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## Public Works Department to donate three parcels of land to Msunduzi

Msunduzi management is to meet with the Public Works Department to initiate the acceptance of three parcels of land donated by the department to the municipality.

A recent council agenda item stated that three properties were being donated to the municipality, and that council should allow Msunduzi municipal manager Lulamile Mapholoba to sign all documents and agreements relating to the donation.

According to the agenda item, the municipality has received an email

enquiry from the department enquiring a letter of request from the municipality regarding the donation of three portions of land near Starling, Wigford and Moses Mabhidia Roads.

"The extent of the need for housing reveals that the Msunduzi Municipality contributes more than 50% of the housing backlog in the uMgungundlovu District, at 44263 out of a housing backlog of 79998 (Stats SA 2011).

"The exploration of new housing

opportunities is key to the development of the city as it will help accommodate the projected city population growth for the coming years.

"Planning for more appropriate integrated housing opportunities will successfully address the projected housing demand through the development of a range of housing typologies targeted at the full spectrum of income levels, lifestyles and stages of life," reads the report.

City manager Lulamile Mapholoba said the donations will benefit Msun-

duzi Municipality in its fight against homelessness and many other challenges.

Mapholoba said they will be meeting with the department officials this week to finalise the deal.

"With the challenge of homelessness this initiative by the department will work to our advantage as a city.

"As part of the Greater Edendale Development initiative, we have been acquiring properties.

"The Department of Public Works has decided that the parcels of land

that are not going to be used will be donated to the city.

"We are very grateful for the gesture because it is a positive move for the municipality in dealing with human settlement challenges.

"We will be meeting with the department this week to finalise the deal," said Mapholoba.

The item was noted by all parties in council.

The Department of Public Works had not responded to requests for comment by the time of publication.

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