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16 October 2015

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TO THE EDITOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: ILLEGAL LAND INVASIONS THWART DEVELOPMENTS IN BUSHBUCKRIDGE

Community members have illegally occupied Inyaka 267 KU and Waterval 273 KU that has been earmarked for developments by Bushbuckridge Local Municipality. The municipality in coordination with the Department of Rural Development and Land reform has earmarked the land for a 1.5 billion lemon plantation and production of lemon related products and a water front hotel and related infrastructure at the Inyaka Dam.

Once implemented, the project will create a score of job opportunities for the local community and reduce the unemployment rate which is at 52% as per the 2011 Census. Land invasion without proper approval is not only illegal; it also scuppers earmarked future developments.

The Executive Mayor: Cllr Renias Khumalo is appealing to members of the public to report illegal land invasions to the municipality and to verify the validity of land transactions with the municipal Town Planning and Land Use Management Directorate.

The municipality will work closely with law enforcement agencies to prosecute those who continue to occupy land without permission. A zero tolerance approach will be applied to put an end to this practice.

Regards,

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