



LET'S FIX SOUTH AFRICA



CITY OF EKURHULENI MANIFESTO

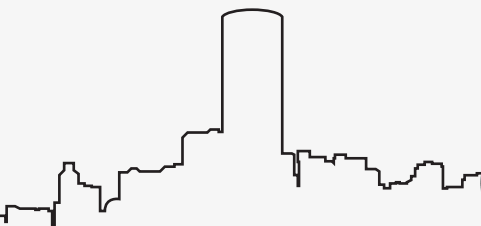
LET'S FIX SOUTH AFRICA BY FIXING EKURHULENI

The work of fixing South Africa starts at home, with our nation's gateway to the rest of the world. Functional municipalities are the foundation of a prosperous state; to get South Africa on the right track again, we must start by fixing the basics of service delivery at municipal level.

ActionSA was formed to unite patriotic South Africans that are committed to professional and ethical public service behind the project to fix our beloved country. We believe in decisive action that will improve the quality of life for all South Africans. We believe that the needs of the residents of our municipalities must be central to everything we do as a government. We believe that through an unwavering dedication to ethical leadership, we will build municipalities that enable our proud, resilient, and enterprising people to prosper.

The time for talk and empty promises is over. Now is the time for action.

Let's fix South Africa.



ACTIONSA'S OFFER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

ActionSA's priorities for local government in South Africa informs how we will govern Ekurhuleni.

- 1 Customer-centric government that delivers service with pride:** our residents are our customers and have the right to quality and reliable service delivery by a government that cares for all its residents, and takes pride in service excellence.
- 2 Ethical and professional public service:** we will reform our municipalities by appointing only ethical and competent officials that have proven their commitment to public service. Corruption and incompetence will have no place in our governments.
- 3 Streamlined municipal administrations:** we will end the era of bloated, inefficient administrations that outsource core services to tenderpreneurs or inefficient municipal entities. We will cut down on 'Millionaire Managers' while insourcing frontline staff.
- 4 Caring and inclusive governance:** We will adopt a pro-poor plan of action that ensures all residents have access to quality basic services and primary healthcare in municipalities that cater to all their residents.

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A business-friendly environment where jobs are created: we will remove red-tape making it easier for businesses to succeed, modernise our administrations, and support entrepreneurs so that the private sector can flourish and create more job opportunities.

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Safety and security: No country can prosper without the Rule of Law. Criminals should live in fear, not law-abiding citizens. We will ensure that there are more police officers on the ground, give them proper training, and use technology to assist in preventing crime.



1. OUR OFFER TO THE RESIDENTS OF EKURHULENI

In addition to the high-level priorities applicable to all municipalities where we govern, we will prioritise the following programmes in Ekurhuleni:



Clean up the city and revitalise the inner city: for our residents to thrive, we need to provide a clean living environment and bring economic activity and affordable housing to our inner city. We will implement programmes aimed to improve refuse removal, keep our streets clean and increase access to housing opportunities.



Declare corruption Public Enemy Number One: we will not allow public money to be stolen by unethical political cadres, municipal officials and tenderpreneurs. We will take action to ensure that corruption is prevented and that those guilty of corruption are held to account.



Rebuild a competent, professional and accountable public service: ActionSA will ensure that the City of Ekurhuleni is an organisation that employs only the best and most dedicated public servants. By adopting a performance-based human resources strategy, we will ensure that our public servants have the needs of the resident at the core of everything they do.



Ensure that all schools in our city are clean and safe: ActionSA believes that education is critical to moving our nation forward. While local government's mandate on education is limited, we will work towards improving access to a safe and clean learning environment for our future generations.



Reignite industry to bring jobs back to our city: as South Africa's logistics hub, Ekurhuleni has untapped job-creation potential. By creating the right environment for economic growth, we will unlock that potential and bring jobs back to Ekurhuleni.



Prioritise crime-busting efforts and enforce by-laws: the residents of Ekurhuleni have been subjected to the will of criminals for far too long. We will improve the efficiency of the Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department and work with other government institutions to improve by-law enforcement so that law-abiding citizens can live free from fear.

2. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI BY CLEANING UP AND REVITALISING THE INNER CITY

Clean streets and a thriving inner-city are some of the most basic requirements for a city to flourish. By increasing refuse removal and street cleaning and revitalising Ekurhuleni's inner city, we will reignite the city's spark.

- ✓ **Property release programme:** we will institute a programme to identify, expropriate and release hijacked and abandoned buildings to the private sector for development. New developments will have to provide mixed-used buildings, including affordable housing, so that more of our residents can stay closer to where they work.
- ✓ **Abandoned factories:** we will also identify and expropriate abandoned factories and turn them into productive buildings, where businesses can operate, and people can live.
- ✓ **Additional visible service delivery:** we will increase the efficiency of our frontline service delivery corps and unleash wide-reaching programmes aimed at keeping our city clean.
- ✓ **Affordable housing:** in addition to the properties released to the private sector, we will work with housing companies to ensure that our residents have access to affordable and dignified housing opportunities in the inner city.
- ✓ **Crime prevention:** we will bring the state of lawlessness in the inner city to an end by increasing the presence of law enforcement officers, targeting drug dealers and using technology for intelligence-driven crime prevention.



By-law enforcement: we will launch cross-functional and departmental enforcement operations to ensure that landlords and businesses in the inner city comply with the City's by-laws.



Improved traffic management: we will improve the traffic conditions in the inner city to ensure our residents have more time to spend on productive activities.



Infrastructure investment, repairs and maintenance: we will increase the budget available to invest in new infrastructure and upgrade, repair and maintain existing infrastructure in the inner city.



3. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI BY DECLARING CORRUPTION PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE

We will not tolerate the repeat of a situation where billions of rands meant for providing sanitation to our residents being lost to corruption. We will declare corruption public enemy number one and make sure that there are sufficient processes in place to prevent and prosecute corruption and recover stolen monies from the guilty.



Establish independent forensic and investigative

capacity: we will establish an independent unit with forensic and investigative functions to identify and investigate potentially corrupt activities within the City of Ekurhuleni without fear or favour.



Lifestyle audits: all political office bearers, senior officials and officials working in building plan approvals, supply chain management, electricity connections, and other positions where bribes are likely to be offered will be subjected to lifestyle audits.



Protecting whistle-blowers: we will encourage whistle-blowing by providing protection and security to whistle-blowers and reward whistle-blowing that leads to the successful prosecution of the corrupt.



Corruption risk assessments: upon taking office, we will mandate administration-wide corruption risk assessments to identify and fix any processes that provide the opportunity for corruption.



Improved transparency: we will partner with non-governmental organisations and civil society to ensure that there are dedicated independent corruption watchdogs in the City of Ekurhuleni.



Adopting a corruption blacklist: we will ban service providers, employees or individuals convicted of corruption from ever doing business with or being employed by the City of Ekurhuleni.

4. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI BY REBUILDING A COMPETENT, PROFESSIONAL AND ACCOUNTABLE PUBLIC SERVICE

The residents of Ekurhuleni deserve to be served by competent professionals who are held accountable when they fail to serve the residents who pay their salaries. We will implement performance-driven management strategies to ensure that municipal employees deliver services with pride and that good work is rewarded.



Address the high vacancy rate in critical positions: we will immediately address the high vacancy rate in the Economic Development department and other departments to ensure that strategic positions are filled by highly competent professionals.



Skills audits: we will conduct skills audits to identify any officials improperly appointed to their positions and ensure that all officials can fulfil their duties.



Adopt merit-based recruitment practices: we will implement recruitment policies that place merit, competency and experience at the centre of all appointments, especially in management positions. Political patronage and cadre deployment will have no place in the City of Ekurhuleni.



Performance management: we will implement innovative performance management systems that reward service with pride and hold officials who fail to adequately serve residents accountable for their non-performance. Performance management practices will no longer be mere box-ticking exercises.



Comprehensive change management: ActionSA's programme of professionalisation of Ekurhuleni's administration and unrelenting focus on service delivery will require a fundamental change in how things are done. We will implement a comprehensive change management programme to ensure that our programme succeeds.



Accountability: we will improve measures aimed at holding officials accountable for not doing their jobs, such as enforcing performance agreements with specific targets and deliverables at all levels of the administration. We will implement consequence management to remedy poor performance.



Organisational reform: we will identify and remove barriers to organisational efficiencies and streamline the City of Ekurhuleni. We will focus all the efforts of the City on functions that improve service delivery, and cut down on top-heavy structures. Where feasible, we will disband or reintegrate municipal entities into the core administration.



Insource contract workers: we will, where financially feasible, insource workers providing services to the City of Ekurhuleni. Insourcing will focus on workers providing security, cleaning, gardening, catering and laundry services to the City.

5. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI BY IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING

Our young people deserve a safe and clean environment during their education journey. While the City cannot address the education curriculum, we can improve the environment in which our future generations access their schooling.



Targeted service delivery efforts at schools: we will provide additional services like refuse collection, street cleaning, grass cutting and traffic calming near the primary education facilities in Ekurhuleni to ensure that our children have access to a clean and safe learning environment.



Empowering young people to take care of their environment: we will partner with civil society groups to teach our children about the importance of caring for their environment.



Increased operating hours at clinics and libraries: to ensure that our children have increased access to learning opportunities and do not miss school because of illness, we will increase the operating hours at municipal facilities.



Improved police presence near schools: we will set up dedicated EMPD patrol units at schools during school hours to ensure the safety of our children.



Sustainable and affordable transportation options: we will increase access to education opportunities by expanding public transport options for our students so that they can spend more time focusing on learning and get to and from school safely.



Early childhood development centres: we will expand the City's network of ECD centres so that more parents have access to affordable childcare.



Provide bulk infrastructure for new educational facilities: we will ensure that the bulk infrastructure requirements of educational facilities are prioritised so that they can become operational as quickly as possible.

6. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI BY REIGNITING INDUSTRY AND BRINGING JOBS BACK TO THE CITY

ActionSA firmly believes that the private sector is our only hope of creating jobs and improving the economic future of our residents, but that government has gotten in the way of growth. We will relentlessly pursue reform programmes in Ekurhuleni to ensure that our business can grow and create jobs.



Adopt a clear trade and investment strategy: upon taking office, we will prioritise a city-wide plan aimed at removing barriers to growth and identifying strategic projects necessary for businesses to grow.



Infrastructure-oriented budgeting: we will identify critical infrastructure projects that will boost economic growth.

By reducing non-service delivery expenditure, we will make more money available for infrastructure investment and maintenance.



Business process optimisation reform: we will work closely with National Treasury's City Support Programme to ensure that we transform the City's business processes so that necessary permits, building plan approvals and bulk infrastructure connections happen swiftly.



Business process digitalisation: once internal processes have been sufficiently optimised, we will embark on a programme to ensure all municipal services are accessible online.



Dedicated business support unit: we will establish a dedicated business support unit, located in the City Manager's office, that will be staffed with highly qualified and professional business support staff from various departments. This unit will have the capacity to address challenges businesses and investors may experience swiftly, and provide guidance on the City's business-related processes and policies. The services provided by this unit will be fully accessible online.



Opportunity Centres: we will establish City-operated Opportunity Centres across Ekurhuleni to provide assistance to our enterprising SMMEs. These facilities will work closely with other government entities like SARS, the CIPC, SAICA and SEDA and the private sector to provide transformative business support to entrepreneurs and young people looking to empower themselves.



Artisan training and internship: we will reintroduce and expand on City-led artisan training and internship programmes to provide transformative opportunities to residents. We will work in partnership with tertiary education institutions and liaise with the private sector to guarantee job placements upon completion of training.

7. WE WILL FIX EKURHULENI THROUGH CRIME-BUSTING EFFORTS AND BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT

ActionSA will not tolerate the decline of the rule of law in Ekurhuleni. We will use the law enforcement powers given to local government to create a safer Ekurhuleni for our law-abiding citizens. By working with other government agencies, we will hold by-law infringers to account.



Cross-functional by-law enforcement: under our leadership, the City of Ekurhuleni will conduct regular cross-functional law enforcement operations, in cooperation with SAPS, Home Affairs and SARS. We will focus on drug dealers, hijacked buildings, and undocumented foreign nationals to uphold the rule of law.



Capacitating the Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department: we will ensure the brave officials at the EMPD have access to sufficient equipment, advanced training and adequate support systems to ensure that the EMPD can keep the residents of Ekurhuleni safe. We will ensure that the EMPD employs a minimum of one officer per 1,000 residents and work toward a ratio of one officer per 750 residents.



Expand specialised K9 narcotics units: we will address the issue of the illicit narcotics trade in Ekurhuleni by expanding the EMPD's K9 narcotics unit.

**Comprehensive surveillance programmes in crime**

hotspots: we will work with private sector companies and civil organisations to identify crime hotspots and implement surveillance programmes in such areas. These programmes will include enhanced public lighting, CCTV surveillance, increased police presence and community awareness campaigns.



Addressing gender-based violence: we will launch programmes to put the City of Ekurhuleni on the frontline of the battle against GBV. We will conduct education campaigns, provide sensitivity training to law enforcement officers, establish safe houses for abuse victims, and employ social workers at municipal clinics to assist victims.



Municipal courts: we will work toward having a specialised municipal court in each of the City's regions to ensure that prosecution for by-laws happen swiftly.

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