



Dear residents of Johannesburg,

There has been a significant milestone in our collective journey to rebuild and renew our City. I attended the Metro Trading Services Reforms Engagement Session with other Metro Mayors on 29 September 2025, where I presented Johannesburg's Metro Trading Services Reform Programme. This programme is at the heart of our efforts to secure reliable, affordable, and sustainable services in water, energy, sanitation, and waste management.

We all know the challenges. Our City has inherited years of underinvestment and infrastructure that has aged without proper maintenance. Our utilities, City Power, Johannesburg Water, and Pikitup, have often struggled due to outdated systems, unclear accountability, and limited financial independence. These challenges have led to service breakdowns, long delays, and frustration for many residents.

But Johannesburg is not standing still. Over the past year, we have implemented a bold plan to transform the way our utilities operate. We developed comprehensive turnaround strategies for City Power and Johannesburg Water. We finalised a 10-year investment plan to guide the future. We established a dedicated reform team to monitor delivery and hold leadership accountable. We are currently piloting new financial systems to ensure the money you pay for water, electricity, and waste is used transparently and reinvested directly into those services.

What does this mean for you as a resident? It means we are working towards more reliable services, with fewer interruptions and faster response times. Our utilities will be managed with greater transparency and improved planning. New reporting systems will show precisely how funds are being used. To support this transformation, we are finalising concessional loan arrangements with international partners such as the [International Finance Corporation](#) and German's state-owned

development bank, KfW, which will enable us to modernise our infrastructure while maintaining the City's financial stability.

As we look to the 2025/26 financial year, our focus will be on bringing these reforms fully to life. We are implementing new management contracts and delegated structures for our entities, ensuring that leadership is held accountable for results. We are strengthening project delivery and building the capacity to manage change effectively.

Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana said during the session: "We are in a challenging era as a country with a stagnant economy and increasing unemployment. Of concern is that this is affecting our fiscal position and our ability to raise sufficient revenue to cover the growing social needs in education and [health](#), among others."

This journey is not easy, and I will not pretend that the turnaround will happen overnight. But I want you to know that change is happening. With accountability, transparency, and long-term investment, Johannesburg is moving forward. We are laying the foundation for a City that delivers better services, restores trust, and becomes once again a world-class African city at work.

Until next time,

Johannesburg Executive Mayor Councillor Sello Dada Morero