



Honourable Marina van Zyl, MP

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14 February 2025

Councillor Vania Davids
Executive Mayor: Walter Sisulu Local Municipality
Per email

RE: Intervention in ongoing community protest action in Steynsburg

Dear Executive Mayor,

With great concern, I am writing to request your immediate intervention in the ongoing community protests in Steynsburg, which have severely impacted essential services over the past few months. The protests, sparked by allegations of nepotism within the municipal administration, have affected residents, business owners, and tourists alike, further straining the local economy.

The community is outraged by the appointment of a staff member from Aliwal North to a municipal position in Steynsburg, despite the town's high unemployment rate. It is further alleged that the appointee has family connections within the upper ranks of the municipal administration, raising serious concerns about the fairness and transparency of the recruitment process.

As a result of the unrest, municipal offices in Steynsburg have remained closed for a week, leaving critical issues such as power outages unresolved and refuse uncollected for three weeks. Alarming, municipal workers have reportedly been threatened with consequences should they attempt to perform their duties during the protests.

I urge you to immediately meet with the affected community, provide clarity on the alleged nepotism, and take decisive action to restore order and service delivery in Steynsburg.

I kindly await your response,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. van Zyl', written in a cursive style.

Thank you,

Hon. Marina van Zyl, MP