



GAUTENG PROVINCE

SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SPEECH

MEC Mbali Hlophe Budget Vote 2022/2023 Debate: 24 May 2022 at Gauteng Legislature

Speaker,

Deputy Speaker,

Chief Whip

Chair of Chairs;

**Chairperson and members of the SRAC Portfolio
Committee**

Premier;

Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Members,

Members of the Media,

Distinguished and honoured Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On this occasion to deliver 2022/23 Budget Vote allow me to extend fraternal and warm greetings to you in the Africa Month. A month dedicated to our continent which marks fifty-two (52) years since the establishment of the Organisation of the African Unity (OAU) on 25 May 1963.

As a province we are blessed with a wealth of sport, arts, cultures, heritage, library information services, archival, languages and indigenous knowledge systems. As a result of these diverse components, we remain committed to welding our society together to knit together a new nation by delivering a socially cohesive society.

Delivering a socially cohesive society remains a mammoth task in a country that remains challenged by Afrophobia, racism, drugs, violence, gender-based violence, riots, high level of poverty, income inequality and unemployment. It is these challenges that are at the core of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation's mandate.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating blow to the sport, arts, culture and recreation, as the entire sector faced a complete shutdown, a serious blow to a delivery of a socially cohesive society. The sport, arts, culture, recreation, languages, endogenous knowledge systems, archival and library information services are a building blocks for a socially cohesive society, whom without our society remains fragmented in terms of race, gender and class. Thus, by default or design making our athletes and artists social cohesion ambassadors, as through their talent, art and craft they redirect society towards positive goals.

Our country has lost several social cohesion ambassadors who have made an immense contribution to the sport and creative sector, as we pay tribute, recognise, honour and celebrate their work. As we gained more athletes and artists every year, we sadly and unfortunately lose some, amongst a several artists and athletes we lost were:

Killer Kau

Mpura

Khaya 'The Voice' Hadebe;

DJ Thando;

TD;

Tshepo Tshola;

Pat Shange;

Maishe Maponya;
Lindiwe Ndlovu;
Shaleen Surtie-Richards
Nokuzola Mlengana;
Wandi Ndzimande;
Steve Kekana;
Themsie Times;
Kuli Roberts;
Siyabonga Zubane;
Hector Ginimbi;
Buthelezi DJ Vintos;
Shona Ferguson;
Patrick Mokoka;
Nobesuthu Mbadu;
Sindiswa Seakhoa;
Phillip Mbele;
Lehlohonolo Ledwaba;
Mutodi Neshehe;
McDonald Mathunjwa;
Siphokazi "SK" Nxumalo;
Sandile Mkhize;
Siyanda Sesimani;

Barney Rachabane;
Ricky Rick;
Patrick Shai;
Boitumelo 'DJ Dimplez' Moloi;
Noxolo Maqashalala;
Luzuko Nteleko;
Barney Rachabane;
Ben Kruger;
Menzi Ngubane;
Lindiwe Ndlovu;
Lebohang Quiteria Kekana;
Dr. Deborah Fraser;
Lately Jamie Bartlett.

The list is not exhaustive of all the athletes and artists in the province and May their eternal soul continue to rest in peace.

The budget allocation for the 2022/23 FY is R1.097 billion, marking a minimal increase of R31 million. Noteworthy, this minimal increase is attributed to the public sector wage agreement and provincial infrastructure funding. From the R1.097 billion, R339 121 million is earmarked for

transfers and subsidies, while R356 252 million is ringfenced for Compensation of Employees.

In this regard, the allocation of programs is as follows:

Program 1: Administration R175 068 million

Program 2: Cultural Affairs R244 161 million

Program 3: Library and Archives Services R333 196 million

Program 4: Sports and Recreation R344 982 million

In the state of the province address, Premier David Makhura urged us to realise social cohesion as he contends “in realising social cohesion and nation-building we must continue to work together towards recovering from the current socioeconomic, political and moral crises.”

Accordingly, we have allocated sufficient budgets to support programmes earmarked for women development in accordance with the Gender Responsive Budgeting Framework and Township Economic Development Act. We are also committed to supporting township economies by procuring from township-owned businesses and designated groups.

ON IMPROVING GOOD GOVERNANCE

Efforts are being made to develop and implement strategies to turn around the audit findings for the department and the GFC. Our goal is to secure clean audit by eliminating wasteful and irregular expenditure through strict adherence to the PFMA and prescribed policies.

Guided by the GPG policies, the department will continue to pay valid invoices within 15 and 30 days to ensure small and emerging township businesses do not experience a financially knock. As stipulated in the Growing Gauteng Together Vision 2030, which aims to improve the lives of people in Gauteng, good governance is essential to successfully achieving the deliverables of the 6th Administration.

ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS,

There is a greater need to unite our society given the emerging tendencies of Xenophobic and Afro-phobic attacks against foreign nationals, that continue to reverse the gains of our society. We must continue to defend these gains against the emergence of negative tendencies by advocating for a social cohesion, nation building and unity in diversity. For this purpose, the department will

allocate R1,44 million budget to conduct community conversations and dialogues across the province.

In transforming our heritage landscape the department will be raising national consciousness about heritage routes to reflect our past and ontological identity. We have committed to support economically viable routes in the Southern and Western Corridors, such as but not limited to Kagiso, Munsieville, Boipatong, Sebokeng and Sharpeville. These heritage routes are significant as they have a huge potential to stimulate township economy in line with the recently enacted Township Economic Development Act (TEDA).

Through our Cultural and Creative Industries, we hope to harness the spirit of creativity in our communities to make it a catalyst for economic development and growth. Through massifying of the celebration of national and significant days, we are building a socially cohesive society where South Africans will embrace each other regardless of race, gender, religion, or political affiliation. In this regards we will be raising awareness and consciousness on the national anthem, flag, constitution and national symbols as we will be commemorating our national days with the budget of R20 million.

Madam Speaker, the number of non-fee paying schools to be supported in the Arts and Culture Schools Integrated Programs are 410 across all corridors with budget allocation of R10,7 million while the holiday programme has been allocated R17,5million. Furthermore, 1000 number of women trained in Basetsana scriptwriting and directing workshop, a transformative program in the Theatre and Television sector. To empower women storytellers, the Department has allocated R2 million and R500 000 to support 100 artists to access digital music platforms.

To transform our heritage landscape, an allocation of R3.5 million has been made available for the four statues of heroes and heroines of the Heritage Liberation Struggle.

Gauteng is home to most of the PSL teams, so we are working tirelessly to ensure the building of a sport museum to preserve Gauteng soccer teams' legacy and heritage with a budget of R1 million. We continuously transform our heritage landscape to proclaim our identity and to build a South Africa that reflects our ontological existence in the post-colonial and post-apartheid societies. The Gauteng Discover Film Summit will be hosted by the Gauteng Film Commission as a way of positioning Gauteng as a creative industry hub announced by the

Premier at the beginning of the 6th administration. We can expect great changes, key industry leaders from around the globe will descend on this platform to engage on strategic developments and opportunities.

ON THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVAL SERVICES

The department cannot afford to fall behind in the process of digital transformation and innovation. The advancement of technology is the new trend in the development of societies in the 21st century. Therefore, a budget of R8 million has been allocated to the Gauteng Virtual Library programme for digitalisation of our libraries.

Overall Gauteng virtual library with inclusion of Newspapers and Magazines, online encyclopaedia received an allocation of R12 million. Furthermore, on building the Libraries of Future that are responsive to digitalisation process the department allocated R3 million.

Most importantly as we continue to build future leaders through our schools, library public awareness and reading programmes which entails public speaking, youth summit, reading festival and spelling bee received an allocation of R7 million.

Our goal, honourable Speaker, is to provide our local authors with greater market access. In this financial year the department has allocated R1 million for the writers' workshop, with the intention of encouraging emerging authors to continue to write in a patriotic manner.

We are going to incorporate library services with our agenda of Raising National Consciousness as we will be hosting seminar on celebration of our indigenous knowledge system and Africa month in partnership with the University of Johannesburg.

About archival services, the department allocated R500 000 to commemorate the centenary of Kagiso Township and R300 000 to operationalise the Provincial Archives in order to facilitate the transfer of records from municipalities and GPG departments to the Provincial Archives for the preservation of our significant information. Moreover, we will be allocating R1,75 million towards hospital clinics libraries, to heighten our overall development outlook from cradle to grave development of citizens.

ON SPORT AND RECREATION

In transforming our sporting sector is a big challenge that entail rigorous research to make-sport truly representative and correcting the historical exclusion of black people in other sporting codes such as competitive swimming.

I would like to indicate that we have incorporated our creative arts into the opening of the stadium to stimulate a drive to going back to the stadiums and bring continuity in the business of sports. In a bid to revive the provincial economy through sport, the department has allocated R8 million to support Gauteng based PSL teams and National First Division teams.

To strengthen Elite Women's Football in Gauteng, we have budgeted R2,4 million for the 2022/23 FY. Our goal is to increase participation of women in the sport fraternity. We will also be building five combi-courts across Gauteng with a budget allocation of R6 million.

To revive boxing and make it an attractive sport to youth of Gauteng after it has been overlooked for a while, the department has allocated R1million to support professional boxing.

In this FY the department has committed R8,273 million towards our community games. In our cause to heightening social cohesion R7,819million is allocated towards OR Tambo Soncini Games and R6,9 million to the Nelson Mandela Remembrance Walk.

By means of contributing to the reignition of the Gauteng economy, the department will continue to create a conducive environment in Gauteng for sport, cultural and creative industries to flourish. In this regard, R39 984 000 has been allocated for major events that will be approved by the Gauteng Provincial Government Bidding and Hosting Committee in the 2022/23 FY.

The department also intend to revive the historical school sport program and that will be done through the introduction of the Wednesday Integrated School

Programme with an allocation of R21,551 million. Whilst continuing to support football and netball we will be introducing new sporting codes such horse racing, skateboarding, rowing, canoeing, golf and equestrian sport.

As digital gaming sports, E-sports have a huge global following, so we are working to ensure they thrive in our province.

We are rolling out the #Hanyani Wellness Program across the province with a budget allocation of R9,5 million to inculcate a healthy lifestyle. By building Kasi gyms, the department hopes to reduce the Gauteng health bill even more. An allocation of R1.5 million has been allocated to this program. In addition, we are in a planning stage for the outdoor gyms whereby we suited a business for the allocation of the budget.

Notwithstanding all the challenges we wish to congratulate, recognize, honour and celebrate the sterling work of athletes and artists that continue to place Gauteng in a global map such as but not limited to:

Nkosinathi Sizwe Innocent Maphumulo DJ Black Coffee who won a Grammy Award;

Pitika Ntuli who won a Global Fine Art Award;

Mandlakayise Walter Dube a director and filmmaker who recently produced Silverton Siege after successfully directing and writing Jiva and Kalushi was nominated best director category at the South African Film and Television Awards;

Connie Chiume a Mining Tribe Elder in Black Panther 2; Gomora which witnessed its growth during ending times of Covid-19 and lockdowns;

Thuso Mbedu who won International Emmy Award for Best Performance by Actress;

Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies Football Club for winning CAF Women's Champions League;

Mamelodi Sundowns for winning CAF Champions League; MAXHOSA AFRICA founder Laduma Ngxokolo for winning African Luxury Heritage Awards;

Proteas victory in the second test against New Zealand.

The list is endless and more South African continue to make this province proud earning its mettle as a province of champions, sculpting from the periphery to the mainstream.

Notwithstanding the odds I am pleased to inform honourable members that after successfully hosting the nine (9) hour race in the province we will be hosting the World Rowing Masters Regatta in 2023. As the country

we will be hosting the Netball World Cup 2023, although the event will be held in Cape Town it is expected to have positive spin off for the Gauteng Province. As visitors already in Cape Town may in transit visit Gauteng Province generating much needed revenue for the province from flights, car hires, accommodation etc.

Our goal is to build a better society where all children of Gauteng can enjoy sporting and cultural facilities. We aim to build a diverse, united community where all citizens can contribute to building a better South Africa.

We have indeed been elected to lead the people of Gauteng, and we will do so with outmost humility, honesty, integrity, and loyalty. Being the leader of Gauteng is not only a privilege, but an enduring passion, as I strive to build a socially cohesive society united in diversity towards building a better province, country, and Africa.

We will ensure that every cent allocated to the Department is accounted for and will be used to building our imagined society. As we are taking up challenge to get down to work in a people's contract to build a better South Africa and a better world.

I Thank You