



MEDIA STATEMENT

All Media/ News Wires

MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2024

THE MDB's LATEST UPDATE ON THE BOUNDARY CHANGE PROCESS

1. The MDB published its decisions to re-determine municipal boundaries in terms of Section 21 of the Local Government: Municipal Demarcation Act of 1998 (MDA) in January 2024.
2. Members of the public not in favour of the decision of the Board were invited to submit written objections within 30 days from the date of publication.
3. After the closing date of the objections period, approximately 541 objections were received.
4. On 27th February 2024, the MDB considered the objections received in response to section 21 notices and resolved to publish its determination in terms of section 21(5) of the MDA.
5. In summary, the Board resolved to confirm its re-determination of municipal boundaries in terms of section 21(5) for **59 cases**, withdraw its re-determination in terms of section 21(5) for **9 cases** and to vary its re-determination in terms of section 21(5) for **2 cases** (See attached circular 2 of 2024).
6. It should be noted that, the publication of decisions of the Board in terms of section 21(5) marks the conclusion of the municipal boundary re-determination process for all the proposals which were published in terms of section 21. Immediately after the publication, the MDB will send particulars of the re-determinations to the IEC.
7. In this regard, all matters which were deferred as outlined in Circular 1 of 2024 will continue to be subjected to the MDB research, stakeholder, and public consultation processes until they are finalised.

8. In terms of section 23(2) of the MDA, the IEC will establish if the boundary determinations materially affect representation of voters in the affected municipal councils or not.
9. If the Electoral Commission is of the view that the boundary determination:
 - (a) will affect the representation of voters in the council of any of the municipalities affected by the boundary redetermination, the determination takes effect from the date of the next election in the area concerned, or
 - (b) will not materially affect the representation of voters in such council, the determination takes effect from a date determined by notice in the relevant Provincial Gazette by the MEC for local government in the province concerned.

“The MDB is committed to meaningful citizen engagement and will endeavour to make sure that all affected communities are made aware of the final decisions of the Board in respect of this municipal boundary re-determinations and would like to urge all stakeholders, especially affected municipalities to do the same”, said Thabo Manyoni, Chairperson of the Board.

-ENDS-

ENQUIRIES

Barileng Dichabe

Tel : +2712 342 2481

Mobile: +2771 354 2612

Email: barileng@demarcation.org.za