

MULATI ACCESS ROAD PROJECT FINALLY RESTARTS

Today, 12 February 2021, the Mayor of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Councillor Maripe Mangena relaunched the Mulati Access Road project at Jack Mashamba Primary School. The project, along with the "Codesa to Hani Street Project" in Nkowankowa was stopped in September 2019 after a contractual dispute between the municipality and the contractor (Tshiamiso Trading 135). The municipality took the matter to the High Court in Polokwane and successfully convinced the court to set aside the two contracts paving a way for a new contractor to be appointed and for the project to continue.

The project entails the upgrading of 5.6 km of Mulati Access Road from gravel to interlocked paving bricks surface. also included in the scope of work are road markings, road signs, and furniture. The road connects to the R526 road which connects to Letsitele and the R36 road on the other side.

Addressing the community stakeholders during the handover at Jack Mashamba Primary, Mayor Mangena said " The war that we have been fighting concerning the Mulati Road is now over, it ended on 28 January 2021 when the Polokwane High Court delivered its judgment". Mayor Mangena also said, "This project will unlock economic opportunities for the community of Mulati by creating much-needed jobs." The Mayor said that the project will also assist with the transfer of skills to emerging local contractors through subcontracting.

Miyelani Ntuli, the EPWP officer in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality said that the project will employ 113 workers through the EPWP process.

"The road will connect the community of Mulati to essential services such as schools, clinics, hospitals, and public transport facilities" continued the Mayor.

Ward Councillor of ward 25, Josta Banyini said "We just want to express our gratitude to the leadership of the municipality and to say that we are happy to have achieved what we have longed to achieve".

Disky Lebesse, a resident of Mulati Village said, " I am so happy about the road because we always have difficulties when it rains, we can't get transport when it rains."

The Consultant is Letsopa Consulting Engineers and the contractor is Mqomo Trading, both the consultant and the contractor were introduced to the community.