

## ***Provincial Treasury allocates additional funding for Housing and Provision of Water***

**MBOMBELA:** MEC Refilwe Mtsweni announced additional funding that will see the Mpumalanga Government continues to respond favourably to the housing and water needs of the communities.

Tabling the Second Provincial Adjustment Budget during the ordinary sitting of the Mpumalanga Legislature on Tuesday, 31 March 2015, Acting MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Ms Mtshweni announced that more than R100 thousand has been added/reallocated to the Department of Human Settlements.

The Province received **seventy million rands** (R70 million) from the Human Settlement Development Grant.

In addition, **thirty six million and eight hundred thousand rands** (R36. 8 million), from declared underspending emanating from compensation of employees and other non-committed funds, will be directed towards the water provision support in the various municipalities.

“The availability of additional funds presented an opportunity that could not be missed, especially given the tight fiscal and economic conditions as outlined in the Main Appropriation Speech by MEC Kholwane on 17 March 2015”.

“This adjustments budget augments the **two hundred and seventy three million rands (R273 million)** which was added to the baseline of the Department of Human Settlements in November 2014,” added the MEC. The adjusted allocation to the Department of Human Settlements will now be **one billion, eight hundred and seventy three million rands** (R1.873 billion) for the same period.

The adjustments budget increased the provincial government allocation for the year ended 31 March 2015 from **thirty seven billion and sixty eight million rands** (R37.068 billion) to **thirty seven billion, one hundred and thirty eight million rands** (R37.138 billion).

MEC Mtshweni said the allocation and reprioritisation of the budget is part of the effort to “intervene where possible to ensure that human dignity and basic rights become the hallmark of development in our country”.

The funds that were adjusted became available after the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism had tabled the Adjustments Appropriation Bill, hence the second adjustment budget was tabled.