

The Herald

air your views


herald letters @arena.africa

Stadium’s R5m headache as Chippa United deal stalls



Ibrahim Bance and Justice Figareido in action during a Chippa United training session at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium Picture: WERNER HILLS

● Mayibuye’s Zumani calls for intervention over loss of two lucrative PSL fixtures

Nomazima Nkosi

Allegations that poor planning at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium cost the city more than R5m in lost soccer fixtures have been escalated to the national government, as the municipality struggles to finalise a new multimillion-rand agreement with Chippa United.

Mayibuye Civic Movement leader Tukela Zumani has called for intervention over the loss of two high-profile Premier Soccer League fixtures, accusing those responsible for managing the stadium of failing to protect one of the city’s most valuable sporting assets.

The controversy comes as the municipality’s proposed anchor tenant agreement with Chippa United remains in limbo, with councillors still awaiting a legal opinion before the deal can be approved.

The uncertainty has also raised concerns about the financial sustainability of the stadium and the risk of the facility falling victim to vandalism.

In August, Chippa United were forced to play their home league fixture against Orlando Pirates away from Gqeberha, while their September encounter against



The Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium is at risk of being underused

Mamelodi Sundowns was moved to KuGompo City.

Both fixtures were moved because the stadium’s newly grown pitch was not ready.

In a letter to co-operative governance and traditional affairs minister Velenkosini Hlabisa on October 5, Zumani questioned how two major fixtures could have been lost through what he described as failures in planning, competence and oversight.

He said the Mandela Bay Development Agency’s acting chief executive, Pierre Voges, had acknowledged that the stadium’s playing surface was not ready when questioned about the match losses.

“That statement confirms the central concern raised in the original letter: the loss of these games was not unavoidable, but resulted from a failure of planning, competence, risk management and oversight around the stadium

pitch. Yet, despite this admission, no proper report, explanation, accountability process or consequence-management plan has been provided.”

Zumani also questioned whether those responsible for managing the stadium possessed the necessary qualifications and experience, arguing that the loss of the fixtures could not simply be dismissed as an isolated technical failure.

He said failures in management and institutional oversight had potentially cost the city revenue, economic activity and credibility.

“Nelson Mandela Bay was privileged to receive a world-class stadium asset through the 2010 Fifa Soccer World Cup.

“That asset was intended to serve sport, tourism, economic development and civic pride.”

He argued that the failure

to secure major fixtures was not merely an operational issue but one involving public finances, economic development and governance.

The controversy has placed renewed focus on the municipality’s failure to conclude a fresh agreement with Chippa United.

During an August council meeting, councillors deferred a proposal to approve a R6m annual sponsorship for the club over three years.

Under the proposed arrangement, the municipality would no longer pay the R7m annual relocation fee included in its previous agreement with the club.

However, councillors demanded a legal opinion before approving the deal, citing concerns about new National Treasury guidelines governing municipal sponsorships.

The report before council warned that without an anchor tenant, the stadium would struggle to recover some of its operating costs, widening the gap between expenditure and revenue generated from league fixtures.

Yesterday, sport, recreation, arts and culture political head Sinebhongo Kwatsha confirmed that a revised report had been prepared for council consideration.

However, the matter remains unresolved because no council meetings have been scheduled.

“The item is requesting a council resolution.

“Therefore, let’s wait for a council to sit so that it can be tabled and then we can enter into agreement with the Chippa.

“We can’t make payments without council resolution.”

Asked whether the legal opinion requested by councillors in August had been obtained, Kwatsha said she was still awaiting feedback from acting city manager Lonwabo Ngqoco.

“Last time I spoke to him, he said he was working on it.”

The MBDA has yet to provide a substantive response to the allegations surrounding the lost fixtures and stadium management.

Spokesperson Nicole Klokow said the agency was reviewing the matters raised.

“Due to the seriousness of the issues that are raised in your query, management is reviewing all the reports and performing its due diligence.

“It is not possible to say when we will be in a position to respond conclusively.

“We therefore ask that you give us time to conclude this process.”

Council moves to end acting municipal manager’s contract

Siphokazi Mnyobe

The Knysna council has resolved to end acting municipal manager Boy Manqoba Ngubo’s contract by mutual agreement and has appointed Richard Martin to the position for three months.

The decision was taken on October 13, the same day Ngubo and two co-accused were granted bail in a criminal case linked to a municipal security contract.

“Council, at its meeting of October 13, resolved that the contractual relationship with Ngubo be terminated by mutual agreement, subject to the finalisation of the necessary

arrangements,” municipal spokesperson Christopher Bezuidenhout said.

Martin’s appointment follows an earlier 10-day interim appointment on October 2.

He is the strategic services and integrated human settlements director.

“Martin has been appointed as acting municipal manager for a period of three months to ensure continuity in municipal administration and operations,” Bezuidenhout said.

The municipality did not specify the start and end dates of Martin’s latest term or disclose further details of the proposed termination of

Ngubo’s contract.

“As this is a confidential employment-related matter, the municipality is unable to provide further comment,” Bezuidenhout said.

Ngubo’s tenure had been the subject of a dispute between the council and Western Cape local government MEC Anton Bredell.

On April 30, the council resolved to appoint Ngubo for three months from May 6, or until the matter involving suspended municipal manager Lulamile Mapholoba was resolved.

The dispute arose when the council sought to extend his appointment beyond the

initial three months.

On July 14, the council approved an extension, subject to Bredell’s concurrence.

Former mayor Thando Matika subsequently extended Ngubo’s appointment on August 7.

Bredell objected, saying the extension lacked the required provincial concurrence and was unlawful.

He also raised concerns about serious allegations and findings from an investigation into Ngubo’s previous tenure at the Bitou municipality, as well as an ongoing Hawks investigation.

Ngubo challenged Bredell’s decision in the Western

Cape High Court.

The court struck his urgent application from the roll with costs after finding it did not warrant urgent consideration.

The ruling did not determine the merits of his challenge.

Ngubo is also one of three accused facing allegations of corruption, extortion and money laundering linked to a Knysna municipal security contract.

His co-accused are Matika and former acting chief financial officer Busisiwe Lubelwana. They were granted bail of R20,000 each on October 13. The case was postponed to December 2.

FOR SALE

Large Mechanical High-Density Mobile Shelving System / Bulk Filer (Heavy-Duty Multi-Bay Unit)

Good Condition



Description:
Maximize your floor space with this heavy-duty **Mechanical Mobile Shelving System** (Bulk Filer). This high-capacity commercial storage unit is perfect for large corporate archives, medical records, financial institutions, libraries, or parts warehouses looking to double their storage space within the same footprint.

Equipped with premium rotary mechanical hand-wheels, the bays glide with minimal physical effort along low-profile floor tracks. The system compresses tightly into a solid block.

- **Type:** Mechanical hand-wheel driven mobile bulk filing system
- **Configuration:** Multi-bay double-sided unit with massive storage capacity
- **Shelving & Interiors:** Features 6 levels of extra-deep, highly adjustable shelving per bay—built to withstand heavy document archive boxes or flat filing.
- **Operation:** Smooth-gliding mechanical steering wheels to open and close individual bays while working in an aisle.
- **Condition:** Used, in good working order. Outer and inner panels are structurally solid, and the drive chains/tracks roll smoothly. Typical light surface marks from standard archival use.
- **Color:** Light Grey finish with clean black steering assemblies.

Note: Buyer is responsible for the dismantling, collection, and transport from our premises. Professional breakdown and re-installation are highly recommended due to the heavy-duty rail infrastructure.

Selling price per unit: R21 000,00 Negotiable

Contact: Chris van Heerden at 083 708 2754 on behalf of Herald newspaper.

Port St Johns voters have mixed feelings over inclusion of ANC candidates on ballot

Ziyanda Zweni

The Constitutional Court ruling allowing ANC councillor candidates to contest the November 4 local government elections has drawn mixed reactions in Port St Johns, one of four Eastern Cape municipalities affected by the party’s failure to submit its candidates’ names to the IEC.

While some residents welcomed the decision, others said the ANC had failed to deliver on its promises and should make way for another party to govern.

The ruling, handed down by justice Rammaka Mathopa yesterday, ordered the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) to include the excluded candidates in the election lists.

The other affected municipalities are Ingquza Hill, Walter Sisulu and Sundays River Valley.

Outside the Port St Johns municipal offices, ANC members dressed in party regalia celebrated the judgment.

But resident Mbulelo Ngcwembe said the ANC had failed residents despite governing the municipality with a majority.

He cited the lack of development along the Wild Coast and incomplete road construction projects among the party’s shortcomings.

“It’s only right that another is given a chance to rule because the ANC has been leading and has not done well so far,” Ngcwembe said.

However, first-time voter Zimbini

Tshozi, 20, from Butulo village, said she was disappointed when the ANC candidates were excluded.

“Most people in my village and at home have been voting for the ANC and I have not heard bad things about it.

“I want to vote for it because I believe that it can change our lives and create jobs.”

Political analysts offered differing views on the implications of the ruling, with some welcoming its protection of electoral rights and others questioning what it means for the IEC’s rules and deadlines.

Dr Nkosikhumbule Nyembezi described the judgment as a welcome affirmation of citizens’ rights.

He said the inclusion of the candidates could increase political competition and voter turnout, reduce political tensions and voter apathy, and strengthen the integrity of the elections.

Nyembezi said the case also offered lessons as SA increasingly used technology in elections, arguing that authorities needed a flexible approach.

Dr Xolisile Ngumbela said the court had prioritised electoral participation and voters’ rights rather than becoming entangled in the ANC’s internal disputes.

He said the judgment reinforced the principle that internal party conflicts should not unfairly prevent citizens from participating in elections. — *The Dispatch*



MAKANA
MUNICIPALITY | EASTERN CAPE
... a great place to be



200 YEARS
reflect and imagine
...the making of a great place to be

BID NOTICE

The Makana Local Municipality invites suitable service providers to provide the following services.

Tender Name	Tender Number	Closing Date & Time	Compulsory Briefing / Site Inspection
Panel of Professional and Consulting Engineering Services for Period of Three (3) years	MLM/2026-27/INFRA/004	17 November 2026 @ 12H00 PM	N/A
The Rehabilitation of High Street, African Street, Cawood Street and Knight Street in Makhandla, Makana Local Municipality	MLM/2026-27/INFRA/005	17 November 2026 @ 12H00 PM	27 October 2026 Venue: Makana Local Municipality, City Hall Time: 11:00 AM
Supply and Delivery of Medium Voltage Testing Machinery	MLM/2026-27/INFRA/006	30 October 2026 @ 12H00 PM	N/A

Bidders are required to submit the following documents:

- Founding Statement (CK / Company Registration Certificate) or certified copy, if a sole proprietor provide affidavit confirming ownership.
- Valid SARS Tax status report Issued with a Pin.
- Completed and signed MBD 1, MBD 4, MBD 5, MBD 6.1, MBD 7.1, MBD 7.2, MBD 8 & MBD 9, Failure to submit all the required documents will result in disqualification.
- An electronic copy of the completed tender document with returnable documents MUST be submitted with tender submission saved in a flash drive. Failure to submit AN ORIGINAL HARD COPY AND A COPY ON USB will deem the bid non-responsive
- Certified copies of the Directors/Owners/Partners' Identity documents.
- Copy of the Statement of Municipal Account reflecting nil or less than 90 days arrears or Lease Agreement signed by both parties (both lessor and the lease), if expired, proof of extension of the lease must be attached and returned with the document. If an arrangement has been made to pay the arrear municipal account, then proof of such an arrangement must be attached. If lease agreement is submitted, proof from the lessor, with municipal account reflecting no arrears for more than 90 days.

Failure to submit will result in disqualification.

- o Bidders must be registered on the Central Supplier Database (CSD). Valid Proof of registration (CSD Registration report) must be submitted.
- o **NB: Failure to submit all the above required information will result in disqualification of the bidder.**
- o Tenders which are late, incomplete, unsigned, or submitted by fax or electronically, will not be accepted.
- o Documents must be filled with black ink.
- o **NB: For JV and partnerships** Each Director must complete and sign the separate MBDS, each JV/Partner must submit CSD; ID and JV/Partnership agreement to be submitted. **Failure to do so will result in disqualification.**
- o For MLM/2026-27/INFRA/005 you are required to submit CIDB Grading 7CE or Higher
- o Prices must be valid for a period of 90 days from the closure date of the tender.
- o Makana Supply Chain Management Policy, The Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA) No.5 of 2000 together with the Preferential Procurement Policy Regulations of 2022 will apply.
- o **Received Bids will be subjected to the following evaluation criteria:**
- **Stage 1** - Evaluation in terms of the applicable functionality criteria
- **Stage 2** - Evaluation in terms of the points for price and points for the specific goals per PPPFA Regulations of 2022 i.e., 80/20
- A bidder that scores less than 70% in respect of “functionality” will be regarded as submitting a non-responsive bid and will be disqualified and will not be evaluated further for price and specific goals. Only bidders who score 70% or more will be evaluated for price and specific goals.
- Specific goals will be utilized where 10 points will be allocated to 100% black owned companies, 5 points to 50% black youth owned companies and 5 points to locally based businesses. NB: A certified proof of business address within the Makana Local Municipality Jurisdiction must be attached for Locally based businesses. Bidders who fail to attach such proof will forfeit the allocated points.

PLEASE REFER TO THE RELEVANT TENDER DOCUMENT FOR THE DETAILED FUNCTIONALITY CRITERIA AND FURTHER BID CONDITIONS.

- Bids must only be submitted to the bid documentation provided by the municipality.
- A one-envelope system will be followed.

BID DOCUMENTS:

All Bid documents will be available at cost
(MLM/2026-27/INFRA/004, MLM/2026-27/INFRA/005)- R1,772.00,
(MLM/2026-27/INFRA/006) – R1,002.00

Completed bidding documents in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with tender number and tender name of the applicable project must be deposited in the TENDER BOX situated at Makana Local Municipality: Finance Department at 92 High Street Makhandla not later than the above indicated closing dates.

Makana Local Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest bid or any bid and reserves the right to accept the whole or part of the bid.

All Technical Enquiries are to be submitted to **Project Manager: Mr. L Dingani ldingani@makana.gov.za (Panel of Professional and Consulting Engineering Services for Period of Three (3) years) MLM/2026-27/INFRA/004**

Available date of the document – 20 October 2026

All Technical Enquiries are to be submitted to **Project Manager: Ms. G Mfeti gmfeti@makana.gov.za (The Rehabilitation of High Street, African Street, Cawood Street and Knight Street in Makhandla, Makana Local Municipality MLM/2026-27/INFRA/005.**

All Technical Enquiries are to be submitted to **Project Manager: Mr. V Silinga vsilinga@makana.gov.za (Supply and Delivery of Medium Voltage Testing Machinery) MLM/2026-27/INFRA/006.**

Available date of the document – 20 October 2026

All SCM queries are to be directed to Mr V Skeyi Tel: 046 603 6222 email: vskeyi@makana.gov.za

- Mr. P. M. KATE MUNICIPAL MANAGER -