



THE EFF WELCOMES THE RENAMING OF MBIZANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY TO WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Wednesday, 31 March 2021

The EFF welcomes the renaming of Mbizana Local Municipality to Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. The name will take official effect on the 1st April, the first day of the month following it being gazetted. It is an obviously long overdue move which was initiated by the local authorities in the Eastern Cape region. It is a correct move because this is where the Mother of the Nation was born in 1936.

The EFF celebrates the fact that the renaming of the Municipality came as a result of the motion tabled by the EFF Caucus. This is a demonstration that that we are the only organization that dependably protects the legacy of Mama Winnie Madikizela Mandela.

Winnie Madikizela Mandela was a pivotal point in the history of our struggle against Apartheid. In her own right, she was a both a nationally and internationally recognized freedom fighter who fought vigilantly and tirelessly against a regime that used all its might to suppress her. For South Africans, she was the mother of the nation, for the rest of the world, she was an icon.

It is because of this stature she has earned that the EFF has always lobbied that her name should adorn a national structure. It is for this reason that the EFF motioned in parliament that the Cape Town International Airport was the correct platform to honour her name and rename the airport after her. History has recorded the ANC, together with their political cohorts, the Democratic Alliance, rejected this motion. Their reasons were incoherent.

And so while we welcome this move by the Mbizana Municipality, we will continue to fight for her name to be monumentalized at a much bigger, more national platform where she rightfully belongs. The efforts of the ANC to relegate her name to political oblivion will not succeed. Mama Winnie was bigger than their efforts to obliterate her legacy. Under the EFF government, Cape Town International Airport will be renamed the Winnie Mandela International Airport.

This renaming must not just be a lip-service and a PR exercise. We urge the municipality named after this giant of our struggle against Apartheid to follow in her footsteps and fight for the economic liberation of our people in this lifetime. Mama Winnie fought for and was loved by her people in Bizana and her name must not be used in vain.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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