



**Publication:** Ezasegagasini Metro English - Main  
**Title:** Extension of the EPWP gets the green light  
**Publish date:** 14 Oct 2022  
**Page:** 4

**Reach:** 10000  
**AVE:** R 13326.24  
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# Extension of the EPWP gets the green light

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AN EXTENSION of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) for the next three months, starting on 1 October, was given the green light at a Full Council meeting recently. eThekweni is one of the largest contributors to the National Government Programme that is intended to reduce poverty and unemployment.

The current programme supports 4 538 participants funded by the Incentive Grant (IG) until June 2023.

eThekweni's EPWP is divided into IG funded projects mainly, EPWP Administration, Safer Cities Volunteers Programme, Urban Management Zone (UMZ), ITRUMP, Durban Solid Waste City-wide Cleaning Programme, community-based Water Agents, the social sector, as well as the Cornubia Cleaning Services. The Safer Cities project has made a significant contribution in



**The Expanded Public Works Programme has been extended for a further three months.**

Picture: SUPPLIED

eThekweni Municipality's community crime prevention initiatives, OSS, and Youth Programmes.

The UMZ project focuses on improving the residential and business environment while the community-based Water Agents plays a critical role in mitigating various community related

challenges.

Speaking on the report, eThekweni Mayor Councillor Mxolisi Kaunda said although it has been made clear to the participants of the EPWP that this programme does not mean they will all be employed by the Municipality, it

provides a platform for job opportunities and allows for the participants to be able to contribute meaningfully to society and the economy.

"It is allows for a more inclusive economy as well as eliminates crime," he said.

Mayor Kaunda also requested that the City Manager lead a presentation on the EPWP turnaround plan to the Executive Committee on how the participants of the programme will be absorbed into the various opportunities offered by the City.

Council also adopted a report for the allocation of R184 million from the National Treasury towards the repair of road, water, and sanitation infrastructure. This will speed up the work the City has already started to rehabilitate its bulk infrastructure that was damaged by the floods earlier this year.