



GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY

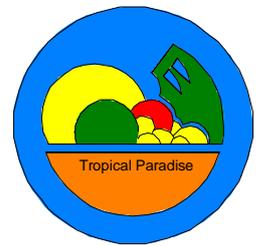
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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TO: ALL NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

GTM TAKE DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL HAWKING

Today, we conducted a raid in order to remove all illegal hawkers in the Tzaneen Central Business District. The raid was specifically targeted on hawkers who are trading in the CBD without valid permits issued by the municipality.

These raids will be conducted on a regular basis until the town is only left with hawkers who possess valid trading permits and pay their monthly rental fees.

We cannot continue to allow lawlessness in our town, which happens to be the main economic hub of our municipality.

We expect all our residents and visitors to abide by the laws of this country as well as our bylaws.

As a pro-poor municipality we have sincere sympathy towards the poor and unemployed, however as government, we need to maintain the rule of law without fear or favour. In the absence of Law and Order there is likely to be chaos.

This has the potential to scare away prospective investors and current investors. In order to keep these investors and attract new investors we must demonstrate that we have the ability to govern and govern effectively.

We have allocated permits to over 70 street vendors and we have a waiting list of over 100 applicants who need trading spaces in the CBD. These trading spaces are not enough to accommodate everyone. We will allocate future vacant spaces as per waiting list.

In addition, we have demarcated free trading zones where no permit or rental is required to trade.

We've also established the hawkers Association which will represent and advocate for hawkers in Tzaneen.

These raids will continue until we have achieved what we call "zero illegal hawker" in the CBD. Our war against illegal hawking has been bolstered by the gazetting of our Street Trading bylaw.

Together with the South African police service, and the justice department we will achieve this goal.

Issued by: Vutivi Makhubele on behalf of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality