

NEW WASTE TRUCK TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY

A new waste compactor truck arrived at the Greater Tzaneen Municipality this week (22 June 2021) to add to the four waste trucks already in the municipality's fleet. The new acquisition will improve waste collection services in the municipality. Councillor Edney Ntimbani, the Head of Infrastructure in the GTM says the new truck will assist in addressing service delivery backlogs and reduce outsourcing.

Hobson Ndlovu, the mechanical workshop superintendent said that the new truck will reduce pressure on his mechanics. "When we are busy fixing the old trucks at least this new truck will be busy collecting waste". Some of the municipal trucks are as old as 15 years, this means a frequent visit to the workshop and less time on the streets. Greater Tzaneen Municipal Manager, Thapelo Matlala said "We want to buy another truck before the end of the year to supplement trucks already in our fleet". Matlala pleaded with the drivers to properly look after the truck and ensure that they are properly maintained to prolong their lifespan.

Chris Zastron, a Senior Application Engineer from TFM Industries where the municipality bought the R1.6 million compactor truck says that the new truck has a lifespan of 15 years depending on how it is maintained. He said that the truck needs to be greased daily to stay in optimum condition. Zastron says that the oldest truck that he sold is a 1975 Hino which is still running today. According to Zastron, the new truck unlike the old models comes with safety catches that are used to secure skip bins when loaded into the truck.

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality provides household waste collection in Tzaneen, Letsitele, Nkowankowa, Lenyenye, and Heanertzburg and in addition rural waste minimization and litter-picking in over 120 villages.

