

# Flash Floods - trail of destruction One Rustenburg Fatality



One of the many roads in the North West Province that were closed due to heavy rains. Reported on 23 February 2017: N4 between Swaruggens and Rustenburg has been re-opened.



Sunrise Park



The aftermath of the devastating flash floods in Phokeng.

**Rustenburg & Surrounds** – Disaster struck on Tuesday evening, 21 February 2017 when the tributary of the Elands river that flows through Phokeng, flooded its banks and swept through the community of Phokeng. One person drowned in Lemenong Section (Rustenburg) after a vehicle was swept away in the flood. Two persons reportedly drowned, the second was found a day later, alive, Thapelo Matebesi, municipal spokesperson, confirmed. Enormous trees were pushed over like twigs and an entire section of the road had been lifted up and dropped further downstream as if it weighed nothing. Extensive floods and damages have also been recorded in Tlhabane, Ramochana, Sunrise Park, Paardekraal, Meriting, Boshhoek, Rietvlei and Robega.

### Rescue Operations

Twenty families were rescued Tuesday night with boats due to flooding while 29 families were accommodated at the Old Kanana Clinic after their homes were flooded. Scores of vehicles were also swept away due to flooding of several roads.

The Rustenburg Local Municipality summoned an emergency joint operation team comprising of all relevant stakeholders with an objective to assess the extent of the damages and needs in all 45 Wards. The team is based at the Joint Operation Centre (JOC). The Executive Mayor of the Rustenburg Local Municipality, Cllr Mpho Khunou, visited relatives of the deceased on Wednesday afternoon to pay homage on behalf of the municipality.

### Homes Destroyed

Many families were left with nothing when their homes and all their belongings were swept away. One such a person is Ms Dipou Moloi (59) who lives next to the river in Kgale Section.

"It was a few minutes after nine and I had put the young children to bed and was preparing to go to sleep myself when I heard the strangest noise," Ms Moloi told the *Platinum Weekly* newspaper. "It sounded like waves on the beach or a low hissing noise that grew louder and louder. When I went outside to look, the river had already burst its banks and the water level just kept rising."

Ms Moloi said it was then that she called her two eldest sons (who each live in their own prefab house on the property) to come and help her save her worldly possessions from the ever rising water. As they were emptying the lower cupboards and lifting belongings off the floor as the water was already rushing in from underneath the front door, it became clear to Ms Moloi that their lives were in danger. She decided to grab the young ones and head for higher ground. Tshegofatso and Bachipile Moloi carried their mom and younger siblings

to higher ground while their own houses were swept down river.

The family's car, like so many others had been pushed downriver, the parking bay itself - destroyed. Many other houses and informal rooms along with their contents lay scattered along the riverbed, through what had yesterday still been their neighbours' gardens.

### Food Parcel & Assistance needed

While food parcels were duly distributed to stranded families and blankets to 29 families; the municipality is calling on businesses, NGO's, CBO's, government departments and individuals to donate food parcels, clothes, blankets or any kind of assistance so as to alleviate the plight of the affected families.

MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements in Bokone Bophirima, Galaletsang Gaolaolwe has dispatched a team of officials from the Provincial Disaster Management Centre to assess the extent of the damage caused by the recent rains throughout the province.

According to the departmental Spokesperson, Ben Moloi, the Department of Local Government and Human Settlements stated that areas in Ratlou, Kagisano-Molopo, Greater Taung, Ramotshere Moiloa, Mahikeng, Moses Kotane, Rustenburg, Maquassi Hills and Matlosana local municipalities have been worst affected with most of the roads closed due to flooding.

### USE CAUTION! FLOODS!

MEC Gaolaolwe called on communities to take precautionary measures during this period. "More rain is expected for different parts of the province until the end of the week and everyone must take care. Residents staying along floodlines and river banks must take precautionary measures and ensure that their families are safe during flooding and they should stay away from overflowing streams and rivers", said MEC Gaolaolwe.

Communities are also urged to take the following precautionary measures:

- Do not cross rivers and swollen streams;
- If your car gets stuck in a flood, get out and climb to higher ground;
- Move valuables to safe buildings which are above flood levels;
- Switch off electricity at the supply point;
- Move your animals to a safe place;
- If evacuation is recommended, abandon your home immediately before your way out is cut off by flood water;
- Never drive into water covering the road, the road might have been washed away;
- Be aware of streams and drainage channels known to flood suddenly; and
- Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground before walking through moving water.

For any further reports, updates or enquiries kindly contact the following numbers 014 590 3856, 014 590 3304 or 014 590 3232.

## MOSES KOTANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (NW375)



### PUBLIC NOTICE CALLING FOR INSPECTION OF THE FIRST SUPPLEMENTARY VALUATION ROLL AND LODGING OF OBJECTIONS

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 49(1)(a)(i) read together with Section 78 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act (Act No. 6 of 2004), that the first supplementary valuation roll for the financial years 2016 to 2021 is open for public inspection at the offices of the Moses Kotane Local Municipality as well as on the municipal website [www.moseskotane.gov.za](http://www.moseskotane.gov.za) from **6 March 2017** to **28 April 2017**.

In terms of the Act, any owner of rateable property, or other person who so desires, are invited to lodge an objection with the Municipal Manager in respect of any matter recorded or omitted in the supplementary valuation roll as contemplated in the Act. Any objections must be lodged within the said period above.

Attention is specifically drawn to the fact that in terms of Section 50(2) of the Act an objection must be in relation to a specific individual property and not against the valuation roll as such. The form prescribed for the lodging of any objection is obtainable at the address indicated below or the municipal website [www.moseskotane.gov.za](http://www.moseskotane.gov.za)

The Municipal Manager will assist any person/s who cannot read or write to lodge an objection as contemplated in the Act. For enquiries please phone the Municipality's Legal Advisor, Mr. Stephan Piek, at 014 555 1348 or the Municipal Valuer, Mr. Kholofelo Modiba, at 015 291 5266.

Mr. T.T. Chiloane  
Acting Municipal Manager

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Devastating flash floods in Sunrise Park.



Road swept away, Phokeng, close to the Royal Bafokeng Sports Stadium.