

LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
SPEECH OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR
CLR. SEBENZILE NGANGELIZWE
MATJHABENG AIR CARNIVAL, 26 APRIL 2008

Programme Director

MEC for Sport & Culture, Mr. Magashule

Honorable Executive Mayor of Matjhabeng

Representative from the Department of the Premier

Business people present here

All protocol observed

Ladies and Gentlemen

Let me first start by thanking the organizers of this history making event. This activity brings hope to the people of Matjhabeng and the people of Lejweleputswa in general. It also takes place a day before the 27th April which marks the 13th anniversary of our Freedom. The 27th of April will forever remind us that our freedom was not for free, our people (black and white) fought very hard and many died to liberate this country from the tyranny of apartheid. As we celebrate the freedom day it is important to remember that we all have an equal responsibility build a truly non racial, non sexist, democratic and prosperous South Africa.

We all should join hands to ensure that our district becomes a tourism destination of choice, a safe place for all of us and build a sound regional economy.

Today's carnival is a confirmation of our long held view that the Welkom Airport can be utilized better to strengthen our ailing regional economy. It is important to

remember that in the past our economy used to rely solely on mining for its survival. The declining mining activity in the district challenged us to develop and strengthen other sectors of our economy. It challenged us to develop innovative ways of revitalizing our economy.

Key to the strategies we developed was a proposal to develop this facility into a cargo airport. We remain hopeful that this well researched proposal will someday receive the necessary support from both the Provincial and National government.

Programme director,

Let also take this opportunity to wish all the participants good luck, I am certain they will keep all of us entertained. Our eyes will certainly be glued to the sky above us.

Let the games begin.

I thank you.