



## ACTIVE UNITED FRONT

SOUTHERN CAPE REGION, WESTERN CAPE

18/06/2021

Dear Honorable Judge Mosineke

### **RE: Active United Front Submission (AUF) - Free and Fair Elections 27 October, 2021**

Elections are important to local communities as they provide time for change, bring new hope, fresh ideas and leadership in councils.

Active United Front (AUF) hereby, wish to tender its submission in support of the 2021 Local Government elections with the following motivation or reasons:

- Preparations for election campaign does not happen only five months before elections day. A lot of work has been done and expenditures incurred. Since IEC pronounced the dates organisations and communities started to prepare.
- Supports IEC, the SA Constitution, local government legislations and municipal long term plans: budget and IDP are based on a five years rule. This brings new life and stability to council.
- The newly elected councilors are by law required to develop a new strategic plan in line with new demands that could include a local strategy for COVID-19. A number of towns/municipalities regularly experience service delivery unrest and there is a need for new leadership/councilors.
- COVID-9 is a NEW NORMAL, there is no certainty that it will disappear in 2024 as some anticipate, new variances are prevalent as it mutate. We, in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> wave witnessed long queues and gatherings of people; pensioners sleeping outside post offices on pension/ grants payout days, funerals, church services and social gatherings and other activities were and still are matter on the day.
- Elections are significant and only comes once in five years. It is a one day occurrence. The only solution is better planning and monitoring to minimize congestion and for prevention of covid-19.
- Whilst writing this letter many municipalities are already unstable and unable to provide services due to poor leadership. Elections are the best mechanism to quell the council battles for a better perspective.
- IEC confirmed that it is prepared and ready for Elections. National Government must develop a proper plan for the day and avail resources and Human capital to manage Covid-19 regulations and compliance.
- During this 5 years period there are good municipal leaders who passed on that needs to be replaced by equal committed leaders. Communities cannot be denied this opportunity.

- The New National Electoral Act is not implemented yet and its impact is unknown to the local communities as it is unknown at Province and National Levels. To wait for the implementation of this new act might pose a serious risk to local communities especially during Covid 19 years. Consistency and continuation of what is working well for betterment of people's lives must be fully supported especially during the Covid 19 days.

MP Lobese

Contact: 083 843 7097