

VOL. 1 ISSUE 3 · AUG 2025

# Building Resilient Economies for All

Official Newsletter: Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality



Supporting persons with special  
needs



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A safe, sustainable environment for all to live and strive in.



Cllr Willem Safers  
Mayor,



## Mayor's Forward

I am honored to present the latest edition of our municipal newsletter. This month reflects the spirit of resilience, empowerment, and inclusion within our communities.

In celebration of Women's Month, we joined hands with partners such as DEDEAT, ECDC, and various stakeholders to host a Women in Business Empowerment Workshop. This initiative provided women entrepreneurs with vital tools, networking opportunities, and funding information to drive sustainable growth. When women thrive, our economy grows stronger, and our communities flourish.

Equally inspiring was the Older Persons' Golden Games, hosted in partnership with the Department of Social Work Development. Seniors from across our municipality showcased their energy, talents, and determination. The event promoted active aging, community building, and dignity for our older persons—reminding us that every generation plays a crucial role in shaping our future.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for Heritage Month celebrations and the upcoming Festival season, where our diverse cultural heritage, traditions, and talents will be showcased. These events not only honor our past but also strengthen our unity and tourism potential.

In addition, the Municipality will be embarking on the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Public Participation Review. This process is central to our democratic governance, as it allows communities to review ward priorities, share their voices, and directly shape the development agenda of our Municipality.

I encourage all residents to take part and ensure their needs and ideas are represented. Alongside these celebrations, our focus on service delivery and infrastructure upgrades remains firm. Roadworks, stormwater repairs, and water services are progressing across wards to improve the daily lives of residents.

Together, we are building a municipality rooted in empowerment, respect, and opportunity for all. Thank you for your continued partnership as we advance toward a resilient and inclusive future.





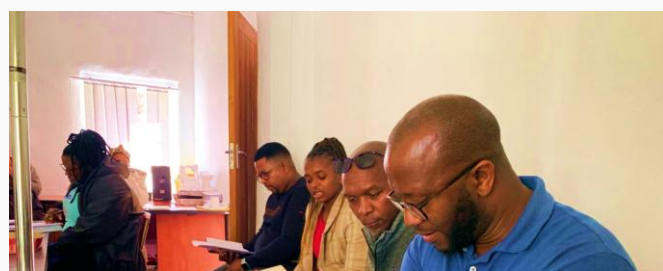
# Nieu Bethesda Housing Project Update

The Nieu Bethesda Housing Project has officially commenced and is showing encouraging progress in its early stages. According to the contractor's progress report dated 29 August 2025, the project has already reached 8% overall completion, which places it 4% ahead of the planned schedule. This strong start is reflected in several key achievements on site, including the successful handover of the site, near-completion of site establishment at 90%, and significant progress in Section 1 of the Civil Engineering Services, which currently stands at 43% complete.

In addition, specific tasks such as sewer excavations, pipe laying, and backfilling are each 90% complete, further demonstrating the project's steady momentum. Employment creation remains a central focus of the project. At present, there are 16 people employed on site, with half of these being local laborers, including young people from the community. While no persons with disabilities have been appointed yet, the project has already provided important opportunities for local participation.

An initial challenge relating to Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) labor rates was resolved after successful negotiations, which resulted in rates being adjusted slightly above the minimum daily wage. This ensures fairer compensation for the workforce while keeping the project on track. Health and safety practices have been fully implemented on site. All inductions, toolbox talks, and safety checklists are up to date, and importantly, there have been no incidents reported since the start of the project. This reflects the contractor's commitment to creating a safe and responsible working environment. Despite the positive progress, the project has also encountered minor challenges. Two trees currently obstruct the planned alignment for water and sewer lines, and the contractor is awaiting further instruction from the engineer on how best to proceed. These types of site-specific challenges are expected in construction projects and are being managed without disruption to the broader schedule.

Looking ahead, the project team will focus on completing the outstanding sewer line work, building sewer manholes, and finalizing the water reticulation system. Preparations will also begin for the construction of the first 10 housing units, marking an important milestone for the community. The Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality remains committed to ensuring that the Nieu Bethesda Housing Project continues to progress on schedule, delivers quality infrastructure, and maximizes opportunities for local participation. With a strong foundation already established, the project is well-positioned to bring meaningful change to the lives of residents in the months ahead.



CELEBRATING  
**WOMEN'S**  
**HISTORY**  
**MONTH**



August Reminds Us Of The Bravery Of The 1956 Women Who Stood Up For Freedom And Justice, And It Challenges Us To Keep Building A Society Where Every Woman Is Safe, Respected, And Empowered.



## Women's Indaba 2025 – Building Resilient Economies for All

The Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality proudly hosted its 1st Women's Indaba, under the inspiring theme: "Building Resilient Economies for All." This historic gathering brought together passionate women, community leaders, and distinguished speakers to celebrate the achievements of women and to chart a way forward for inclusive economic growth.

Celebrating Women's Month August holds a special place in South Africa's history as a month dedicated to honoring women. It commemorates the bravery of more than 20,000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 to protest against unjust laws that restricted their freedom and dignity. This year marks the 69th anniversary of that iconic march and the 30th anniversary of the first official National Women's Day. It is a time to reflect on how far we have come, and to recommit ourselves to advancing women's rights, leadership, and economic empowerment.

**Women at the Heart of Change.** The Municipality has established a dedicated Women's Forum, which plays a key role in highlighting and addressing women-related matters in both the workplace and the community. This forum exercises oversight on women-focused programmes, ensures the implementation of council policies, and supports gender mainstreaming in line with the Constitution of South Africa. It also acts as an advisory and consultative body for women councillors, ensuring their voices are represented within Council structures.

**Purpose of the Indaba.** The Indaba's main objective was to: Bring essential services and opportunities directly to the women of Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality. Explore avenues for women to improve their lives and livelihoods. Discuss innovative solutions to pressing issues such as crime, health care, and economic development. Recognize and celebrate the vital contributions women make to economic resilience and community development.





## Women's Indaba 2025 – Building Resilient Economies for All

A Call to Action This platform provided an opportunity for sharing ideas, experiences, and best practices to foster inclusive growth and sustainable development. The ultimate goal is to inspire actionable strategies that empower women to lead economic transformation, withstand challenges, and drive progress for the benefit of all. As author Diane Marie Child reminds us: "A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture, and transform." Let us continue to celebrate the strength, resilience, and achievements of women, while also calling for ongoing empowerment, support, and equality in every sphere of life.

Together, we are building resilient economies for all.





# SEDFA's Graaff-Reinet ESD Dialogue Fuels Partnerships for Supplier Growth



Transformation requires partnerships, and that's what SEDFA brought during the Enterprise & Supplier Development Dialogue held at the Botanical Gardens in Graaff-Reinet, Eastern Cape, earlier today. The event focused on SEDFA's mission to understand the Enterprise and Supplier Development needs of MSMEs and the private sector in order to facilitate deals and provide stronger support. Collaborations with corporate entities were highlighted, alongside practical approaches to empowering suppliers, enhancing compliance and boosting competitiveness.

Attendees from the private sector (Nedbank), MSMEs, including the Graaff-Reinet Business Forum, and LED officials from the Sarah Baartman District Municipality explored initiatives such as the Community of Practice, learned about the Department of Small Business Development's efforts to create sectoral opportunities, and engaged in dynamic conversations on the future of supplier development. The dialogue created an important platform for SMME/ businesses to share challenges, learn about available support, and strengthen their partnerships with both government and the private sector.



# Women in Business Empowerment Workshop



Women in Business Empowerment Workshop As part of Women's Month celebrations under the theme "Building Resilient Economies for All", the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), in partnership with the Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality, hosted a Women in Business Empowerment Workshop on 6 August 2025 at the Botanical Gardens, Graaff-Reinet. With valuable support from the Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC), the Department of Education, and other partners, the event empowered women entrepreneurs through:

- ✦ Practical business tools for growth and sustainability
- ✦ Networking opportunities to build strong connections
- ✦ Funding information, including the Local and Regional Economic Development (LRED) Fund. The initiative reflects DEDEAT's commitment to building an inclusive and sustainable economy, with women at the center of economic transformation.





# DBNLM Supports Older Persons' Golden Games

04 September 2025 – Graaff-Reinet



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality (DBNLM) proudly supported the Older Persons' Golden Games, an annual event hosted by the Department of Social Work Development (Graaff-Reinet Service Office). The event brought together senior citizens aged 60 and above from across DBNLM areas, promoting active aging, healthy living, and social interaction.

Why the Golden Games Matter  
Physical Health – Regular activity helps prevent chronic illnesses such as arthritis and obesity.  
Mental Health – Socialization reduces stress and improves well-being.  
Community Building – Strengthens unity and creates lasting bonds among seniors.

Activities & Competitions  
Participants showcased their energy and talent in activities such as: 100m & 200m races, duck walking, ball relay, rugby ball throw, goal shooting, jukskei, ring the stick, and ball pass & kick. The top performers will advance to the district level, with the potential to represent the province nationally.

A Note of Gratitude. The Department of Social Work Development extends its heartfelt thanks to all towns and centers involved: Aberdeen, Nieu-Bethesda, Steytlerville, Graaff-Reinet, Jansenville, Willowmore Older Person's Service Centres, Ikhamva Protective Centre, Children with Disabilities, and DBNLM. "Your involvement has not only made this day special for us, but also for yourselves. We are truly grateful for your enthusiasm and commitment to this wonderful event."

DBNLM remains committed to honoring and supporting our older persons – promoting dignity, wellness, and lifelong participation.



## **Roads & Stormwater Progress** **Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality keeps infrastructure upgrades on track**

### Road Maintenance Programme Update

The Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality's Public Works Section has rolled out its weekly road maintenance programme, focusing on improving road conditions, stormwater management, and grader operations across several areas.

### Pothole Repairs


Pothole repairs are currently underway in Spandauville, Horshoe, Kroonvale, and Asherville, with specific attention given to streets such as Liebenburg, Van Riebeeck Square, Kingwill Drive, Meintjies, Springbok, Protea, Snowdrop, and others.


### Stormwater Management


The team is also cleaning catchpits, furrows, manholes, and water channels in the main town area. Streets benefiting from this work include Stockenstroom, Donkin, Plasket, Muller, Milner, Parliament, and Caroline streets.

### Grader Operations

In addition, grader operations are being carried out in Nieu Bethesda, where dry blading is taking place across all affected streets and roads to improve accessibility and driving conditions.

 Road Maintenance Programme – Aberdeen Area. The Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality's Public Works Section continues its weekly road maintenance programme, with a dedicated focus on the Aberdeen area.

 Pothole Repairs – Lotusville The maintenance team is working in the Lotusville area, where pothole repairs are being carried out on the following streets: Carnation Street Douglas Street Bacon Street De Jager Street Rafferty Street.

 Stormwater & Channel Cleaning – Town Area. To improve stormwater flow and reduce flooding risks, the team is also cleaning catchpits, furrows, manholes, and water channels in the town area. Streets included in this programme are: Bell Street Stockenstroom Street Church Street Meintjies Street Jackson Street

### Commitment to Service

The municipality remains committed to ensuring safer, well-maintained roads and stormwater systems for all communities. These ongoing efforts form part of our dedication to improving infrastructure and service delivery across the Dr Beyers Naudé area.



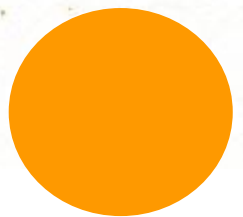
EMBRACE DIVERSITY



Celebrating

**HERITAGE  
MONTH**

24 SEPTEMBER 2024







# KAROO

## MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY  
22ND NOV 2025

**BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
GRAAFF-REINET



aware!org  
[www.aware.org.za](http://www.aware.org.za)

Not for Sale to Persons Under the age of 18. Enjoy Responsibly

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

DR BEYERS NAUDE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT





## Stay Connected with DBNLM!

Want to be the first to know about community updates, events, service notices, and opportunities?



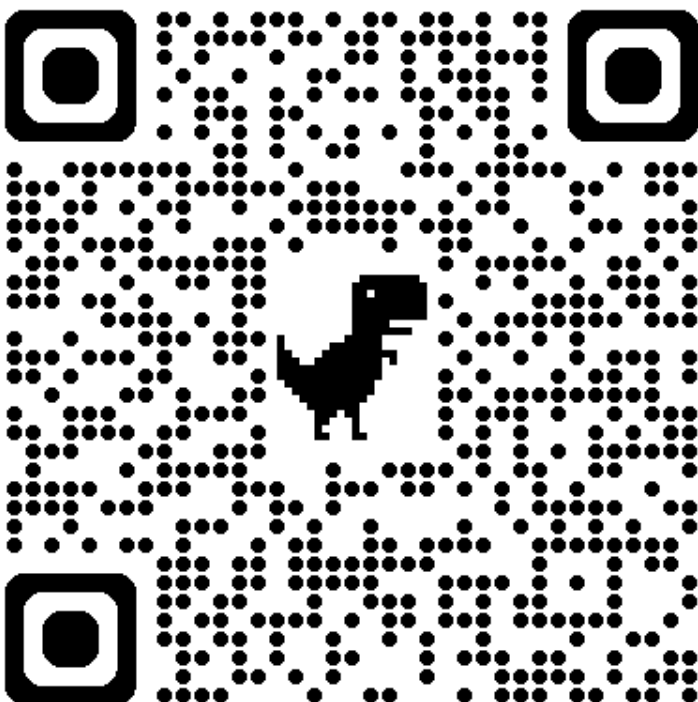
Join our WhatsApp Channel for instant updates straight to your phone.



Follow our Facebook Page for news, photos, videos, and community engagement.



Scan QR to follow:



Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality  
WhatsApp channel



Scan this QR code using the camera to view or follow this channel.



Dr. Beyers Naudé  
MUNICIPALITY | MUNISIPALITEIT | UMASIPALA  
rising together for development

# 2025/26 IDP WARD BASED PLANNING

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME**

## SCHEDULE

DATE	WARD	TOWN	VENUE	TIME
Monday, 22 September 2025	2	Neubethesda	Pienaarsig	14H00
Tuesday, 23 September 2025	2	Horseshoe/Bergendal	Robert Sobukwe	12H00
Tuesday, 23 September 2025	3	Asherville And Santaville	PPK Church	17H00
Thursday, 25 September 2025	4	Kroonvale	Alex Laing	17H00
Monday, 29 September 2025	5	Kroonvale/ Umasizakhe	Alex Laing	17H00
Tuesday, 30 September 2025	6	Umasizakhe	Community Hall	17H00
Wednesday, 01 October 2025	7	Aberdeen	Library	13H00
Thursday, 02 October 2025	1	Aberdeen	Kamdeboo Primary	17H00
Monday, 06 October 2025	10	Klipplaart	Town Hall	11H00
Tuesday, 07 October 2025	11	Jansenville	Town Hall	14H00
Wednesday, 08 October 2025	11	Jansenville	Popoyi Majane	17H00
Thursday, 09 October 2025	12	Steytlerville	Vuyolwethu Hall	17H00
Monday, 13 October 2025	12	Steytlerville	Town Hall	17H00
Tuesday, 14 October 2025	8	Rietbron	Community Hall	10H00
Wednesday, 15 October 2025	8	Willowmore	Town Hall	14H00
Thursday, 16 October 2025	8	Baviaanskloof	Community Hall	11H00
Monday, 20 October 2025	9	Willowmore	Karrieblok	17H00

### INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING



<https://bnlm.gov.za/>  
049 807 5700

FACEBOOK



WhatsApp





## Emergency Contacts Details:



<b>Graaff-Reinet Area</b>	
Graaff-Reinet Switchboard	049-807 5700
Graaff-Reinet Municipal Manager's Office	049-807 5701
Graaff-Reinet Robert Sobukwe Building	049-807 5702
Graaff-Reinet Call Centre	049-807 5710
Graaff-Reinet Traffic Department	049-807 5711
Protection Services Standby	061 646 3361
Fire Services Standby	060 425 0113 / 084 256 1536
ESKOM Consumers	086 003 7566
<b>Satellite Offices</b>	
Aberdeen Main Office	049-807 5703
Aberdeen Service Area (Electricity) – standby	082 822 8957
Aberdeen Service Area (Water) – standby	063 371 8590
Nieu-Bethesda Office	049-807 5714
Nieu-Bethesda Service Area (after hours)	082 734 8392

Jansenville/Klipplaat Service Area Standby	079 557 8228
Willowmore Main Office	049-807 5704
Willowmore Tourism Office	049-807 5709
Willowmore Traffic Department	049-807 5712
Willowmore emergency (standby) line	049-807 5713
Willowmore Service Area Standby	079 1234 176/076 940 2442
Rietbron Main Office	049-807 5705
Rietbron Services Area Standby	079 021 5746
Steytlerville Main Office	049-807 5706
Steytlerville Service Area (Water & Sanitation) Standby	069 117 3911
Steytlerville Service Area (Electricity) Standby	081 333 0135