

VOTE: 8 – NFP DEBATE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENT
12 May 2015

HON SPEAKER

HON MEC

HON MEMBERS

Honorable members, an effective housing policy is important for both social and economic reasons. Access to decent quality housing is the tool to fight against poverty and unemployment. A functioning housing market influences, and is influenced by the national economy. Over and above that, job creation through housing construction must be part of government housing strategy.

The quality and size of the housing unit is another area of serious concern to the National Freedom Party. Houses sought to be a shelter should be big or large enough to accommodate a family. A normal family is made of parents, boy and girl children. The prevalence of rape by members of the same family or people living in the same household is partly caused by a number people being forced to stay in small houses where they have no privacy.

Whilst ensuring that people are provided with decent houses, we also need not sacrifice or compromise quality. A house is a lifetime investment. Even the houses that our people are provided with should last them a life time and be passed down from generation to generation. They should not be their tombs; the houses that crack within a few months.

Poverty, unemployment, fragmented policies and corruption are the biggest causes or reasons why the majority people are still homeless. People should be

empowered to build their own houses so that they can cater for their own needs in terms of size. Such an act would serve a dual purpose; whilst providing people with decent houses people would also be given job opportunities which are so scarce nowadays.

To prove the above scenario, the NFP kindly and cordially invites the MEC and this house to go for a site visit and inspection into a place called Canan – Section 3 Madadeni, Ward 20, Newcastle Municipality which is under Amajuba District. Hon members, if you can do that you would see how people are still living under unappealing and unpleasant conditions. Okubi kakhulu izindlu abazinikwa uhulumeni ziyavaveka ziyadabuka ziyavuza zincane zifulelwe ngothayela. Yiloluhlobo lwezindlu engilubiza ngamathuna. Zingawela kubantu noma nini futhi zingenisa amakhaza. People should not be subjected to such conditions.

Okubuhlungu ukuthi uma sibheka ezinye zifulelwe with tiles or slate, basaphila enhluphekweni iningi labo alisebenzi imigwaqo akuhambeki ezinye izinzi azibonwa. Okubuhlungu abazuzanga lutho ngenkathi kuzanywa ukuthuthikiswa kwaleyo ndawo nosonkontileka abashiyangisho amakhono. We are appealing to you Hon MEC to put Canan under Ratification Programme.

Hon Members and MEC, the NFP also invites you to visit a place called Emhlabeni Ward 88 – Umlazi township in Ethekekwini municipality. The situation and circumstances that those people are living under are so traumatic and disgusting. These people for all most +/- 20 years are living in hell; they are without proper houses, water, toilets, roads, playing fields, and most of them don't have electricity. Please do something about their situation.

Ngqongqoshe bayaludinga usizo lwakho ngokubambisana nomasipala wetheku.

Hon Members the diminished resources occasioned by economic policies persuaded by our government has inflamed the current act of xenophobic attacks, where the majority South Africans feel being sidelined and threatened by the influx of immigrants and refugees who have swarmed our borders in search for better opportunities. Our people feel that our African brothers and sisters are given special and preferential treatments when it comes to RDP Houses. And this situation is also aggravated by corruption and the current government housing policy. It is also worth noting that some of the RDP house beneficiaries still don't have their title deeds for those properties. It is to even talked to about this where people are looted poor quality rooms euphemistically described as houses. There is a need to investigate the corruption in the provision of RDP houses. Government officials, especially councilors need to be investigated. It is saddening that people are being deprived of their rightful ownership as citizens of South Africa especially this day and age when we say we are free.

Hon Members, the NFP is deeply concerned about the current on going service delivery protests and the issues of housing is on top of the listed grievances. Something needs to be done; our people are tired of waiting. It is because of this that they have taken to the street. Some of the classical examples are the communities of Kennedy Road, Lamontville, Umlazi, Mayville and other parts of KwaZulu-Natal. Year in and year out people are toy- toying yet they

are continually not being provided with the services they rightfully deserve. These civic protests directly and indirectly affect our economy and education because employees and students are barred from going to work and to their respective schools. And roads and other services become the victim of the day. Honestly people are tired of waiting for the government to deliver.

At last Kennedy Road has become part of your Cabinet Lekgotla Resolution. As the NFP we would to applaud the department for this wonderful move to accommodate them on 2015/2016 and we hope you are going to speed up the process of delivering good quality houses.

We have noticed that the Department has encountered some problems on paying service providers in time as a result this has a negative impact on both the service providers and the government. Such backlogs result in a lot money being paid towards interest on overdue accounts. With regards to service providers, how can they provide the services if they are not being paid on time. We need some kind of a paradigm shift on this practice of paying service providers very late.

The recent reports received during the portfolio committee meeting, are positive and reflect that strides have been made on other programmes of the department. Siyabonga. Imizamo iyabonakala

I, thank you !!

Presented by : Hon S B, Nzuza MPL - NFP