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21 Ernest Oppenheimer Avenue, Bruma, Johannesburg, 2026

Remarks by MMC for Finance in the City of Tshwane, Jacqui Uys, as delivered during the press conference held today, 19 July 2024

ANC Attack on Tshwane Mayor Motivated by Waste Contract

The City of Tshwane has made significant progress over the past year. The City's financial position has improved, and our audit outcomes have been recognized by ratings agencies and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). The municipal council is actively fulfilling its duties, and the municipal public accounts committee is investigating the misspending of public money. Forensic reports, some dating back to 2014 (including the Tribe One music scam), are finally being addressed. The City has appointed a new top management team, fostering a new culture driven by service and performance.

Considerable efforts are underway to ensure that supply chain processes are fair and offer value for money. Later this month, a new vending portal reducing human intervention will be launched, and last month the City cancelled a water tanker tender before award to prevent potential corruption. Public spaces like Menlyn Park are being cleaned up and secured in partnership with businesses and communities. The Rooiwal Waste Water Treatment Plant is being upgraded, and in collaboration with the national government, a package plant project is underway to provide clean water to the people of Hammanskraal.

While Tshwane is not yet perfect, our financial rescue mission is progressing, and we are addressing issues such as unclean public spaces and dark streets. Mayor Cilliers Brink and the mayoral committee have been transparent about these challenges. Solving these problems is at the core of the Multi-Party Coalition's agenda, and we are determined to build a capital city that serves all its residents.

The ANC lacks a legitimate case for a motion of no confidence in Mayor Brink. They offer no compelling alternative. The mess in Joburg and Ekurhuleni is a testament to what the ANC brings to the table. Their offer hinges on collusion with the EFF, whose agenda of looting and self-enrichment surpasses even that of the ANC. Looters who aim to out-loot each other do not form an effective and stable government. The ANC has yet to attempt a motion of no confidence, playing the role of opposition while trying to redeem itself in the eyes of the electorate, who are aware that Tshwane's institutional decay is largely due to ANC interference.

This interference has not been limited to the ANC provincial government's unlawful administration of the City in 2020, during the Covid-19 lockdown. ANC networks, including

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officials and businesses, have continued to benefit at the public's expense, even as the party faces repeated voter rejection.

Earlier this week, I received a call from George Matjila, the regional secretary of the ANC in Tshwane. Matjila, a former MMC in the Mayoral Committee of Kgosietso Ramokhopa, is effectively the ANC leader in the region. Matjila was upset after a new tender was awarded for waste collection in the City, introducing performance requirements for contractors. These requirements include trucks not older than 9 years, tracking devices in trucks, and valid e-Natis documents. Subcontractors must also meet these standards. These new rules led to the replacement of 60% of previous waste removal contractors. Matjila, alleging that officials would benefit from these arrangements, could not provide proof and threatened a motion of no confidence in Mayor Brink on behalf of the ANC.

The ANC's threat, linked to the waste contract, indicates their true motives. This week, efforts to shut down landfill sites and threats to contractor drivers required the deployment of the Public Order Police (POP) unit to restore order. Subcontractors resisting the new rules are the source of the agitation, mirroring Matjila's concerns.

Matjila's involvement in destabilizing Tshwane in 2016, following the ANC's nomination of Thoko Didiza, resulted in chaos and destruction. I reported Matjila's recent call to the South African Police, highlighting improper attempts to manipulate tender processes and demonstrating the ANC's motives in attacking Tshwane's Multi-Party Coalition.

The DA is focused on ensuring value for public money and reliable waste removal services, regardless of who benefits from City tenders. If this upsets the ANC, they must explain themselves to the public. We will continue our work to build a capital city that serves all its residents, undeterred by the ANC's manipulative conduct.

Any political party supporting this motion will aid the ANC in corruption and help undo the progress made in Tshwane.

END