

The Weekly

MAYOR ACKNOWLEDGES WATER PROBLEM

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Water shortage crisis...Phaliso View resident, Quinton Douw, said they have a serious water crises in the area

The Kopanong Local Municipality is working towards installing new water pipes worth millions of Rands in order to provide approximately 100 community members from Phaliso View with clean running water.

During the first mayoral Imbizo, which was held at Madikgetla community hall, the Kopanong Local Municipality mayor, Xolile Matwa, acknowledged that there is a water shortage problem in the area.

Matwa further told the community that the technical team took a tour in Phaliso View to inspect all the challenges the community was faced with and all the households who are currently going through the water crises were acknowledged. He pleaded with the residents to pay their outstanding bills in order to have proper service delivery in Trompsburg. The mayor urged those who could not afford to pay their service delivery to visit the local office and register as indigents.

Solomzi Phama, an employee of the office of the mayor, said there are two receivers in Trompsburg and the main one is used as the chief supplier, which is currently sufficient to accommodate the residents. The second one is used as storage in case there is a shortage.

According to Phama, the capacity of the network will be upgraded to accommodate all the residents. "As well as water connection to 124 households which is outstanding will be completed in due course."

It has been revealed by the Kopanong council that the municipality will at least need close to R1-million per kilometre, in order to install new storm water pipes.

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Phama told The Weekly that, currently, a technical report has been compiled for a compiling of business plans requesting to upgrade the area. Although it is alleged that millions are going to be needed to resolve the matter, Phama did not indicate the exact amount which is going to be needed.

Tebello Phafudi, who is the ward's councillor, is also not happy to see the community members of Phaliso View in Trompsburg struggling with water. He also raised concerns to The Weekly that that there is a serious shortage of water in the area and when the people were relocated to the area, the municipality and government made sure that every RDP house had running water inside.

"It is unfortunate because when the towns were established in the past, only small storm water pipes were installed and at the moment we are using too much water, which we don't have because the reservoirs don't carry enough water for the entire community to use on daily basis."

Phafudi said in order to keep the community members updated about the water problem, the council always held meetings and inform them about all the issues to show that the council cares about them. Phafudi pleaded with the residents to be patient and give the council more time to come up with something. "As the ward councillor, I am aware of what the people are going through, but this issue is among our future priorities", he said.

The Weekly managed to have a word with one of the residents of Phaliso View, Quinton Douw, who confirmed that the residents are really struggling to get clean fresh water on a daily basis.

According to Douw, who has been residing in the area for over a year, the water problem has been going on for a long time; even before he moved to the area. "I moved in the area and had hoped that at least the matter will be resolved soon."

Douw said it is unfair for him to take a 20 minutes journey every day after work to fetch clean water. According to him, sometimes the problem can last up to two weeks and when they do finally get water, their happiness only lasts for about two to three days.

What bothers him more is that, it is difficult for people to use the flushable toilets in their houses because of this on-going problem.

"They have told us in a number of meetings that there is a shortage of water," he bemoaned.

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