



MANTSOPA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

MANTSOPA STATE OF READINESS TO CURB COVID-19 SPREAD

MARCH 2020

1. Introduction

Mantsopa Local Municipality is composed of five (5) towns, namely Ladybrand, Excelsior, Hobhouse, Tweespruit and Thaba Patchoa with a population of approximately 56 000. It forms part of the Eastern Free State and falls within the Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipal area. The municipality borders the Kingdom of Lesotho in the east, Mangaung Local Municipality to the west, and Masilonyana and Setsoto to the North.

The Municipality offers the following essential services in terms of its functions; water and sanitation, electricity, waste management services, cemeteries, traffic and security, fire and disaster management. Upon this indication, the following measures will be undertaken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic presidential declaration.

- Every employee coming into the municipal premises are encouraged to wash their hands, using the inside ablution facilities, with soap thoroughly.
- Everyone entering the main doors of every municipal building will be sanitized.
- Employees must ensure that all surfaces are disinfected regularly.
- Security guards will be situated at the gates of all Municipal premises to control access.

General public

- Community members in need of assistance should not enter service offices all at once, a queue will be formed outside and one person at a time will enter the office for assistance.
- There will be monitoring and control of outside queues indicated by (X) signs on the ground that are 2 meters apart.

2. Provision of water and sanitation

2.1 Water

2.1.1 Areas with running water (Ladybrand)

- Ladybrand town
- Mauersnek
- Platberg
- Manyatseng
- Municipal farms

Challenges: (i). the plant is not performing optimally due to the burnt cable, (ii). The municipality is currently applying water restrictions from 9 pm to 4 am, (iii). The standby pump station has two (2) lines that deliver water to town reservoirs and these are leaking

Risk: the burnt pump has more capacity than the two others that are currently in usage. As a result, there could be a shortage of water supply in the foreseeable future, (ii) there is no running water between 9 pm to 9 am, (iii). Inability to augment water supply due to leakages

Intervention required: assistance to the province to urgent call upon Centlec to speed up the process, (ii) the municipality requires the province to assist with the upgrading of Cathcart dam after lockdown (R10 000 000), (iii). One (1) water tanker needed

2.1.1.2 Areas without water

- Extension 10
- Parliamenteng
- Marikana
- High lying areas of Thabong
- High lying areas of Mauersnek
- Extension 15 Platberg

Challenges: (i) there is no water network in Extension 10, Parliamenteng, Marikana, and Extension 15 Platberg. In two high lying areas of Thabong and Mauersnek respectively do not receive enough water supply due to low water pressure

Risk: no water supply, (ii) no areas to wash hands

Intervention required: 12 Jojo tanks required

2.1.1.3 Areas without water (rural areas)

- Kopfontein
- Komiespoort 1 & 2
- Marseilles
- Morris Farm

Challenges: no water network connection (in

Risk: no areas to wash hands

Intervention: one (1) water tanker needed, x2 Jojo tanks for Marseilles

2.1.2 Areas with running water (Tweespruit)

- Boroa
- Dawisville

- Town

Challenges: (i). the municipality is applying water restrictions from 9 am to 4 pm, and 9pm to 4 am, (ii) insufficient supply of raw water

Risk: the water supply is not available 24 hours (ii) none compliance with the principle of washing hands regularly

Intervention required: the department of water affairs to engage Lovedale dam owners to supply water to Tweespruit waterworks like they used to do in the past

2.1.2.2 Areas without water

- None

2.2.2.3 Areas without water (rural areas)

- Phahameng
- Lechabile 2
- Asunta

Challenges:

Risk: no water available for 24 hours (ii) none compliance with the principle of washing hands 24 hours

Intervention required: Jojo tanks required. Phahameng x2, Lechabile x3, Hutu x2, and Asunta 1

2.1.3 Areas with running water (Excelsior)

- Town
- Mahlatswetsa

Challenges: application of water restrictions, (ii) irregular supply of water from Bloem Water

Risks: (i) the water supply is not available 24 hours, (ii) none compliance with the principle of washing hands regularly

Intervention required: Cogta to assist the municipality to pay Bloem Water arrears amounting to R2 000 000

2.1.3.1 Areas without water

- Koma Village

Challenges: no regular supply of water due to low pressure

Risk: community might not be able to comply with the principle of washing hands regularly

Intervention required: sustainable water supply from Bloem Water

2.1.3.2 Areas without water (rural areas)

- Assisi

Challenges: lack of water supply

Risk: community might not be able to comply with the principle of washing hands regularly

Intervention required: drilling of boreholes and water tanker

2.1.4 Areas with running water (Thaba-Patchoa)

- Thaba-Patchoa

Challenges: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

2.1.4.1 Areas without water

- 7de Laan

Challenges: 20% of the shortage of water supply in high lying areas

Risk: (i) no water available for 24 hours (ii) none compliance with the principle of washing hands regularly

Intervention required: repair the pump water that supplies water to the elevated tank

2.1.5 Areas with running water (Hobhouse)

- Town
- Dipelaneng
- Matlaseng

Challenge: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

2.1.2.1 Areas without water

- None

2.2 Sanitation

2.2.1.1 Areas with sanitation (Ladybrand)

- Ladybrand town
- Mauersnek
- Platberg
- Manyatseng

Challenges: sewer mainline blockages

Risk: environmental pollution and exposing the community to a health hazard

Intervention required: procurement of industrial high-pressure sewer jet with its water tank

2.2.1.2 Areas without sanitation (Informal Settlements)

- Municipal farm (VIP toilets)
- Extension 10
- Extension 15 Platberg
- Paliamenteng
- Marikana

Challenges: (i) maintenance of VIP toilets (ii) Marikana, Extension 10, Extension 15 Platberg, Paliamenteng, and Marikana are informal settlements, (iii) no ablution facilities

Risk: health hazard

Intervention: Cleaning of VIP toilets (ii) assist with the provision of 40 temporary mobile toilets to informal settlements

2.2.1.3 Sanitation in Rural areas

- Kopfontein
- Komiespoort 1 & 2
- Marseilles
- Morris Farm

Challenges: insufficient VIP toilets

Risk: health hazard

Intervention required: assist with the erection of 10 VIP toilets

2.2.2 Areas with sanitation (Tweespruit)

- Boroa
- Dawisville
- Town
- Informal settlement (none)

Challenges: sewer blockages and spillages

Risk: community exposed to a health hazard

Intervention required: procurement of industrial high-pressure sewer jet with its water tank

2.2.2.1 Rural areas without sanitation

- Phahameng
- Lechabile 2
- Asunta

Challenges: insufficient VIP toilets

Risk: community exposed to the health hazard and environmental pollution

Intervention required: assist with the erection of 10 VIP toilets

2.2.3 Areas with sanitation (Thaba Patchoa and 7de Laan)

- Thaba Patchoa
- 7de Laan
- Informal settlement (none)

Challenge: sewer blockages and spillages

Risk: community exposed to the health hazard and environmental pollution

Intervention required: industrial high-pressure sewer jet from Tweespruit to assist

2.2.4. Areas with Sanitation (Excelsior)

- Town
- Mahlatswetsa
- Informal settlement (none)

Challenges: sewer blockage and spillages

Risk: community exposed to the health hazard and environmental pollution

Intervention required: industrial high-pressure sewer jet from tweespruit to assist

2.2.5 Areas with sanitation (Hobhouse)

- Town
- Mahlatswetsa
- Informal settlement (none)

Challenges: sewer blockages and spillages

Risk: community exposed to the health hazard and environmental pollution

Intervention required: industrial high-pressure sewer jet from Ladybrand to assist

3. Waste management cleaning and sanitisation

3.1 Cleansing

Town	Weekday	Area	Team/ Resource	Collection Start Time: Seasonal
Ladybrand NB: Town: Business premises are attended twice a week and	Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town: West side of Joubert Street households• CBD roadside• Town: East side of Joubert Street households• Town: CBD roadside	Compactor Truck	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00

residential once a week.	Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platberg and Maursnerk households • Extension 9 Households • Town: Business Premises and Correctional Services • Town: CBD roadside 	Compactor Truck	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vukazenzele and Home 2000 households • Loss MyCherry and Flamingo households • Old Platberg households • Town: CBD roadside 	Compactor Truck	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thusanong and Masakeng households • Lusaka households • Town: CBD roadside 	Compactor Truck	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metapelong and New Platberg households • Mandela Park households • Town: CBD roadside 	Compactor Truck	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
			Town: Business Premises	

	Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mekokong and Millenium households • Town: CBD roadside/ Business Premises 	Compactor Truck	12:00 PM
	Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thabong (corner left section) households • Town: CBD roadside/ Business Premises 	Compactor Truck	12:00 PM
Refuse Skips Collection (Ladybrand, Manyatseng, Maursnek)	Weekly	<p><u>Business hired</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saverite (1) 2. Spar (1) 3. Cambridge (1) 4. Masoleng (2) 5. Seniorita hospital (1) 6. Thompsons (1) 7. Landrover (1) 8. Taung foods (1) 9. Little rock (1) 10. Cash build (1) <p><u>Schools hired</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ladybrand high (1) 2. Ladybrand academy (1) <p><u>Hired skips and illegal dumping</u></p> <p>No specific day for special hire and skips are collected once weekly for illegal dumping.</p>	Skip loader Tractor	

Hobhouse	Monday	Business Premises	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Wednesday	Indalo Yethu- Portable skips and Refuse Bags	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Friday	Baby pampers	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
Thaba Patchoa	Friday	Thaba Patchoa as a whole	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
Tweespruit	Thursday	Boroa: Domestic waste/refuse	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Friday	Town and Dawies: Domestic refuse	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
Excelsior	Monday	Mahlatswetsa and Koma Village	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00
	Tuesday	Town and Business Sites	Tractor with trailer	Summer: 06:00 Winter: 07:00

On the collection day, residents should put their well-wrapped refuse on the curb by 6 a.m. but not before 7 p.m. the night before. The collection takes place from 06:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. To help prevent polluting our communities, please bag or wrap all loose refuse material before you place it in your trash container.

- Individual bags and containers must not weigh more than 20 kg each.
- Keep your waste separate from your neighbours
- Clear the way for collection trucks for easy access

- Please consider separating your waste and earn money by taking it to our waste buyback center

Challenges

- Waste management infrastructure is aging and no maintenance resulting in frequent breakdowns (no maintenance plans for assets):
 - **Tweespruit and Thaba Patchoa** – waste collection vehicle has been broken down for more than six months (compactor truck from Ladybrand on weekends)
 - **Hobhouse** - waste collection vehicle has been broken down for more than nine months (compactor truck from Ladybrand on weekends)
 - **Excelsior** - waste collection vehicle has been broken down for more than a year (compactor truck from Ladybrand on weekends)

Risk: none collection of refuse will lead to increased illegal dumping sites and environmental pollution

Intervention: need to be assisted with 1 skip loader, 2 compactor trucks, and 2 tipper trucks

3.2 Medical waste

- No disposal of industrial, hazardous or health care risk waste will be authorised within the restriction of Mantsopa. This type of waste must be taken outside of Mantsopa to the Bloemfontein disposal facility.
- Any handler or transporter of industrial, hazardous or health care risk waste must comply with NEMA regulations with regards to the classification of waste and level of care that need to be observed.
- Any person found to have disposed of industrial, hazardous or health care risk waste at an unauthorised area or within Mantsopa Local Municipality will be penalised according to Waste Management Bylaws of the Municipality and such a person would have committed the criminal offense as per the Act.

Challenges: lack of access control at the landfill site, (ii) lack of enforcement of Municipal bylaws

Risk: dumping of medical waste at municipal landfill sites

Intervention required: all municipal landfill sites to be corded for access control in Ladybrand, Hobhouse, Excelsior, and Tweespruit

3.3 Sanitisation

- All municipal frontline personnel were provided with sanitisers, gloves, and masks on the 17 March 2020
- All municipal employees were provided with gloves and masks on the 24 March 2020
- All municipal essential services vehicle drivers were also provided with sanitisers 26 March 2020
- All municipal entrances were by all in sundry entering and leaving were sanitised.

3.3.1 Emergency procurement

- Masks (quantity 1000)
- Sanitisers (quantity 25L x10)
- Sanitisers (quantity 500ml x25)
- Gloves (quantity 1000pairs)

Total cost: R125 500.00

Challenges: (i) lack of fumigation tanks to sanitise municipal property and equipment, (ii) insufficient provision of soaps and sanitisers to the needy community

Risk: Lack of sufficient sanitisers and soaps may lead to spiral spreading of the virus

Intervention required: 100x20L of sanitisers, 100x20 boxes of soaps, 20x fumigation tanks

3.3.2 Hotspots

3.3.2.1 Informal Settlement

(i) Marikana, (ii) Parliamenteng, (iii) Extention 10, (iv) Extention 15, (iv) Extention 9

3.3.2.2 Supermarkets

(i) Spar, (ii) Shoprite, (iii) Cambridge

3.3.2.3 Taxi rank

Challenges: (i) Insufficient sanitisers, gloves, and masks, (ii) Social distancing in banks, supermarkets, and taxi rank

Risk: Not observing social distancing might lead to spreading the virus

Intervention required: Extra 50 law enforcement officers (Police and Soldiers)

3.4 Collaboration with stakeholders

3.4.1 Health Authorities

- Participating in the local Joint Operation Committee (JOC)
- Have designated quarantine site at Sinorita Hospital
- possess training facilities
- Assisting with the disposal of medical waste

Challenges: (i) Lack of personnel in case of flooding of patients, (ii) Lack of resources in terms of sanitisers, gloves, and masks

Risks: In an event of many patients coming, the quarantine site may not be sufficient

Intervention required: (i) Beds, gloves, masks, sanitisers

3.4.2. Police

- Participating in the local JOC
- Assisting in manning stop and search roadblocks, the closing of shops, and taverns.
- Monitoring social gatherings to ensure compliance with at least the maximum of 100 people is not exceeded

Challenges: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

3.4.3 SANDF

- Participating in the local JOC
- Assisting in manning stop and search roadblocks, the closing of shops, and taverns.
- Monitoring social gatherings to ensure compliance with at least the maximum of 100 people is not exceeded

Challenges: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

3.4.4 Business (Banks and Post Office)

- Not participating in the local JOC

Challenges: Social distancing, people not being sanitised on the queue, lack of personnel and resources especially at the post office

Risk: non-compliance in terms of social distancing and may lead to the spreading of the virus

Intervention required: (i) the municipality to provide personnel to sanitise the people at SASSA pay points, (ii) the police to assist with social distancing at SASSA pay points

3.4.5 COGTA

- Assist with the provision of information and guiding activities
- Coordinating dispenses of resources

Challenges: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

4. Municipal public spaces, facilities, and offices

4.1 Public spaces and facilities

The municipality has the following public spaces:

- Libraries, community halls, recreational centers, and hawkers hive. NB! All of them are closed and monitored by the police and soldiers

4.2 Municipal offices

- All municipal offices are closed for the entire period of the lockdown
- Critical personnel will still work from home (administration)
- The essential service personnel will work as normal namely:
 - Water processors
 - Plant operators
 - Sanitation
 - Security (24)
 - Traffic (3)
 - Refuse (27)
 - Firefighters (9)

- Electricity

Challenges: the municipality might run out of sanitisers, gloves, and masks

Risks: employees might contact the virus when in transit

Intervention required: COGTA to subsidise the municipality with risk allowance (R2 000 000)

4.2.1 Hotline employees

- Working from home and can be reached from (0659665962) for any service delivery complaints

5. Isolation and quarantine

5.1 Isolation and quarantine

The municipality has identified the following places

5.1.1 Lihlomo guesthouse – the place is still usable but is partially operating

Name of the owner: Mme Lebo Lihlomo Number of beds: 11
Contact: 072 484 3555

5.1.2 Casa Romana – the place is still usable but is partially operating

Name of the owner: Number of beds:
(still to be confirmed)

5.1.3 Three Fountains – the place is still usable but not operating

Name of the owner: Mr. Haarsbrek Number of beds: 23 (only 7 working)
Contact: 079 697 7264

Those are the only three places available for safe isolation and quarantine

Challenges: (i) the municipality has no financial muscle to rent those places

Risk: not having places for isolation and quarantine can pose danger to the community especially for the homeless, and informal settlers

Intervention required: Cogta and the office of the Premier to negotiate lease agreements with the three identified guesthouses

5.2 Accommodation for homelessness

Ladybrand

- The municipality has identified the Arthur Pitso Stadium conference hall which has the total capacity of approximately 15 beds, and Ladybrand Rugby Stadium which can accommodate homelessness from other Mantsopa towns with an approximate capacity of 50 beds

Challenges: Struggling to contact the homelessness, (ii) there are no resources to feed and provide them with proper and necessary toiletries, (iii) ablution facilities at the Rugby Stadium is vandalised

Risk: not contacting and securing them a proper facility could expose them to the virus

Intervention required: COGTA to assist with the provision of beds, sanitisers, soaps, blankets, ablution facility, and food to the tune of R200 000, (ii) Social Development to coordinate the identification and contacting of the homeless

6. Municipal operations and governance

6.1 Operations

- All offices closed
- Critical administration personnel working from home
- Essential services working as normal
- Hotline employee working from home
- Revenue and income personnel working from home
- Communities encouraged to pay their service accounts electronically or make an arrangement with the banks for other facilities available
- Cashiers will still work as thus Mon-Friday 09:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Municipal Manager, Directors, and Managers are available 24hours, however, they will be working from home

Challenges: (i) other community members might not be able to pay their accounts through the encouraged electronic method, (ii) police and soldiers might not allow the community to go and pass their services

Risk: customers queuing might not observe the principle of social distancing (ii) if people are not encouraged to pay for their services, that could collapse the municipality, (iii) the municipality might not be able to pay employee salaries, third parties, and creditors.

Intervention required: public awareness campaign for people to pay their services, (ii) COGTA to provide financial rescue package to save the municipality

6.2 Governance

- All Section 79 meetings cancelled, Exco meetings cancelled, Council meetings cancelled, and public meetings cancelled until further notice

Risk: the municipality might not comply in terms of MFMA and MSA stipulations regarding Budget and IDP processes

Intervention required: COGTA and Treasury to provide guidance

7. Institutional arrangement

District JOC

District participants

- i. T.P Masejane (MM) 0658308197
- ii. P. Lechesa (Communication Manager) 0738512454
- iii. C. Tsoenyane (Disaster Coordinator) 0780482545
- iv. M. Lemphane (Traffic Officer) 0659586898

Challenges: none

Risk: none

Intervention required: none

Composition of the local JOC

- i. Chairperson: Hon. Mamsie Tsoene 0837985391
- ii. Municipal Manager
- iii. Director of Community Services
- iv. Disaster Coordinator
- v. SAPS
- vi. SANDF
- vii. CUSTOMS
- viii. SASSA and Social Development

Reporting

3.2.7.1 The Mayor/Municipal Manager

3.2.7.2 Local reporting Channels: Manager Communication 0738512454

- Print and social media

NB! Emergency contact: 0815548006

8. COVID-19 Response plans

8.1 Risk profile

- There are five (5) informal settlements without running water and sanitation
- Insufficient Jojo tanks to supply water in informal settlements
- Lack of tankering resources in areas in need of water (rural areas and high lying areas)
- Congestion in supermarkets
- Lack of resources to fumigate and sanitise public spaces (taxi ranks)
- Lack of vehicles for refuse collection such as compactor truck, skip loader and tipper truck for clearing of dumping areas

8.2 Hotspot areas

- Informal settlements
 - Marikana
 - Extension 10
 - Extension 9
 - Extension 15
 - Parliamenteng
 - Taxi ranks

8.3 Progress report

- The municipality has developed a reporting template (see attached)

9. Precautionary measures to mitigate employee health and safety risk

- All frontline staff have been provided with masks, gloves, and sanitisers
- All our critical personnel will be working from home except essential services worker as prescribed by the Minister including municipal hotline
- Cashiers will work from 09:00 am to 1:00 pm, the reception areas which they will be working at will be disinfected, floors fumigated, people coming to pay sanitised, enforcing social distancing on the queues

- Local JOC will be used as a structure to report cases of transmission and infection
- All essential services workers are provided with sanitisers, masks, and gloves
- All municipal drivers are provided with masks, gloves, and sanitisers

10. Communication awareness and hygiene education

10.1 Communication

- The municipality is using the following social media platforms to communicate
 - Facebook pages
 - Mantsopa Local Municipality
 - Unite Mantsopa Municipality
 - Ladybrand Pips

10.1.2 pamphlets and flyers

10.1.3 municipal website

10.2 Awareness

- Posters; libraries; clinics; municipal buildings; shops

10.3 Hygen education

- Pamphlets and flyers
- Collaboration with the health department

Compiled and submitted

T.P Masejane

Municipal Manager