

## DISRUPTIONS BRING THE REGION G IDP MEETING TO A STANDSTILL

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I am disappointed in the behaviour of some unruly community members, who disrupted the IDP meeting last night at the Lenasia Civic Centre in Region G. A group of intoxicated residents were inciting this lawless behaviour to ensure that the meeting comes to a standstill. I have subsequently been informed by a reliable source that they were politically influenced to sabotage last night's meeting.

The IDP public consultation meetings are an important platform for service delivery, it is critical that the community members make inputs to the IDP review and the Budget. The disruption of the presentation by the Executive Mayor, Cllr Herman Mashaba was unacceptable and is condemned on the strongest of terms.

I have also received reports of intimidation of residents on the busses by the unruly community members. It is shocking that people are subjected to this vigilante treatment; this goes against our principles of *Batho Pele* at the City of Johannesburg. Unfortunately the residents who were genuinely interested in the IDP Review and plans the City has for their region were denied this opportunity by lawless groupings who came with the intention to disturb the meeting.

The Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is a process that seeks to solicit service delivery imperatives from residents, then align those plans with the budget and then provide a draft IDP review plan to the residents. It aims to give feedback to residents on issues raised at cluster meetings that took place in October/ November 2017. Most importantly this process seeks to report on projects currently being implemented in the region. Therefore it is disingenuous to collapse a meeting meant to report to residents on the service delivery projects currently underway and those that will be implemented in the near future.

**Councillor Vasco da Gama**

**Speaker of the Johannesburg Council**

**Media Enquiries:**

Lillian Kolisang  
Spokesperson to the Speaker  
Office of the Speaker  
Cell: 071 600 4059  
Tel: 011 407 6993  
Email: [lillianko@joburg.org.za](mailto:lillianko@joburg.org.za)