



CITY OF HARARE

# SUNSHINE NEWS

WEEK ENDING 13 MARCH 2026

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**PREPAID SMART WATER METER ROLLOUT GAINS MOMENTUM AS CITY TARGETS ALL SUBURBS ACROSS HARARE**

**EDITH OPPERMAN MATERNITY REFURBISHMENTS COMMENCE AS MAYOR LAUDS PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS**

**HMP: MUNICIPAL BAND STRIKES THE RIGHT CHORDS DURING MUNHUMUTAPA CUP LAUNCH**

**HARARE MAYOR CALLS FOR LAWFULNESS TO TRANSFORM HARARE**

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## Edith Opperman Maternity Clinic Official Refurbishment Commencement

By Richard Gandari

His Worship the Mayor Cllr Jacob Mafume on 5 March hosted the Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Hon. Charles Tawengwa, for the Edith Opperman Maternity Clinic official refurbishment commencement following funding by Nedbank.

In his welcoming message, Mayor Mafume expressed joy in the refurbishment commencement of the City's oldest clinic.

"We want to welcome you to this clinic.

"It's one of our busiest clinics in the City.

"About 500 to 600 babies are delivered here per month," he said.

Mayor Mafume revealed the City's plans for the expansion of Edith Opperman Maternity from a primary to a secondary health-care facility.

"We are considering expanding this clinic by repurposing the adjacent Carter House from its current use as a firewood factory, and transforming it into a fully equipped maternity wing complete with a theatre for Caesarian operations."

The Mayor reminded residents that all Public-Private Partnerships entered into by the City of Harare are done in good faith and should not be viewed with suspicion.

"Private corporates are part of the City as juristic persons.

"We embrace and work with them as citizens of Harare," Mayor Mafume said.

Speaking at the event, City Health Director Dr Prosper Chonzi, represented by Dr.

Michael Vere, hailed the corporate social investment by Nedbank.

"This private-public partnership fits seamlessly with our new vision to become a Smart City of Choice.

"Our city is divided into 4 zones in terms of health delivery where we intend to establish secondary level of care through the establishment of fully equipped district hospitals," said Dr Chonzi.

During the ceremony, Nedbank Acting Managing Director Heresy Herry stressed the importance of maternal and child health and justified the need for private corporate social investment through smart partnerships with public entities.

"Maternal and child health are at the heart of sustainable national development.

"Public-Private Partnerships allow us to combine public oversight with private sector efficiency, delivering infrastructure that is sustainable and responsive to community needs."

Mbare Health Centre Committee Chairperson, Pastor Chakie Makaza expressed joy and for the relief brought to the community of Mbare and surrounding areas.

The ceremony was also graced by the presence of Ward 11 Cllr Felix Chabuda, Ward 36 Cllr Hilda Ruzani and Ward 25 Cllr Jane Bhingari.



Mayor Mafume (center) joins Nedbank officials for the ribbon cutting



Dr. Vere (2nd from left) joins the Mayor in a stakeholders' group photo

# City of Harare celebrates International Women's Day

By Richard Gandari

The City of Harare Councillors and staff yesterday gathered in Mabelreign, to celebrate International Women's Day through a capacity building workshop held under the United Nations global theme, "Give to Gain."

Speaking at the event, Deputy Mayor and City Gender Focal Person, Cllr Rosemary Muronda, acknowledged the marked improvement in women's representation as councillors but bemoaned the gender imbalance in terms of the City's top leadership positions.

"There is no women representation at Grade 1 to Grade 3 levels of leadership as a Council.

"We have 10 women compared with 34 men in Grade 4 level.

"There are 23 women and 44 men in Grade 5.

"We have 34 women and 64 men in Grade 6.

"This gives us a total of 67 women versus 149 men across these senior grades," Cllr Muronda revealed.

The Deputy Mayor called for active steps to help the City achieve meaningful representation of women in leadership positions.

In his remarks, Acting Town Clerk, Engineer P.M. Moyo, acknowledged the role of women and the need for their recognition through a special day.



*Deputy Mayor Cllr Rosemary Muronda during the event*

"Today we gather not only to celebrate the achievements of women in our community but also to reaffirm our collective commitment to advancing gender equality," Eng. Moyo said.

He highlighted the need for all stakeholders to appreciate the unpaid care work that women do in communities.

"Today serves as a powerful reminder of the importance and valuing care work, tasks that are often disproportionately carried out by women," Eng. Moyo said.

The City of Harare has adopted the theme and added the mantra, "From 8 March to 365 days of action towards gender equality."

Workshop participants called on the City to implement

gender-sensitive policies, invest in clean water supply, waste management, safe public transport and partnering with women's organizations.

Councillors were also urged to improve the dignity of women by improving their access to social amenities such as private breastfeeding spaces at clinics, community child care facilities and family-friendly recreational parks.

Also present at the event were representatives from the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development and Zimbabwe Gender Commission.

Participants turned up in style, geared for the event's purple dress code in celebration of women.



## City launches awareness campaigns for prepaid smart water meters

By Staff Reporter

The City of Harare is conducting awareness campaigns in various parts of the City to educate residents on the ongoing installation of prepaid smart water meters in different areas.

The campaigns will run on weekdays and follow all the teams installing the smart meters across Harare.

Residents are encouraged to engage and cooperate with the City of Harare teams on the ground.

The teams will assist and provide all the information residents might need.



*City of Harare plumbers and engineers working in the Avenues Area*

## City of Harare working on traffic lights repairs and replacements

By Staff Reporter

The City of Harare is currently working on fixing and replacing broken-down traffic lights in Harare.

In the pictures workers are seen busy at the intersection of Jason Moyo Street and Julius Nyerere Way.

Some traffic lights in the CBD are not working due to vandalism, traffic accidents, and power supply interruptions.





## CATCH THEM YOUNG PROGRAMME AT WARREN PARK 4 COUNCIL PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Staff Reporter

The City of Harare, in partnership with the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) on 5 March held a Catch Them Young programme at Warren Park 4 Council Primary School to educate pupils on proper waste management and sustainable practices.

The interactive session was aimed at raising awareness on proper waste disposal and empowering the next generations to take action towards a clean city.

The children are also expected to share the useful lessons with their parents.



HCC's Mercy Makuwatsine (left) and EMA's Nyasha Kaseke (right)

## Councillor urges Harare residents to settle bills

By Staff Reporter

Cllr Prince Mutebuka of Ward 9, Harare East recently held a feedback meeting in his ward where residents were updated on key service delivery issues.

The community noted improvement in door to door waste collections by Geo Pomona Waste Management who are in partnership with the City of Harare.

The Tafara community thanked the City of Harare specifically on attending to sewer blockages on time.

Residents were also urged to embrace the prepaid water meters which are being installed in Harare.

Cllr Mutebuka also urged residents to clear their debts with council for better service.

Cllr Nyakudya, Cllr Pamire and Cllr Kasvosve also attended the meeting.



Cllr Prince Mutebuka (seated front row center) posing for a group photo with residents from Harare East

## Harare's Finest Sound: Municipal Police Band Shines at Munhumutapa Cup Launch

By Sani Mbofana

The Harare Municipal Police Band stole the show at the ZIFA Munhumutapa Cup Challenge, performing in front of His Excellency, President Dr. Emerson Mnangagwa.

For those behind the scenes, it was a moment of pride, especially for Superintendent Phebion Jeriyengwa, Acting Chief Inspector Kasanga, and Acting Inspector Ringanayi Sheila Simbisai otherwise popularly known as 'Manice', who championed the band's formation.

Their relentless efforts, including daily visits to the mayor's office, have paid off.

The band's performance marks a milestone, not just for the trio, but for the Municipal Police and Harare City Council.

The idea is to offer entertainment services beyond municipal events, generating income for the city.

This initiative is a win-win for Harare.



*Harare Municipal Police Band Members striking the right chords*

Other cities can take a leaf from this book.

For instance, New York City's NYPD Band performs at various events, including charity functions and community gatherings, promoting social cohesion and generating revenue.

London's Metropolitan Police Service Band offers entertainment services, including concerts and events, supporting community engagement and fundraising.

Cape Town's City Police Band performs at municipal events and offers services to external clients, promoting the city's cultural heritage.

Harare's Municipal Police Band is on the right track.

With the mayor and council's support, this initiative can flourish, showcasing the city's vibrant culture and generating revenue.

Kudos to the team for thinking outside the box!

### Sunshine News

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Editor-in-Chief: Stanley Gama  
 Editor: Mercy Makuwatsine  
 Reporters: Bornwise Mtonzi  
 Kelvin Banda  
 Richard Gandari  
 Tanaka Mugeru  
 Sani Mbofana  
 Photography: Lawson Chamisa  
 Bornwise Mtonzi  
 Kelvin Banda  
 Layout & Design: Richard Gandari

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The City of Harare



hararecitycouncil



www.hararecity.co.zw



cohweb.@hararecity.co.zw

Public Relations Direct Line:



+263242775622

# Mayor Mafume: Reviving Harare's Love for Football

By Sani Mbofana

Harare Mayor, Cllr Jacob Mafume, has emphasized the importance of sports, particularly soccer, in bringing communities together.

Speaking at the launch of CAPS United's 2026 kit today, Cllr Mafume recounted his passion for football, which began in his school days.

He lamented the deplorable state of Harare's stadia when he took office, saying, "It was sad to note that Harare was starved of the sport people love, and we undertook to change that."

The Mayor's efforts led to the renovation of Rufaro Stadium, paving the way for football's return to the capital city last season.

Teams like CAPS United and Dynamos have since shifted their home games back to Harare.



Harare Mayor Cllr J. Mafume

The mayor announced plans to renovate Gwanzura Stadium and other city venues, inviting teams like CAPS United to submit proposals for long-term leases of up to 40-50 years.

Mayor Mafume urged soccer stars in the country to be positive role models, citing Real Madrid's Mbappe and others, and help shift

the focus from negative influences on social media.

He challenged players to believe in themselves and help change the narrative.

The Mayor's vision for Harare's sports development is taking shape, and it's a win for the City's soccer fans.

# Mayor Mafume calls for lawfulness, partnerships to transform Harare

By Sani Mbofana

Harare Mayor, Cllr Jacob Mafume, has emphasised the need for citizens to respect the law and work together with the city council to address the capital's challenges.

Speaking at Dr. Tinashe Eric Muzamindo's International Double Book Launch recently, the Mayor acknowledged Zimbabwe's development challenges but stressed that poverty is no excuse for lawlessness.

He likened Harare to a living organism, where all parts must work in sync, adhering to rules.

He lamented the tendency of

some citizens to flout laws, citing examples of Zimbabweans who behave modelly abroad but become lawless at home.

Mayor Mafume highlighted the city's collaborative approach with government and private partners, citing successes in waste management with Geo Pomona, and ongoing efforts to address water and road challenges with Helcrow.

He emphasized that such partnerships are crucial for growth, and not a sign of "selling out."

His message is clear: it's time for Zimbabweans to take responsibility and work together to transform Harare into a thriving, law-abiding city.



His Worship, the Mayor, Cllr Jacob Mafume during the launch