

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**STATE OF READINESS: OPENING OF THE GPL/SOPA 2022**

**1. ACCREDITATION**

- Due to COVID 19 regulations and compliance, a limited number of guests can be accommodated at venue; therefore, **a maximum of 40 seats** have been allocated for media personnel. **Media partners are encouraged to make use of the livestreaming avenues to access the live proceedings.**
- Only accredited media will have access to the venue (Brixton Multi-purpose Centre). **NO ACCESS WITHOUT ACCREDITATION.**
- Specific Accreditation will be issued to Members of the Media.
- Only accredited outside broadcast vehicles will be allowed into the allocated spot for media vehicles at the venue. **Please ensure each member of the team has pre-registered for and collected their accreditation.**
- Members of the Media are requested to use the **online RSVP form** to register for accreditation. Once registered, vetted media will be able to collect their accreditation tags at **Gauteng Provincial Legislature (Cnr. City Hall & President Streets, Johannesburg) between Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021; between 10h00 and 15h00.** Proof of **identification** will be required upon collection.

**2. SOPA SITTING LOGISTICS**

The 2022 Official Opening of the Legislature will take place at the Brixton Multipurpose Centre on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February. The Centre will be declared a GPL Precinct on the day, and setup to reflect the House Chamber. Premier David Makhura will deliver the SOPA during an official Sitting of the Legislature.

- The 40 expected Members of the media will be restricted to designated areas in the Chamber.

- All set-up of Outside Broadcast vehicles, in designated locations, must be completed by **Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> February at 20h00.**
- A functional Media Operations Centre will be setup for all media personnel on the day.
- The Premier's Speech will be disseminated electronically and via WhatsApp to all media shortly after the Sitting commences.
- TV broadcast will cover SOPA for live viewing (SABC and Parliamentary Channel).

### **3. SCREENING**

- All media that will access the venue will have to go through a mandatory screening process.
- Upon registration everyone will be issued with an overlay and "screened" sticker.
- Mask covering nose and mouth must be worn at **ALL TIMES.**
- **NO MASK, NO ENTRY.**

### **4. PARKING**

- Parking will be available at Phineas Macintosh Park on Queens Road, Mayfair. Guests will be shuttled from the parking site to the event site.
- OB vans will park separately at a demarcated area at the event venue.

### **5. ACCESS TO THE CHAMBER**

- Only accredited working journalists will be allowed access to a demarcated media area in the chamber for the 5-minute photo opportunity when invited by the Speaker.

### **6. BROADCAST MEDIA; LIVE FEEDS; AND INTERNET CONNECTION**

- Live feed link will be exclusively available for all media. Live feed details will be shared through a media advisory.
- The Media Operations Centre will have a live feed of proceedings from the Sitting.
- Live feeds for OB Vans will be provided.
- Wifi will available for use by all.

## 7. INTERVIEWS

No physical interviews will take place pre-SOPA. Media is encouraged to conduct telephonic interviews before the Address.

Media wishing to conduct live interviews with GPL Presiding Officers and MPLs are advised to liaise with Mr Thebe Khumalo, Ms Pfano Bulasigobo and Mr Mohlalefi Lebotha. Interviews can be conducted after the Sitting.

## 8. WHERE TO WATCH SOPA

- Gauteng Provincial Legislature Website and YouTube page
- Parliamentary channel (408)
- SABC (403)

## 9. STREET CLOSURES

A clear and detailed notice on road closures on the morning of SOPA will be distributed to the media over the weekend.

### **Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact:**

Thebe Khumalo (GPL): 072 341 5921

Pfano Bulasigobo (GPL): 060 533 1982

Sibongile Baloyi (GPG): 066 484 9272

Mohlalefi Lebotha (GPG): 082 852 0502

Thabisile Nzuke (GPL): 082 619 4411

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR ONLINE PLATFORMS:**

**Websites:** [www.gpl.gov.za](http://www.gpl.gov.za) and [www.gautengonline.gov.za](http://www.gautengonline.gov.za)

**Facebook:** [Gauteng Provincial Legislature](#) and [Gauteng Provincial Government](#)

**Twitter:** @gplegislature and @GautengProvince

**ISSUED BY THE GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE AND OFFICE OF THE  
PREMIER**