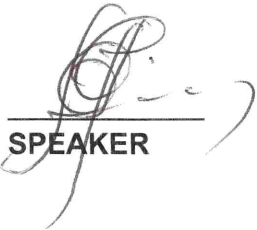




PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Council Resolution: 6.4.27/05/2026	Approved Date: 27/05/2026
Effective Date: 1 July 2026	Review Date: Annually


SPEAKER


DATE

JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2026/2027

1. INTRODUCTION

A Public Participation Strategy is a structured plan to involve stakeholders in decision-making, ensuring their input shapes policies, projects and services. Since the establishment of municipalities in 2000, participatory democracy has always been seen as one of the key factors in influencing how municipalities plan. Communities are invited to strategically identify and prioritize their needs through a consultative process.

The strategy explains the purpose and the need for community participation.

2. PURPOSE & IMPORTANCE

- a) A public participation strategy is designed to encourage and facilitate meaningful engagement between organisations or governments and the public.
- b) Its main goal is to provide stakeholders such as individuals, interest groups and communities the opportunity to influence decisions that affect their lives and communities.
- c) The effective public participation leads to better outcomes, as it incorporates diverse perspectives, values, and local knowledge into the decision-making process, enhancing transparency and trust.
- d) To develop and strengthen the role that communities play in the affairs of the municipality
- e) To promote participatory development within John Taolo Gaetsewe.
- f) To promote a sense of ownership amongst the community members regarding developments within the Municipality through their participation.

3. SCOPE

The strategy applies to all Community Participation Programmes of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality and shall guide all community participation programmes.

4. LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

- ✓ Section 16 of the Municipal Systems Act stipulate that the municipality must contribute to the capacity of local communities to enable it to participate in the affairs of the municipality;
 - ✓ Councilors and staff, to foster community participation; albeit not implying disturbance of daily activity of municipal administration Furthermore, a municipality:
 - ✓ Must make provision for people with special needs such as those who cannot read and write, women and children, and the disabled;
 - ✓ Is encouraged to establish advisory committees on non-councilors;
 - ✓ Must communicate information concerning community participation;
 - ✓ Through its Municipal Manager must give public notice of meetings of municipal councils;
 - ✓ Must conduct council and committee meetings open to public and media, except in special circumstances, which must be sanctioned by a law or by-law.
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- ✓ Forster coordination between the IDP Office, Office of the Speaker, and other departments so that the IDP process is efficient and effective.
 - ✓ The IDP, Budget and SDBIP should be aligned to meet priorities, departments should not work in silos as that will result in affecting planning and implementation.

5. THE NEED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & KEY PRINCIPLES

- ✓ Community participation is important to generate a sense of ownership among different groups in society,
- ✓ Participation can help to build consensus on what outcomes to monitor,
- ✓ Participation fosters a strong feedback process.
- ✓ Participation can provide a lot of relevant background information about the community. This could be crucially important when planning remedial measures and subsequent improvements.
- ✓ To engage a wide range of stakeholders, ensuring diverse voices are heard.

- ✓ Clearly communicate how public input will be used in decision-making.
- ✓ Participation is continuous, not a single event, and should be integrated throughout the lifespan of a project or policy.
- ✓ Inform participants how their input influenced decisions, reinforcing the value of engagement.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT A STRATEGIC LEVEL

- ✓ A stakeholder forum will be established that will comprise of all the relevant stakeholders e.g. Department of Roads and Public Works, Department of Education, Vaal Central Water, Department of Transport, Safety & Liaison, Local Municipalities etc.
- ✓ The Speaker's Office will lead the Community Participation Programme
- ✓ Departments or Units such as the IDP/PMS, Basic Services and Infrastructure, Community Development Services, Communications and others will play a supporting role.

7. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The municipality recognises the participation of all sectors of the society namely;

- ✓ Women,
- ✓ Youth,
- ✓ People with disabilities,
- ✓ Men's Forum,
- ✓ Faith based organisations etc.

8. METHODS OF PARTICIPATION / ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ Electronic and Print Media i.e. radio, Television, website, Newsletters, brochures, pamphlets, posters, suggestion box, social networks & newspapers;
- ✓ Public Notice Boards;
- ✓ Speaker's Forum;
- ✓ Council meets the People;
- ✓ Mayoral Izimbizos;

- ✓ Door-to-door campaigns and
- ✓ Public hearings
- ✓ Digital tools such as social media polls, online surveys, and digital hubs for information and feedback.
- ✓ Face to face engagements like public meetings, workshops, and street surveys to gather direct input
- ✓ Hybrid approaches i.e. combining online and in-person methods to maximise participation and convenience.

9. CONCLUSION

For development to be successful, the municipality needs a multi-sectoral approach where all sectors in the community are involved in determining how they want to be governed. It is a process that is owned by communities and driven by government at a strategic level.

A robust strategy includes monitoring and reviewing engagement activities to ensure effectiveness. Feedback from participants helps refine methods, making future engagement more meaningful.

A public participation strategy is essential for democratic decision-making, transparency, and community trust. By combining diverse engagement methods, clear communication, and continuous feedback, organisations can ensure that public input meaningfully shapes policies, projects, and services, ultimately benefiting both stakeholders and decision-makers.

10. REVIEW

The strategy will be reviewed annually.



SERVICE DELIVERY CHARTER FOR JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



i. The Service Charter Preamble

We, the parties in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality representing Council as the employer: Affirm our commitment to strengthen the role that communities play in the affairs of the municipality and the services we render to them. Since the establishment of municipalities in 2000, participatory democracy has always been seen as one of the key factors in influencing how municipalities plan.

In building a developmental district, the municipality promotes a sense of ownership amongst the community members regarding developments within the Municipality through their participation.

Section 16 of the Municipal Systems Act stipulates that the municipality must contribute to the capacity of local communities to enable it to participate in the affairs of the municipality.

The municipality must also make provision for people with special needs such as those who cannot read and write, women and children, and the disabled. They should also incorporate the diverse interests and cultures of the community in the community development process; and disengage from support of any effort that is likely to adversely affect the disadvantaged members of a community.

This charter will serve as a commitment to the wellbeing of all the people who resides in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District, Public Participation and service delivery as core functions.



JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

ii. Who are we?

The John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality is 27 283km² located in the north of Northern Cape Province, bordering Botswana in the west. It comprises the three (3) local municipalities of Gamagara, Ga-Segonyana and Joe Morolong, and 186 towns and settlements, of which the majority (80%) are villages.

iii. Our clients

Every one who resides in the John Taolo Gaetsewe in the three local municipalities is our client. We serve all the needs of our residents depending on which needs are more urgent but ultimately end up serving the needs of all our communities

iv. Scope of the Charter

- 4.1 The Charter shall apply to the Council as Employer and employees who:
- 4.2 Are employed by Council.

v. Definition of the Service Charter

5.1 This Service Charter is a social contract, commitment and agreement between the Council and stakeholders. It is a written and signed document which sets out the partners' (local municipalities and sector departments) roles and responsibilities to improve performance, enhance and fast track the delivery of services to improve the lives of our people.

5.2 It is a document that enables service beneficiaries to understand what they can expect from the municipality and will form the basis of engagement between government and communities.

vi. The Services We Provide (Internal Departments and Units)

The services provided by the District Municipality include, among others, the following:

- 6.1 Environmental Health;
- 6.2 Disaster Management;



JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

- 6.3 Basic Services and Infrastructure;
- 6.4 Communication of Government Programmes;
- 6.5 Advancement of the interests of women, children, youth, Moral Regeneration and people living with disabilities;
- 6.6 Human Resource Management;
- 3.7 Public Participation Programmes/Community Outreach Programmes;
- 6.8 Development and Planning;
- 6.9 Tourism;
- 6.10 Risk Management;
- 6.11 Internal Auditing;
- 6.12 Budget and Treasury;
- 6.13 Integrated Development Planning;
- 6.14 Information Technology;
- 6.15 Records Management;
- 6.17 Corporate Services;
- 6.18 Municipal Public Accounts Committee

Contact us on:

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No. 4 Federale-Mynbou Street
Kuruman
8460

Postal Address

N/A

Tel: 053 712 8700

Fax: N/A

Email: info@taologaetsewe.gov.za

In case of an emergency or disaster: 053 712 0599
053 712 0457

vii. Implementation of Agreement

This agreement shall come into effect on the date it enjoys majority support and will remain in force unless terminated or amended by agreement.

viii. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute about interpretation or application of this agreement shall be dealt with according to the dispute resolution procedure of the SALGABC.



JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

*This done and signed at _____ on the
_____ day of _____ 2026*

ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

	Name	Signature	Date
Council as employer			

ON BEHALF OF TRADE UNIONS

Trade union	Name	Signature	Date
SAMMU			
IMATU			