

RE MMOGO REPORT

NOVEMBER 2017

#REMMOGGPL

1. INTRODUCTION

This report covers both the Tshwane and West Region Re Mmogo Outreach Programmes from the planning phase until the outreach day, key to this report would be what to ultimately derive from the experiences and lessons learnt in order to enhance future outreach programmes.

The Ekurhuleni, Johannesburg and Sedibeng Re Mmogo outreach programmes have been deferred to 2018 due to, respectively a by-election taking place and resources all ploughed to the ward by the region, a three line whip vote of no confidence brought against the Mayor and Caucus resources being directed to Tshwane on the planned outreach day.

2. REGIONAL MANCO MEETING DISCUSSIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

These extended meetings included MPLs, MPs and Councillors in the Regions, and the administrative support staff from the Constituency Unit in Caucus and PCOs. A gathering of the whipper preceded the extended meeting, and both had discussions and engagement on the Re Mmogo concept document.

The gist of the approach towards the planned outreach programmes being:

- Conduct pre Re Mmogo stakeholders meeting towards not only receiving concerns but helping them develop community safety plans.
- Key to getting the community united in fighting crime would be due to the engagement of and subsequent involvement of ANC Structures.
- Meetings ought to be convened with the local police, CPF and other key stakeholders in an attempt to zoom in and target the key crime spots within the earmarked areas.

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2.1 Tshwane

The meeting took place on the 6th November 2017, the below discussions ensued with resolutions taken:

- Caucus team together with the PCO Visited will have to develop a profile of key crime statistics in the area.
- If the area has a drug rehabilitation centre or correctional service door to door will include a visit there.
- Blitzing to highlight key programmes Community Safety has which deals with crime in the province would take place.
- The PCO and the ANC Zonal structure should target three branches around the police precinct, where Re Mmogo programme should take place
- The ANC focus has always been in Mabopane where much remarkable work has been done by both Province and National, therefore, there should be focus on the inner city in order to claim victory on the work that was done by the ANC - currently the DA is claiming victory on the work of the ANC.

2.2 West Rand

The meeting was convened on the 2nd November 2017 and below are the discussions that ensued and resolutions taken:

- Due to the prevalence of crime in Khutsong wards 3 and 4, these would be the areas of the outreach programme focus. The high rate of unemployment is a major contributing factor to crime, including illegal mining and carrying of unlicensed firearms.

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- Get the involvement of the Gauteng Education MEC Cde Panyaza Lesufi's office, and attend to the widespread gangsterism in the area within the schools.
- Involve the Department of Community Safety through MEC Cde Sizakele Nkosi-Malobane, and ensure the functioning of Community Police Forums, visible policing, patrollers, and request the setting up of a temporary police station at the taxi rank.
- To engage the Gauteng Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation MEC Cde Faith Mazibuko's office with a proposal and request of erecting recreational facilities.

3. PROJECT TEAM OPERATIONAL PLAN

Operations expected as per the Work Breakdown Structure and Checklist provided to the project team with the responsible persons assigned and timelines indicated.

3.1 Tshwane

The team met on the 9th and 12th November at the Mabopane Parliamentary Constituency office with these highlights from the discussions:

- Identified wards being 9, 19 and 24.
- The office of the Chief Whip in the Municipality were to invite the top 5 BEC Members of the 3 wards on the 16th November, to the extended Caucus in the ward and stakeholders engagement invited as well and met separately.

3.2 West Rand

On the 6th November 2017 a meeting took place at the Carletonville Council, with these highlights from the discussions:

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- The target number for the community meeting was set to 600 people.
- Finally, it was decided that only the ANC Caucus of the GPL Branding will be used and not that of the local municipalities.

3.3 Sedibeng

All the items on the checklist had been completed, signed off with everyone in the team being responsible for tasks as per the State of Readiness report sent 18th November 2017.

3.4 Johannesburg

Several engagements had taken place between the MPLs, the ANC Regional Office and the administrative support staff, and the programme plans were halted when the local team were yet to convene the project team only planning meeting.

3.5 Ekurhuleni

Project team met on the 5th December to discuss the Re Mmogo 2018 implementation plans for when the schools re-open.

4. PRE REMMOGO STAKEHOLDER'S ENGAGEMENT

In Tshwane the meeting took place on the 12th November at the Mabopane Parliamentary Constituency Offices, and in the West Rand the engagement occurred on the 9th November 2017 at the Council Clinic in Ward 3 in Khutsong.

The form that both engagements took were for the Technical and Project Management Team informing the stakeholders of the purpose and form of the outreach programme, more so in relation to the theme with detail on

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preparations being undertaken towards the day of the programme and expected follow-ups thereafter.

5. DRY RUN

Prior to the actual walk-about dry run, the final checklist meetings are to be and were held. These have proved a necessity with the two programmes that took place, if these had not been held dismal results on the day of the events would have met us. The mobilisation plans including the distribution of pamphlets, loud hailing and local community radio stations interviews and advertisements took off.

5.1 Tshwane

- Took place on the 17th November 2017.
- It was established during the dry run that the initial block identified in ward 24 had been changed by the ward councillor
- The chosen venue for stakeholders and Caucus briefing of minimum 150 people could not comfortably host 60 people, a fact established during the dry run which affected most logistics starting from programmes, catering, transportation and others.
- Losing the metro has not made it easy to host Re Mmogo as we were not easily awarded access to areas wherein we would previously gain access to.
- With logistics planning changing significantly and having been informed that no procurement of any service providers in the area would take place without the recommendation/approval of the councillors proved yet another unexpected hindrance of a smooth running dry run and final logistics planning.

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5.2 West Rand

- Held on the 10th November 2017
- The community engagement proposed marquee erection place was changed during the site visit, as the chosen venue was right below massive power lines.

6. OUTREACH DAY

With the both Regions administratively it became clear that the support staff from Caucus were “expected” to execute all tasks, there is an uncommunicated assumption that the programme belonged to GPL Caucus and some resistance to being hands on was experienced. It became clear that the large contingent of administrative staff seen before the day started, had been motivated by collecting T-shirts and thereafter not being accountable to Caucus.

6.1 Tshwane

During the poorly attended community meeting the issues below were raised and discussions held:

- Crime issues – abuse of women and children are raped
- Loate police station is servicing the larger chunk of Winterveldt
- Due to the demarcation based on the jurisdiction of police stations, during times of need the community gets agitated when having not to be afforded assistance and referred to other service centres.
- Non-functional street lights are instrumental to the rife crime.
- Impact of the programme from the office of the Premier which identifies 14 communities affected by crime.

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- Community safety forums and street committees should be formed.
- Community must assist in dealing with the drugs mostly that are being pushed from the Mabopane station, traffic department and Odi prison.
- A relationship between the community and the station commander ought to be established.
- CPF were elated with the presence of the ANC and are ready to work together in combating crime, and emphasized that former convicts are welcome to be part of CPF.
- House breakings percentage has somewhat declined.
- Lack of funds for patrollers.
- There is a request for programmes that would keep the youth from crime.
- There should be enough staff at the police station, and the community of Winterveldt must be employed as there is a high rate of unemployment.
- Streets need to be reconstructed.
- There is unbearable sewer in some streets.

6.2 West Rand

The discussions held and issues raised are below:

- Poor service delivery is taking place from the Merafong Municipality.
- The regular sewerage spillage in the area.
- Lack of and where available poor street lighting.
- Lack of maintenance of the road infrastructure.
- No grass cutting and generally keeping the area clean.
- The lack of a police station in the area and limited police visibility has a negative impact amongst the community, as gangsterism results to fights and killings of the youth, with uncontrolled violence involving hostel dwellers.

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- Request that the MEC for Community Safety intervene with regards to resolving the issues regarding patrollers.
- Unemployment, lack of recreational facilities is reported to be playing a pivotal role of the unstoppable youth gangsterism.
- The community was in excess of 600 people at the meeting despite the rains.
- There is shortage of housing.
- With the land given by the municipality Cde Faith Mazibuko promised an erection of a multi-purpose court complete with changing areas in the area.

7. LESSONS TO BE LEARNT

- Without the involvement of local structures of the ANC and alliance partners, programmes may not get the buy in and support and mobilisation will not take off.
- Cooperation, understanding and upholding the vision of the ANC between Caucuses will ensure positive results being yielded.
- Carrying the full financial burden for Re Mmogo in municipalities ought to give rise to downscaling of expenses, and a refined and segmented concept document developed with high impact achieved.
- Municipality Caucus support staff lists with support staff tags and T-shirts, does not necessarily translate to the actual warm bodies being involved on the day. The Caucus team did housekeeping duties, catering work, furniture removal, protocol etc.
- The current silent go-slow with administrators towards GPL Caucus translated to Tshwane PCO Administrators manning the registration table, with not more than 3 taking part in secretariat and assisting with other project related work.

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- There is a worrying absence of social media coverage for a significant number of months that still could not adequately be covered during Re Mmogo, due to the mobile network provider related challenges and non-fully functional handsets.
- There was much confusion with the submission dates to Caucus by the municipalities, as we had provided and communicated internal submission dates which were translated as external. Therefore, in-house Caucus communication should be circulated not to perpetuate unplanned muddle.
- Having everyone sending out communication and neglecting to centralise such, caused at times duplication of work and oversight in other respects. We should stick to our roles as assigned for accountability should all not go accordingly.
- The absence of clear guidelines/mandate or the misinterpretation thereof has in the West Rand caused unnecessary tension and disruptions during the dry run.
- The approach to providing catering for members is yet to be mastered:
 - In the West Rand despite the food being enough for all, members were disrespected with the unpleasant serving arrangement.
 - In trying to not repeat the West Rand debacle, when most members of GPL arrived at the demarcated area – the supplies had been depleted as there was forceful entry into the area.
- Is the common transport in its current form for members from the GPL pennywise?
- In both the West Rand and Tshwane regions there had been highly inflated quotations submitted to Caucus which were subsequently brought down.
- Dealing with an array of personalities not being exposed to was a test, as in Tshwane due to the challenges with venues changing logistics had to

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- be effected. Information relayed after sourcing quotes was that in order for Caucus to procure any services towards Re Mmogo taking place, such could only be with the approval and recommendation of service providers by councillors.
- The T-shirt roll-out strategy has to be looked into, revised, worked on and implemented. This has been one aspect of logistics that has caused not only tongue lashing, but subsequent almost damaging property and forcefully taking of the prized T-shirts in Tshwane.
- The almost disruption of the early morning meeting in Tshwane by patients due to the clinic being closed by our own ANC members.
- There was a major oversight of ticking all the boxes of the project/administrative team and overlooking and not insisting on the importance of a pre-stakeholder Caucus to Caucus briefing meeting by members and councillors.
- Accepting venues/instructions from local team without GPL not being on par with such areas, resulted in unnecessary last minute logistical changes in both Regions.
- The ward profiles were a challenge to get, and where information was provided some areas were proved incomplete, underreported and inaccurate.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Employ the 2016 Re Mmogo approach wherein the areas to be visited, are informed by the Research from Caucus. Such which will be based on not only the area profiles, but by deliverables obtained from the Executive and Caucus Sub-committee plans per area. Whilst also infusing and being directly involved with Ntirhisano.

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- Convene a joint Re Mmogo briefing meeting at a venue that would accommodate councillors, MPs, MPLs and support staff to dispel the myths of Re Mmogo being a competitor to Ntirhisano and being led from the Chief Whip's office whilst the "ANC deployed Executive" is regarded as having resources and power.
- Some areas are not ideal for travelling at night for cdes especially females after the outreach programmes, perhaps a provision for overnight quarters at the outreach programme area organised or at least get them released much earlier.
- There should be briefing notes for pre Re Mmogo stakeholder engagements in order to get the most information out of the sectors, and also to prepare for the responses during the outreach programme day.

9. CONCLUSION

People need to be reminded that this is the ANC led government still governing in the 5th administration, and that the executive receive all the powers due to their membership and deployment by the ANC. Therefore, we cannot separate the work that comrades as members of the ANC in good standing, are doing due to being voted by the ANC branches and supporters into government. Moving forward towards 2019 with the full scale campaign taking shape, as an activist caucus, and a special branch of the ANC, and being part of the vanguards of our organisation clearly the battle lines are drawn.