPONDING TO OUR COMMUNITIES’ HEALTH NEEDS

Promoting the health and wellness of residents must be a central priority of responsive local governments. The DA recognises the challenges faced by many residents in accessing basic primary health care and dealing with substance abuse issues. We are committed to addressing these challenges.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Strive to improve the health of residents by:

- Working with NGOs and other spheres of government to develop a strategy to combat alcohol and drug abuse where we govern.
- Working with provincial governments to increase access to drug and alcohol addiction treatment programmes to increase access to treatment options available.
- Developing a strategy with community leaders, service providers and welfare organisations to contribute to the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS and create awareness in communities about treatment options and preventative measures.
- Passing and enforcing by-laws to prevent the pollution of our natural environment that can lead to illness or injury, which includes monitoring E. coli counts in rivers in all local governments and clamping down on the dumping of toxic waste in these rivers.

IN METROPOLITAN AREAS WE WILL ENHANCE THE HEALTH OF RESIDENTS BY:

- Working with other spheres of government to expand access to primary healthcare facilities in cities.
- Establishing units to assess the quality of care provided at primary healthcare facilities.
- Facilitating access to HIV/AIDS counselling and testing centres.
- Providing free anti-retroviral medication to HIV-positive pregnant mothers and rape survivors at municipal health care facilities.
- Focusing on the key burdens of disease at primary health care clinics. This includes infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS and TB, and lifestyle diseases like hypertension and heart disease.

WHERE THE DA GOVERNS

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SITES IN CAPE TOWN

The City of Cape Town runs six facilities dedicated to providing treatment for alcohol and drug addiction. Run in accordance with the Matrix Model of treatment, the sites in Delft South, Khayelitsha, Manenberg, Milnerton, Parkwood and Tafelsig provide a range of services including screening, assessment, early recovery groups, relapse prevention groups, individual/group sessions, weekly drug testing, family education groups, and social support groups. In addition to these dedicated substance abuse treatment sites, the City has also entered into partnership with other spheres of government, non-governmental organisations and local communities to run similar treatment programmes. The City also provides 82 clinics, five community health centres, 22 satellite clinics and four mobile clinics.

RESPONDING TO CHALLENGES FACED BY SOUTH AFRICA’S YOUTH

Responsive governments recognise the importance of providing safe spaces for at-risk youth and children, particularly those from disadvantaged communities.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Facilitate and promote initiatives to address social issues facing our youth and children by:

- Partnering with provincial and national government, community, faith, and non-governmental organisations to facilitate and support programmes that promote responsible choices and reduce substance abuse.
- Maximising the quantity and quality of Early Childhood Development facilities in municipalities so that more young children receive pre-school education development.
- Creatively using public amenities, including sports and recreation amenities and libraries, in an effort to provide young people with constructive alternatives to antisocial behaviour.
Officials and public representatives that put residents first

The DA’s track record of ensuring that all posts are filled by “fit-for-purpose” individuals has ensured that officials and public representatives in our governments serve the public and not their personal interests. This stops corruption and delivers better services for all the residents in DA-run towns and cities.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Make sure that only the best staff and public representatives serve residents in our governments by:

- Requiring each councillor to sign the DA Councillor’s Charter that commits them to a required standard of service so that our values of freedom, fairness and opportunity are upheld.
- Measuring all public representatives against individual performance agreements which contain key objectives, such as regular contact with the residents they serve.
- Ensuring that all DA councillors and mayors are “fit-for-purpose” – that they have the necessary skills to make a success of their jobs and serve the people.
- Continuously monitoring and evaluating individual staff performances with the aim of ensuring high quality service delivery for all residents.

- Attracting the next generation of municipal officials through graduate recruitment programmes which will ensure that cities and towns have the right mix of skills and human capital to deliver quality services to residents.
- Implementing training programmes to up-skill under-performing employees. Individuals unable to improve their performance after appropriate support will have their employment terminated.
- Conducting regular human resource audits to determine skills gaps and assess the diversity of staff. This will develop local governments’ human capital and thereby create world class administrations.

“There is no such thing as government money, only taxpayers’ and ratepayers’ money.”

Gaining the confidence of residents

DA local governments earn the confidence of their residents by charging for municipal goods and services correctly and fairly. Key to creating trust is communicating simply, honestly and regularly with all residents.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Earn the trust of residents by:

- Managing tariffs for municipal services so that annual tariff changes are as predictable and gradual as possible.
- Ensuring that citizens are billed correctly and only for the services they have used.
- Itemising charges clearly so citizens can see what they are being charged for.
- Efficiently collecting fines and penalties that are due and only writing off bad debt in exceptional circumstances, on a case-by-case basis.
- Producing a regular municipal newsletter, translated into relevant local languages, to be available to all residents on at least a quarterly basis on matters that affect each community.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) in DA-run Midvaal

Identifying a gap in the provision of quality childcare, the DA-run Midvaal Municipality in Gauteng has provided primary schools with workers from the Community Work Programme (CWP) to boost Early Childhood Development (ECD) initiatives. This intervention provides young children from disadvantaged backgrounds with quality after-school care, allowing their parents to pursue work opportunities knowing that their children are in a safe learning environment.

In addition, the Midvaal Municipality has developed an ECD curriculum which empowers teachers to provide better care at ECD centres. The municipality also created a best practice safety check list to ensure that all these centres are safe and promote the development and health of children. Informal creches are also supported and overseen by the municipality to maximise the development opportunities children are provided with.
Photo: Bruce Sutherland, City of Cape Town
VPUU Harare Square

SERVICE DELIVERY
DA local governments lead the way in providing quality services to all their residents, through sound financial management, by adopting innovative solutions to challenges faced, and re-prioritising resources to where they are needed most. By doing this, we have turned cities and towns around, creating a better living environment for all residents.

We recognise, however, that there is more to do to overcome South Africa’s historical legacy of unequal service provision. Addressing this legacy is a top priority for all DA governments. By doing this we can restore hope in a better tomorrow and help bring about the change that will move South Africa forward again.

**THE DA’S BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY OFFER**

- Fixing potholes and maintaining all municipal roads.
- Providing access to electricity, potable water and sanitation.
- Weekly refuse collection from formal and informal areas.
- Systematic area cleaning.
- Prioritising the regular maintenance and refurbishment of municipal infrastructure.

**AVERAGE REPAIR TIMES IN THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN***

- Turnaround time to repair traffic lights – 48 hours.
- Turnaround time to repair potholes – 24 hours.
- Turnaround time to repair street lights – 48 hours.

*$ From when fault is reported.

**MAINTENANCE AND REFURBISHMENT OF CITY OF CAPE TOWN WATER AND SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE**

The City of Cape Town's commitment to maintaining and renewing infrastructure is well illustrated by the Metro's capital expenditure of over R895 million, invested in the growth, refurbishment and replacement of the City's water and sanitation infrastructure in 2014/15. The target for 2015/16 and 2016/17 is some R1 273 million and R1 521 million, respectively.

The City has further committed itself to upgrade and replace 300 km of water pipes over the five year period – 2012 to 2017 – to ensure that the City continues to provide more people with access to clean potable running water.

**WHERE THE DA GOVERNS**

**MAINTENANCE AND REFURBISHMENT OF CITY OF CAPE TOWN WATER AND SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE**

**BETTER SERVICES FOR INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS**

It is true that the lives of many South Africans have been improved through increased access to services since 1994. Yet, it is also true that this is not happening fast enough to provide relief for those still in dire need in our country’s many informal settlements.

DA-run local governments do and will:

**Improve the lives of those living in informal settlements by:**

- Prioritising the upgrade of informal settlements and the provision of serviced sites so that all residents can access basic services.
- Maximising basic service delivery to backyard dwellers. All residents deserve access to basic service delivery.
- Implementing an indigent policy, to provide relief for residents unable to afford basic necessities, by providing a comprehensive basket of free basic municipal services for all qualifying households. This basket would be funded, in part, through the implementation of sustainable and fair cross-subsidisation of rates and tariffs.

**WHAT A MONTHLY BASKET OF FREE BASIC MUNICIPAL SERVICES FOR INDIGENT HOUSEHOLDS MUST INCLUDE:**

- A minimum of 50 kWh of free electricity to run their homes.
- At least 6 000 litres of free water and, where necessary, rebates for the poor, disabled and pensioners based on a combination of property values and the level of household income.

**FACT:**

In the 2014/15 financial year, the City of Cape Town spent 67% of its budget in poor communities.
KLEINMOND HOUSING PROJECT

USING GREEN TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE SERVICES

Situated in the Western Cape, the Kleinmond Housing Project is an innovative joint initiative of several national government departments and the Overstrand Municipality. Efficient building methods were used to construct and provide services to the homes so that they can meet their own energy and water needs through solar water heaters, PV panels, rainwater harvesting tanks and other sustainable technologies. By securing title deeds, recipients were not only given ownership of their new homes but also provided with an economic asset. Integrated into an existing suburb, approximately 90% of the labour needed for the construction of 410 semi-detached houses was provided by beneficiaries of the project.

SAFE AND CLEAN PUBLIC SPACES

Local governments work when there are proper systems for recording assets and scheduling the maintenance and cleaning needs of existing infrastructure. Integrated planning and careful monitoring is essential to setting and achieving service delivery targets, essential for maintaining safe public spaces. The lives of those who live in DA local governments are improved through better service delivery and value-for-money spending.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Take active steps to keep public spaces safe and clean where we govern by:

- Ensuring that local governments in coastal areas strive to attain Blue Flag status for beaches. This will ensure clean and safe beaches which will contribute to job-creating tourism.
- Passing and enforcing by-laws that control industrial emissions and other forms of pollution, such as illegal dumping of toxic and hazardous waste.
- Keeping streets and public spaces clean so that they enhance the wellbeing of all residents by committing to the weekly collection of refuse and conducting systematic area cleaning where required.
- Making sure our local governments are attaining important environmental targets, like Blue and Green Drop status, to ensure that our residents are accessing good quality clean water and that waste water is efficiently and safely managed.

PARK, SPORT FACILITY AND LIBRARY UPGRADES IN CAPE TOWN

OUR COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING PUBLIC SPACES

The City of Cape Town has spent millions of rands on upgrading more than 75 parks in its poorer areas and constructing three new parks in Khayelitsha. In addition, the construction of new sports facilities in the City include six spray parks, nine full-sized synthetic pitches, 11 soccer pitches, three multi-purpose centres, four sports complexes, and a softball stadium. Similar investment has been made to expand the City's network of public libraries. These are utilised for reading programmes, literacy initiatives, computer literacy training, awareness campaigns and similar purposes. The City has also made great strides in securing the financial viability of the iconic Cape Town Stadium which has hosted dozens of international music acts and football matches in recent times.
Prioritise effective service delivery and development by:

- Setting delivery performance targets in each and every local government and evaluating these regularly to ensure that the best attainable services are being delivered to residents.
- Investigating the viability of public-private partnerships with local businesses and NGOs, to fill skills gaps and assist with planning, to increase and manage bulk infrastructure.
- Developing a supply chain management policy that rigorously checks quality and value for money. This will ensure that problematic suppliers that do not deliver to the required standard will be blacklisted from doing further business with their local government.
- Implementing revenue maximisation strategies to increase the amount of money received and generated by each local government. This will include tracking and reporting on measurable targets for debt collection.
- Actively seeking to obtain additional grants and funding from various sources, including the national and provincial governments for, among others, new infrastructure projects which will allow our governments to expand service delivery.

Ensure local government assets are well managed and productive by:

- Setting delivery performance targets in developing a strategic asset management plan and registering for municipal infrastructure. The asset register will be subject to audits which will enhance the sound management of investment, depreciation, capital maintenance and strategic capital planning decisions.
- Working to ensure that every town and city is able to provide bulk service delivery, including electricity, water and sanitation services, and maintaining related bulk service infrastructure, including:
  - Conducting audits of all pipes, dams and other water infrastructure to determine the maintenance backlog and develop a plan to eliminate it.
  - Conducting audits on the state of municipal roads for infrastructure maintenance.
  - Setting up a reporting system to allow the public to report potholes and other faults on roads so that they can be repaired timeously and before road surfaces deteriorate.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Well-run local governments must find ways to fairly and sustainably fund themselves, without sacrificing the quality of services they provide to all South Africans. This includes a commitment to making the most of funding opportunities from other spheres of government, improving collection rates and finding new and innovative sources of revenue.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Maximise all sources of revenue to build a sustainable funding environment by:

- Implementing revenue maximisation strategies to increase the amount of money received and generated by each local government. This will include tracking and reporting on measurable targets for debt collection.
- Actively seeking to obtain additional grants and funding from various sources, including the national and provincial governments for, among others, new infrastructure projects which will allow our governments to expand service delivery.
- Ensuring that funding exists for all planned projects—new unfunded mandates, which could compromise the quality of service delivery, will be resisted.
- Working with other levels of government, such as district municipalities, to share services in order to save money and improve service delivery.
- Lobbying national government for a new local government funding model that is sustainable and does not overburden local ratepayers.
ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE GOVERNMENT

DA local governments are leaders in energy efficiency and environmental sustainability through superior resource management. This includes making municipal facilities energy and water-efficient, as well as improving recycling, waste reduction and waste management systems.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Ensure the efficient use of resources by:

- Compiling drought management plans in water-scarce areas and encouraging the harvesting of rain water through roof-top tanks and other means.
- Encouraging the installation of water management devices, for both government facilities and by residents to reduce consumption and detect leaks.
- Encouraging sustainable recycling and waste reduction initiatives, such as the recycling of grey water for irrigation.
- Investing in infrastructure, where possible, that decreases reliance on traditional sources of water. This includes desalination plants and reclamation works which treat sewerage water to the point where it is potable.
- Identifying businesses and households with excessively high water and electricity usage to assist with consumption management to save water and ensure residents are only billed for water they use.

WHERE THE DA GOVERNS

Drakenstein Water Management

REDUCING WATER LOSSES AND SAVING RESIDENTS’ MONEY

Since embarking on a campaign to combat water losses, the Drakenstein Municipality in the Western Cape has achieved remarkable savings of both water and related costs. This follows an extensive process of hydraulic modelling, interventions focused on stemming losses incurred during the reticulation process, the metering of previously unmetered water connections and addressing other systemic failures. As a result, the Drakenstein Municipality managed to reduce annual water losses from 34.8% to 12.1% in little over a decade, saving millions of litres of water and millions of rands of residents’ money. The campaign also showcases how DA local governments can reverse the decline of a municipality by identifying problems and taking proactive steps to address them.

Where the DA Governs

- Making sure our local governments lead by example by producing energy efficiency plans with targets for official buildings and public spaces. This will decrease the local governments’ electricity bills, making them more financially sustainable.
- Moving towards the installation of energy efficient lighting, such as LEDs and solar power, in all public spaces.
- Ensuring that existing sewerage infrastructure is capable of coping with the needs of the residents it serves.
- Setting targets in new low-cost housing developments for the installation of solar water heaters.
- Lobbying national government to allow people and businesses to sell their excess wind and solar-generated electricity to the grid for consumption by other users, benefitting both residents and the local economy by ensuring stable electricity.
- Identifying and managing landfill sites, at or near to capacity, and setting and managing waste reduction targets, which include the use of recycling.
- Constantly developing innovative and cost-effective ways to manage waste, including investigations into the viability of waste-to-electricity initiatives.
SWARTLAND WASTE WATER TREATMENT AND LANDFILL MANAGEMENT

The Malmesbury Wastewater Treatment Works, located in the Swartland Municipality, utilises a smart hybrid design to reduce costs and increase capacity. Successfully incorporating the old activated sludge plant with an upgraded Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) plant, the facility not only provides potable water but also provides purified water to nearby sports fields and has virtually eliminated the risk of sludge spillages into the Diep River. The outsourced Malmesbury landfill operation is another example of innovative and sustainable waste management. By linking the contract to the continued use of available space and not a fixed timeframe, the agreement has incentivised the operator to sort and compact efficiently, thus extending the life-span of the landfill. In addition, a recycling plant employing 33 people now recovers 28% of the waste onsite.

Photo: Bruce Sutherland, City of Cape Town
Trust in good local government is restored when people know that their money is being spent wisely and honestly for the good of all, and not just for the enrichment of a few.

In a DA government our yes means yes, and if we say no we will always explain why and try to find another solution. DA governments do not make empty promises or break the ones we do make.

DA-run local governments do and will:

- Establishing an effective system to process complaints and to report corruption and fraud so that residents can easily and safely report the misuse of public funds.
- Managing lists for housing opportunities, including serviced sites, which are credible, free from manipulation and ensure the development of a standard, transparent, and fair process for selecting beneficiaries.
- Appointing all government staff fairly, based on the value that they add to the organisation and not their political connections.
- Excluding councillors and other public representatives from the EPWP recruitment and appointment process so that EPWP opportunities are allocated fairly and not in return for favours or because of political connection.
- Making the database of EPWP workers available to other government departments and the private sector to enhance transparency and ensure that participants have a greater chance of finding employment after participating in the programme.
Ensure that public funds are not wasted and stop corruption by:

• Putting an end to all wasteful and fruitless expenditure, especially on luxury items like expensive cars and lavish parties that only benefit politicians, not residents.

• Prohibiting DA political leaders from using blue light brigades where we govern.

• Requiring councillors and officials to disclose their financial interests every year to ensure there are no conflicts of interest, and to make this information available to the public.

• Instilling a zero-tolerance policy where we govern towards public servants doing business with government, to prevent possible conflict of interest and a heightened possibility of corruption.

• Opening up the tender process at the adjudication stage to ensure that tenders are awarded fairly to companies which offer the most value for money.

• Establishing competent and independent audit committees to analyse and investigate issues identified by the Auditor-General to promote clean governance and identify corrupt activity.

• Opening up the tender process at the adjudication stage to ensure that tenders are awarded fairly to companies which offer the most value for money.

• Establishing competent and independent audit committees to analyse and investigate issues identified by the Auditor-General to promote clean governance and identify corrupt activity.

• Where appropriate, establishing Forensic Investigation Units to address allegations of corruption.

• Ensuring that, as far as possible, all Council and committee meetings are open to the public so that local government decisions are open and transparent.

• Making sure that these MPACs are chaired by an opposition councillor to enhance oversight on public spending.

ROOTING OUT CORRUPTION IN THE BITOU MUNICIPALITY

The Bitou Municipality in the Western Cape launched an operation at the end of 2014 after the Auditor-General highlighted a loss in electricity income totalling some R9 million. The investigation, carried out by independent electricians, auditors and police, implicated a number of municipal officials in large-scale electricity theft, allegedly done by tampering with meter boxes. This resulted in disciplinary cases and the eventual dismissal of the officials concerned. The case highlights the responsibility of local governments to identify financial irregularities and deal decisively with corruption and graft.
Where we govern, the DA is committed to creating communities where our diversity is embraced and celebrated. To do this, DA local governments will create public spaces that reflect the history of all South Africans, and our common heritage. Our governments will also strive to connect previously separated communities through the introduction of public transport that works for all. Access to inclusive public spaces allows different communities to come together and share amenities in safety.

**CITIES AND TOWNS FOR ALL**

All residents should feel confident and of equal importance when engaging with their local government and the broader local community. To truly embrace inclusivity, deliberate steps must be taken by our governments.

DA-run local governments do and will:

**Build inclusive communities by:**

- Establishing and maintaining inclusive community amenities such as childcare facilities, municipal halls, parks, recreation areas, cemeteries, beaches, sports grounds, markets and libraries.
- Connecting people from diverse backgrounds through efficient, affordable, safe and reliable public transport.
- Ensuring that urban planning and zoning considers the integration of different communities and income levels, as well as providing adequate public spaces. This is important to build inclusive cities and towns.
- Creatively using public amenities, including sports and recreation facilities and libraries, in an effort to provide young people from all communities with constructive and inclusive after-school activities.
- Working toward providing all residents with fair ICT access opportunities. Giving residents the potential to increase their ability to find employment, information and access government services.

**WHERE THE DA GOVERNS**

**RENAME THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN’S STREETS, BUILDINGS AND BRIDGES**

In an effort to create an inclusive city that belongs to all who live in it, the City of Cape Town set about naming and renaming streets, buildings and public places in 2007. Key to this was an extensive public participation process. Partnering with residents to identify locations and propose names reflecting our shared history and heritage, more than 300 streets have been renamed to date.

“THE PAST WILL ALWAYS LIVE WITH US AND WE SHOULD HONOUR IT, BUT IT IS UP TO US TO MAKE AND OWN THE FUTURE WE WANT.”

- Patricia de Lille, Mayor of the City of Cape Town

**GEORGE MYCITI AND GO GEORGE BRT SYSTEMS**

Recognising that the legacy of apartheid spatial planning remains with us, the cities of Cape Town and George have created the MyCiTi and Go George Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems to connect communities. Providing all residents of these cities with access to a safe, reliable and affordable public transport system is key to eradicating this legacy. In Cape Town and George, work continues to connect the cities with surrounding areas and creates a vast, integrated public transport network.
MANAGING URBANISATION

Cities and towns in South Africa are growing daily and governments must be prepared for increasing urban populations. This requires planning for the future to ensure that all residents have access to basic services and housing opportunities in communities which are safe.

DA-run local governments do and will:

Promote sustainable, equitable and fair urban development for all by:

- Using urban infrastructure upgrades to improve and uplift previously disadvantaged neighbourhoods.
- Developing long-term strategies to manage urban densification and contain urban sprawl that maximises the dignity of those people who live in these areas by planning ahead for improved service delivery to growing populations.
- Utilising spatial planning that protects our natural environment and heritage for future generations.
- Speeding up the delivery of title deeds to state-subsidised housing so that communities that were dispossessed of land in the past have real and legal ownership of their homes and access to a valuable economic asset.

SERVICED SITES IN GEORGE AND MOSEL BAY

DA municipalities work tirelessly to provide housing opportunities and improve existing human settlements where we govern. A winner of the Govan Mbeki housing awards, George Municipality’s Thembalethu Upgrading of Informal Settlement Programme (UISP) involved the incremental development of 4,350 formal residential sites. Spanning ten land parcels, the sites provide full, permanent municipal services to households which previously lived in one of the city’s 22 informal settlement areas. Another award-winning development, the Mossel Bay Municipality’s Wolwedans Human Settlements Development Project incrementally provided 675 new housing opportunities for persons previously living in informal settlements in the Great Brak River area. This project also sought to integrate the new development with existing, formal areas.
SAFETY
Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of residents gives meaning to freedom. South Africans need to feel safe and be safe in the cities and towns they call home.Achieving this requires a multifaceted approach. The DA is committed to implementing a broad range of initiatives where we govern, including making our roads safer, ensuring municipal by-laws are enforced, and upgrading and maintaining our environments so that they enhance the safety of all residents.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Local governments are best placed to establish by-laws to deal with the issues that face their communities, ranging from illegal dumping to substance abuse. Because our national police force is under resourced, overburdened and under trained, it is vital that DA local governments establish their own municipal law enforcement capacity. This allows our governments to create by-laws to deal with local issues and enforce them, affecting real change where we govern.

DA-run local governments do and will:

**Improve law enforcement by:**

- Prioritising the establishment of municipal law enforcement services for traffic-policing, crime prevention and the enforcement of municipal by-laws.
- Maximising the use of crime fighting technology such as CCTV cameras to improve crime detection and response times, specifically in crime hot-spots.
- Increasing the presence of municipal law enforcement officers, in crime hot-spots to deter criminals and criminal activity.
- Creating partnerships with local businesses, communities and other stakeholders to establish and provide resources for neighbourhood watches, crime patrols and other community policing strategies, such as the Rent-a-Cop model.
- Ensuring municipal law enforcement services are efficient, effective and responsive through training to improve quality.
- Assessing the fitness of law enforcement and emergency personnel on a regular basis to ensure that they are well prepared to enforce the law and protect residents.
- Using the latest technology to reduce speeding and drunk driving, and adopting a zero-tolerance approach to this dangerous behaviour which can lead to serious injury and death.
- Revising municipal by-laws on an annual basis with the aim of ensuring their appropriateness and legislative relevance.
- Establishing effective municipal courts to enforce traffic regulations and by-laws to improve the rule of law and reduce the burden placed on the courts.
- Assessing the fitness of law enforcement and emergency personnel on a regular basis to ensure that they are well prepared to enforce the law and protect residents.
- Using the latest technology to reduce speeding and drunk driving, and adopting a zero-tolerance approach to this dangerous behaviour which can lead to serious injury and death.
- Revising municipal by-laws on an annual basis with the aim of ensuring their appropriateness and legislative relevance.
- Establishing effective municipal courts to enforce traffic regulations and by-laws to improve the rule of law and reduce the burden placed on the courts.
- Making real-time crime statistics available internally and to the public, as well as providing the SAPS with surveillance footage and crime intelligence. This will help residents and the police identify crime hotspots and encourage the latter to devote adequate crime fighting resources to these areas.

**COMBAT CRIME, ESPECIALLY GANGSTERISM AND DRUGS, IN METRO AREAS BY:**

- Developing specialist crime prevention units, where possible, to focus on specific priority crimes, particularly through intelligence-driven policing. Units would be established according to the specific needs of the metro in question and could include gang, vice, tactical response and metal theft units, as in the City of Cape Town.
- Establishing civilian oversight committees where metro or municipal police services already exist—these will comprise of independent and apolitical experts on policing.
In an effort to combat drug and gang-related violence, the City of Cape Town launched its Stabilisation Unit in July 2015. The 90-member specialised unit, a joint initiative between the City and the Western Cape Provincial Government, focuses on gang-ridden areas across the City to lighten the load of the South African Police Service and the Metro Police Gang and Drug Task Team. The unit has had an immediate impact, making scores of arrests and confiscating drugs, firearms and ammunition. This inter-agency cooperation highlights how the City of Cape Town has sought to support the work of national departments and agencies, thus maximising the benefit derived by communities.

Where the DA Governs

Enhance the safety of communities by:

- Creatively using public amenities, including sports and recreation facilities and libraries, in an effort to provide young people with constructive alternatives to antisocial behaviour.
- Making sure that outdoor public spaces are well lit, maintained and secure to enhance the safety of those who use them.
- Using urban infrastructure upgrades, proven to bring down crime through regeneration, to improve the safety of previously disadvantaged communities.

Disaster management

DA local governments are prepared in the event of natural and man-made disasters, both to respond immediately following the event and to help those affected to recover and rebuild. Our governments should also proactively anticipate potential threats and mitigate them by using available resources in innovative and new ways.

DA-run local governments do and will:

- Ensuring that workable disaster management plans for municipalities are in place so that public representatives know how to best respond in case of emergencies, like fires or flooding.
- Establishing emergency relief and response operating procedures so that residents who have suffered property loss as a result of disasters can receive appropriate assistance.
- Providing residents affected by disasters with relevant starter-kits, as required, including building materials, hygiene packs, household parcels, food parcels and blankets.
- Responding in a reasonable amount of time to water, fire and power outage emergencies so that they have a minimal impact on residents.
- Ensuring that ward councillors are proactive, supporting people as far as possible in situations of disaster, by implementing:
  - A ward-based risk assessment profile that is maintained for every ward so that the risks from disasters such as flooding and fire are understood and can be planned for.
  - A ward-based volunteer squad to respond in emergency situations so that communities are prepared to immediately respond to disasters.

FACT:

The City of Cape Town provides fire-affected residents with enhanced emergency kits which contain nails, poles, galvanised corrugated steel roof sheets, a door with a lockset or padlock, and a window.

Where the DA Governs

Disaster Risk Management Centre (DRMC) in Cape Town

The Disaster Risk Management Centre (DRMC) is a state-of-the-art facility created by the City of Cape Town to harmonise the City’s response to disaster situations. The DRMC performs a coordinating role and, in so doing, ensures that emergency and essential services respond in an integrated and efficient manner. The facility aims to identify and prevent disasters before they happen, and to soften the impact of those disasters that cannot be prevented. The centre embodies local government by responding rapidly and effectively to the most urgent needs of its residents, and offering support and care for victims to rebuild their lives.
Our Promise

This manifesto is our promise to every South African. It explains how our values of freedom, fairness and opportunity can be realised through our commitment to good governance and ensuring that our towns and cities become the catalysts for change that moves South Africa forward again.

It is also a powerful illustration of how the DA has turned our 2011 election manifesto promises into reality. Where we have been given an opportunity to govern, we have worked together with residents to bring about access to better services, drive economic growth and job creation, and reduce corruption.

Our promise and offer is simple. Where we govern, we want to build on the progress we have already made. Where we do not govern yet, we want to bring the change to your city or town that will:

**STOP CORRUPTION**

**CREATE JOBS**

**DELIVER BETTER SERVICES**

Photo: Bruce Sutherland, City of Cape Town