



Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 29 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, Act 117 of 1998, that a **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING** of the 2021/2026 term of the Garden Route District Municipality will be held **VIA ZOOM** on **WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2024** at **15:00** to consider the items as set out in the agenda.

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*Kennis geskied hiermee ingevolge Artikel 29 van die Wet op Plaaslike Regering: Munisipale Strukture, 1998, Wet 117 van 1998, dat 'n **SPESIALE RAADSVERGADERING** van die 2021/2026 termyn van die Garden Route Distriksmunisipaliteit gehou sal word **VIA ZOOM** op **WOENSDAG, 15 MEI 2024** om **15:00** ten einde oorweging aan die items soos in die agenda uiteengesit, te skenk.*

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Kukhutshwe isaziso ngokwemiqathango yoMhlathi 29 woRhulumente Basekhaya: Umthetho Wezolawulo loMasipala, 1998, uMthetho 117 wango 1998, **INTLANGANISO EKHETHEKILEYO** yexesha lika 2021/2026 loMasipala Wesithili se Garden Route izakubanjelwa **KU ZOOM, NGOLWESITHATHU, 15 KUCANZIBE 2024** ngentsimbi ye **15:00** ukuqwalasela imiba ebekwe kwi agenda.

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**ALD GR WOLMARANS**  
**SPEAKER**  
**SPEAKER**  
**SOMLOMO**

**MG STRATU**  
Municipal Manager  
*Munisipale Bestuurder*  
Mphathi Masipala

Date: 15 May 2024

# AGENDA

1. OPENING AND WELCOMING / OPENING EN VERWELKOMING / UVULO NOLWAMKELO
2. EVACUATION PROCEDURES / ONTRUIMINGSPROSEDURES / INKQUBO YOKUFUDUSWA
3. SILENT PRAYER (MEDITATION) / STILLE GEBED (MEDITASIE) / UMTHANDAZO OTHULEYO
4. ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS / BYWONING VAN LEDE / AMALUNGU AKHOYO
  - 4.1 COUNCILLORS PRESENT / RAADSLEDE TEENWOORDIG / OOCEBA ABAKHOYO
  - 4.2 COUNCILLORS WITH LEAVE / RAADSLEDE MET VERLOF / OOCEBA ABAKWIKHEFU
  - 4.3 COUNCILLORS WITHOUT LEAVE / RAADSLEDE SONDER VERLOF / OOCEBA ABANGEKHO KWIKHEFU
5. NOTING OF THE PROVISIONS OF SCHEDULE 7 (CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT MUNICIPAL STRUCTURES AMENDMENT ACT, 2021 / KENNISNAME VAN DIE VOORSKRIFTE VAN SKEDULE 7 (GEDRAGSKODE VIR RAADSLEDE) VAN DIE PLAASLIKE REGERING MUNISIPALE AANGEPASTE STRUKTURE WET, 2021 / UQWALASELO LWEMITHETHO-NEMIMISELO YOLUHLU 7 (INDLELA YOKUZIPHATHA KOOCEBA) LOMTHETHO WORHULUMENTE BASEKHAYA WESIMO SOMASIPALA OLUNGISIWEYO WANGO 2021
6. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICIALS / VERKLARING VAN BELANGE DEUR RAADSLEDE EN AMPTENARE / UKUCHAZWA KOMDLA NGOOCEBA KUNYE NAMAGOSA

7	COMMUNICATIONS BY THE SPEAKER / MEDEDELINGS DEUR DIE SPEAKER / UNXIBELELWANO LUKASOMLOMO
8	COMMUNICATIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR / MEDEDELINGS DEUR DIE UITVOERENDE BURGEMEESTER / UNXIBELELWANO LUKA SODOLOPHU
9.	COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER / MEDEDELINGS DEUR DIE MUNISIPALE BESTUURDER / UNXIBELELWANO LOMPHATHI MASIPALA

<b>10.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS / GOEDKEURING VAN NOTULES VAN RAADSVERGADERINGS / UKUPHUNYEZWA KWEMIZUZU YENTLANGANISO YEBHUNGA</b>	
10.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>11.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEETING AND SECTION 79 COMMITTEES (FOR NOTIFICATION) / NOTULES VAN BURGEMEESTERSKOMITEEVERGADERINGS EN ARTIKEL 79 A (VIR KENNISNAME) / IMIZUZU YEKOMITI KASODOLOPHU NEZINYE IKOMITI ZOMHLATHI 79 (ITHATHELWE INGQALELO)</b>	
11.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>12.</b>	<b>STANDING ITEMS / STAANDE ITEMS / IMIBA EMISIWEYO</b>	
12.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION A</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER</b>		
A.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION B</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR / VERSLAE VANAF DIE UITVOERENDE BURGEMEESTER / IMIBA EVELA KUSODOLOPHU</b>		
B.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION C</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER / ITEMS VANAF DIE KANTOOR VAN DIE MUNISIPALE BESTUURDER / IMIBA EVELA KWI OFISI YOMPHATHI MASIPALA</b>		
C.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION D</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT / ITEMS VANAF DIE FINANSIËLE DIENSTE DEPARTEMENT / IMIBA YESEBE LENKONZO ZEMALI</b>		
D.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION E</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT / ITEMS VANAF DIE KORPORATIEWE DIENSTE DEPARTEMENT / IMIBA YESEBE LENKONZO ZOLAWULO</b>		
E.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	

<b>SECTION F</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT / VERSLAE VANAF DIE GEMEENSKAPSDIENSTE DEPARTEMENT / IMIBA YESEBE LENKONZO ZOLUNTU</b>		
F.1	<b>UPDATED REPORT ON THE BUILDING COLLAPSE THAT OCCURRED IN GEORGE ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY 2024 / OPGEDATEERDE VERSLAG OOR DIE GEBOU INEENSTORTING WAT OP 6 MEI 2024 IN GEORGE PLAASGEVIND HET</b> <i>Refer Report from the Acting Executive Manager Community Services (G Otto)</i>	
<b>SECTION G</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE ROADS AND TRANSPORT PLANNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT / ITEMS VANAF DIE PAAIE EN VERVOER BEPLANNINGSDIENSTE DEPARTEMENT / IMIBA YESEBE LENKONZO ZENDLELA KUNYE NEZICWANGCISO KWEZOTHUTHO</b>		
G.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION H</b>		
<b>REPORTS FROM THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT / ITEMS VANAF DIE BEPLANNING EN EKONOMIESE DIENSTE DEPARTEMENT / IMIBA YESEBE LEZICWANGCISO KUNYE NOPHUHLISO LOQOQOSHO</b>		
H.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION I</b>		
<b>NOTICE OF URGENT MOTIONS / KENNISGEWING VAN DRIGENDE MOSIES / ISAZISO SEZIPHAKAMISO</b>		
I.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION J</b>		
<b>NOTICES OF MOTIONS / KENNISGEWING VAN MOSIES / ISAZISO SEZIPHAKAMISO</b>		
J.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
<b>SECTION K</b>		
<b>IN CLOSED SESSION / IN GESLOTE SESSIE / KWI-SASHONI YASEKHUSINI</b>		
K.1	NONE / GEEN / AZIKHO	
	<b>CLOSURE / SLUITING / UQUKUNJELO</b>	

Ald M Booysen  
Ald GR Wolmarans  
Ald G van Niekerk  
Ald P Terblanche  
Ald S De Vries  
Ald CN Lichaba  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba NV Gungubele  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba J Hoogbaard  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba JG Meiring  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba K Malooi  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba B van Noordwyk  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba CP Taute  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba D Acker  
Ald JC Lambaatjeen  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba LSS van Rooyen  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba SM Toto  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba HRT Stroebel  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba NT Seti  
Ald NS Ndayi  
Ald RH Ruiters  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba M Kannemeyer  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba MA Mkonto  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba JJ Cornelius  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba JJ Bavuma (as of  
27 July 2022)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba HD Ruiters (as of 14  
December 2022)  
Cllr / Rdl/Ceba RW Arends (as of 30  
January 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba PE Petros (as of 27  
February 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba R Louw (as of 19  
June 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba F September (as of  
26 July 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba A Oktober (as of  
22 November 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba JC Petersen (as of  
22 November 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba J Fry (as of 22  
November 2023)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba D Gultig (as of 30  
January 2024)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba V Donson (as of 27  
February 2024)  
Cllr / Rdl / Ceba SE September (as  
of 27 February 2024)

**1. UPDATED REPORT ON THE BUILDING COLLAPSE THAT OCCURRED IN GEORGE ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY 2024 / OPGEDATEERDE VERSLAG OOR DIE GEBOU INEENSTORTING WAT OP 6 MEI 2024 IN GEORGE PLAASGEVIND HET**

**REPORT FROM ACTING EXECUTIVE MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES / G OTTO**

**REFERENCE NUMBER:** (10/1/3/4)

**2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the building collapse that occurred at 75 Victoria Street in George on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2024

**3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

Council

**4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report will reflect on actions taken by the GRDM Disaster Management Services with regards to building collapse that occurred on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 in Victoria Street, George.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1) That the GRDM Council takes note of the updated report.
- 5.2) That the GRDM Disaster Management Centre be mandated to coordinate the short as well as long term interventions required to address this incident.
- 5.3) That the Provincial Disaster Management Centre be requested to do a formal post disaster assessment after the incident.

**AANBEVELINGS**

- 5.1) Dat die GRDM Raad kennis neem van hierdie opgedateerde verslag.
- 5.2) Dat die GRDM DMC gemandateer word om the kort sowel as lang termyn intervensies ten opsigte van die aanspreek van hierdie insident te

koördineer;

5.3) Dat die Provinsiale Rambestuur sentrum versoek word om n na-ramp assesering uit te voer in terme van die insident;

## **6.1 Background**

On Monday 6 May at 14:09 a multi-story building under construction at 75 Victoria Street collapsed.

An emergency call for assistance was received at the Emergency Call Centre at 14:14 and both the EMS Rescue as well as George and Garden Route Fire and rescue teams responded to the scene. A forward control point, first responders staging area as well as a triage area were established at the incident scene.

In addition, the George Municipality availed an area in the community hall with staff from Department of Social Development as well as the Department of Correctional Services and the George Municipalities Social Development section to be used as an assembly area for family members. These services also activated their psychosocial support staff.

The construction company Liatel Developments confirmed that at the point of collapse there was a total of seventy-five construction workers in the building. As the incident management continued the headcount fluctuated and is currently estimated at eighty-one construction workers.

The GRDM DMC activated their Multi Agency Command facility to be used as a Joint Operational Command to act as the incident coordination platform for the incident. Initially SAPS, EMS, FPS, DSD, DCS, DoH as well as the George Communications unit joined the GRDM JOC. The JOC structure was also supplemented by representatives from the Department of Labor (DoL) and the Department of Home Affairs (DHA),

Media updates has been provided every three hours by GRDM Communications, George Communications as well as a communications team from the Premiers office to inform the general public of the status quo in terms of current operations.

In addition to the local response capacity assistance were dispatched from Worcester, Breede Valley as well as City of Cape Town with a fully equipped structural collapse cache and two rescue cranes, one medium and one heavy unit. From the 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, Ross Demolition Construction were brought in with heavy demolition equipment to assist with the demolition operations.

As at 13:57 on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May a total of 62 people could be accounted for, and the current triage figures is as follows:

15 - Red  
7 - Yellow  
7 - Green  
33 – Blue

The total estimated number of people still to be rescued is 19 people.

With the assistance of the Contracts Manager of the construction company the GRDM DMC developed a name list of all construction workers that were in the multi-story building during the time of its collapse. We also managed to add photos of most of the construction workers as well as where they were in the building during the time of the collapse. This information will be used not only to identify people rescued but also to guide rescue activities to specific areas in the collapsed building.

On Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of rescue efforts Mr. Gabriel Guambe was rescued at 12:17 after being trapped for 116 hours, his successful rescue was attributed to the ongoing systematic approach implemented by the multi-agency command.



Resources Deployment	06/05	07/05	08/05	09/05	10/05	11/05	12/05	13/05	14/05	15/05
<b>Fire &amp; Rescue</b>										
George	10	34	6	3	16	6	6	5	8	4
Garden Route DM	10	6	14	21	16	7	8	17	16	17
City of Cape Town		10	3	5	-	10	-	-	-	0
Breede Valley		5	13	5	-	1	1	1	1	0
SARZA		5	10	7	4	8	3	-0-	-	0
Western Cape Disaster Management Centre			3	3	3	3	3	-	4	2
National Directive Fire and Rescue				2	4	3	-	-	3	5
POCS				12	-	10	10	-	10	0
Independent				7	3	-	-	-	-	0
Mossel Bay				-	12	-	5	6	6	6
Ross Demolition				-	-	4	8		8	8
								2		0
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>										
Rescue Personnel	5	10	35	15	8	12	9	6	4	4
Ambulance	10	25	15	8	-	2	6	2	2	2
EMS Support			7	5	-	6	4	4	4	4
ER 24				-	-	5	5	5	-	0
Medi-clinic				-	-	3	-	-	-	0
RUWACON				-	-	2	2	-	2	0
FAMSA				-	-	-	1	1	1	0
<b>GRDM DMC</b>	4	5	7	7	6	6	4	7	7	7
<b>Forensic Pathology Services</b>	7	8	3	5	4	4	4	4	7	4
<b>South African Police Services</b>	54	49	45	38	37	60	57	47	33	38
<b>Traffic</b>				4	10	4	2	7	3	3
<b>Law Enforcement</b>		26		15	10	13	14	14	3	0
<b>Department Social Development</b>	10	12	7	10	10	7	14	4	14	4
<b>Department of Correctional Services</b>	5	3	5	6	6	3	3	4	5	5
<b>GRDM Roads</b>			-	-	-	4	4	4	3	3
<b>Department of Labour</b>			-	16	-	3	3	3	8	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>124</b>

### **Focus for the next operational period:**

- Continuation of rescue and recovery actions
- Forensic Pathology Services to fast-track body identification as well their post-mortems to allow for families to get closure a.s.a.p.
- Ensure briefings by the rescue coordinator to the affected family members daily at 12:00 as well as 18h00.
- Assist with investigations done by the Department of Labor as well as the South African Police Services

### **Special word of thanks**

- 1) To the NGO's Love George, Gift of the Givers, Lions, Rotary and alike for their coordination and assistance to help to keep all rescue staff nourished and hydrated. They also assist bereaved families patiently waiting for their loved ones to be rescued.
- 2) The general public for their generous donations and support, you only had to ask and there was always a helping hand.
- 3) SAPS for being always present and not only maintaining a perimeter cordon but also assisting with their rescue technicians and sniffer dogs.

### **Status quo as at 12:45 on Wednesday 15 May 2024**

Since the collapse of the building a total of 34 people have been rescued this included 20 Red, 7 Yellow as well as 7 Green patients. Unfortunately, 5 of the patients that was initially classified as red seized in hospital, two at the George Hospital and three at the Medi Click. At this point in time, we still have twelve people in hospital with two in a critical condition.

Immediately after the building collapsed the person on site indicated to Dr Gratz that there were 69 construction workers on site. Subsequent to this, the contractor indicated that according to their records they had 75 people on site. On Wednesday, after recovering a person from the site that we could not find on the companies' records, we had another engagement with both the contractor as well as the sub-contractors and established that some of the subcontractor's workers details were not included on his list of 75, this then led to the increase in the figure to 85 construction workers on site.

On evaluation of the information provided as well as some video footage directly after the incident, indicates that some of the workers left the site immediately after the incident. In addition, we now also know that most of the workers on site were

foreign nationals and we do have proof that many of them were not documented. Furthermore, this incident occurred directly after lunch, 14:09, and some workers might not have returned to the site. The question then remain how many people are we looking for, 69 or 81?

The last feedback from the integrated team at the MACC was that, out of the 62 people accounted for, a total of 47 have been linked to family. The formal identification process has not been completed but at least a link to families could be established.

The most recent body recovered from the site was at 13:52 yesterday, bringing the total number of accounted individuals to 62. Among them, 33 have sadly passed away. Ten of the deceased are ready for collection by the undertakers, with four of them already collected.

Today 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, at 12:00, Gift of the Givers, Mario, Lions Club, and Food Socks distributed food hampers to the families affected by the tragedy. Additionally, the Department of Social Development (DSD) has pledged to offer ongoing support to these families for a minimum of six months, encompassing financial assistance and psychological aid. To address the trauma experienced by the families, hospitalized individuals, and emergency responders, DSD has assembled a dedicated Professional Team for counseling services. AVBOB has generously offered to cover the funeral expenses for all the deceased individuals.

In conclusion, the collaborative efforts of various organizations and governmental bodies are providing crucial support and resources to the affected families during this difficult time, ensuring both immediate relief and long-term assistance as they navigate through the aftermath of the tragedy.

## **RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002, as amended.

### **6.2 Financial Implications**

Fire and rescue teams as well as Disaster Management staff had to be deployed on a 24/7 basis to aid at rescue activities at the building collapse premises as well as to man the Disaster management Centre and the forward control point.

### **6.3 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications for the GRDM relating to this report.

### **6.5 Staff Implications**

None

### **6.6 Previous / Relevant Council Resolutions**

None

### **6.7 Risk Implications**

There are no potential risk implications for the GRDM relating to this report.