



MARULENG DRAFT RATES POLICY 2017/2018

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 entitles municipalities to impose rates on property in their areas, subject to regulation in terms of national legislation;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution enjoins local government to be developmental in nature, in addressing the service delivery priorities of our country and promoting the economic and financial viability of our municipalities and in general to meet its' obligation in terms of section 152 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996;

AND WHERE AS there is a need to provide local government with access to a sufficient and buoyant source of revenue necessary to fulfil its development responsibilities;

AND WHERE AS income derived from property rate is a critical source of revenue for municipalities to achieve their constitutional objectives, especially in areas that have been neglected in the past due to racially discriminatory, in adequate or inappropriate legislation and regulation;

AND WHEREAS the income derived from property rates is a major source of general municipal revenue and that revenue is not linked to a specific municipal service or the erection of infrastructure related to any municipal service.

AND WHEREAS, it is essential that municipalities exercise their power to impose rates within a statutory framework that not only enhances certainty, uniformity and simplicity across the nation, but also accounts for historical imbalances and the rates burden on the poor;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa confers on Parliament the power to regulate the exercise by municipalities of their fiscal powers;

Now THEREFORE, the Council of the Maruleng Municipality adopts the **PROPERTY RATES POLICY** as set out in this document.

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1. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

- 1.1 This Rates Policy is mandated by Section 3 of the Local Government Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (No. 6 of 2004), which specifically provides that a municipality must adopt a Rates Policy.
- 1.2 In terms of Section 229 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (No.108 of 1996), a municipality may impose rates on property.
- 1.3 In terms of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (No. 6 of 2004) a municipality in accordance with:
 - (a) Section 2(1), may levy a rate on property in its area; and
 - (b) Section 2(3), must exercise its power to levy a rate on property subject to:
 - (i) Section 229 and any other applicable provisions of the Constitution;
 - (ii) the provisions of the Property Rates Act; and
 - (iii) The Rates By-law.
- 1.4 In terms of Section 4 (1) (c) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (No. 32 of 2000), the municipality has the right to finance the affairs of the municipality by imposing, *inter alia*, rates on property.
- 1.5 In terms of Section 62(1)(f)(ii) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (No. 56 of 2003) the municipal manager must ensure that the municipality has and implements a Rates Policy.
- 1.6 This policy must be read together with, and is subject to the stipulations of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (No. 6 of 2004) and any regulations promulgated in terms thereof from time to time

2. DEFINITIONS

In this policy, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, bears that meaning unless the context indicates otherwise, and any expression which denotes any gender, includes the other gender or the singular only, also includes the plural and vice versa.

"Act"

Means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (ActNo.6 of 2004) and "MPRA, 2004" shall have the same meaning;

Agent", in relation to the owner of a property, means a person appointed by the owner of the property-

- (a) to receive rental or other payments in respect of the property on behalf of the owner; or
- (b) to make payments in respect of the property on behalf of the owner

"Agricultural purpose" in relation to the use of a property for primarily agricultural purposes.

'Bona fide farmers' is a person who is a fulltime farmer, who owns land that is Used *bona fide* and exclusively used for agricultural purposes by him or occupiers of such;

"Business/commercial"

Means a property used for the activity of buying, selling or trade in commodities or services and includes any office or other accommodation on the same of, the use of which is incidental to such business, with the exclusion of the business of agricultural, farming or inter alia, any other business consisting of the cultivation of soils, the gathering in of crop or the rearing of livestock or consisting of the propagation and harvesting of fish or other aquatic organisms and shall include (properties of a township developer registered in a township title) commercial property as the case may be;

"Category"

Means category in relation to properties for the purpose of levying different rates; and category in relation to owners of properties for the purpose of granting exemptions, rebates and reductions;

"Constitution of the Republic of South Africa"

Means the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996(Act108of1996);

"Council"

means the Council of the Maruleng Municipality;

"Educational institutions"

Mean Private (Independent) or Public primary and secondary schools, Universities, Colleges and Crèches' (regardless of whether subsidized or not), registered as educational institutions as per applicable legislation

"Farm property"

Means farmland as envisaged in section 8(2) (d) (i), (e) and (f) (i) of the MPRA. For purposes of the Municipal Property Rates, the Rate Ratio promulgated under Government Notice R. 363 published in Government Gazette No. 32061, Vol. 525 of 27 March 2009, as amended by Government Notice No.R.195 published in Government Gazette No.33016, Vol.537 of 12 March 2010, shall apply "Agricultural property" means farm property that is primarily used for gain for the purpose of the cultivation of soils for the purposes of planting and gathering of crops; forestry in the context of planting and growing of trees in a managed and structured fashion; the rearing of livestock and the propagation and harvesting of fish, excluding property used for the purposes of eco-tourism or for the accommodation of members of the public for gain; and in respect of property on which game is reared, traded or hunted, it excludes any portion that is used for the accommodation of visitors. Farm properties outside of the meaning of 'agricultural property' as defined above shall be rated according to the rates policy as far as it applies to those categories of property (i.e. Residential, business & commercial, industrial)

" Government property "or" state-owned property"

Means property owned and exclusively used by an organ of state, excluding farm properties used for residential or Agricultural purposes;

"Independent school"

Means a private school being a public benefit organization of the kind referred to in items 4(a) of Part Land 3(a) Part II of the Ninth Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1962;

"Indigent"

Means any household that is legally resident in the Country and reside in the Maruleng Municipality's jurisdictional area, who due to a number of economic and social factors are unable to pay Municipal basic services as per the Maruleng Municipality's Indigent Policy;

"Industrial"

Means a branch of trade or manufacturing, production, assembling or processing of finished or practically finished products from raw materials or fabricated parts, on so large scale that capital and labour are significantly involved. This includes factories and any office or other accommodation on the same property, the use of which is incidental to the use of such factory;

"Improvement"

Means any building or structure on or under a property excluding-

- (i) A structure constructed solely for the purpose of rendering the property suitable for the erection of any immovable structure thereon; and
- (ii) Buildings, structures and equipment or machinery referred to in Section 46(3) of the act

"Income Tax Act, 1962"

Means the Income Tax Act.1962 (Act58of1962)

"Land reform beneficiary"

In relation to a property, means a person who acquired the property through the Provision of Land and Assistance Act, 1993, or the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994, or holds the property subject to the Communal Property Association Act, 1996.

"Land tenure right"

Means an old order right or a new order right as defined in section 1 of the Communal Land Rights Act, 2004 (Act No. 11 of 2004), whereas—

"Market value"

In relation to a property, means the amount the property would have realized if sold on the date of valuation in the open market by a willing seller to a willing buyer;

"Mining"

Means any operation or activity for the purpose of extracting any mineral on, in or under the earth, water or any mineral residue deposit, whether by underground or open working or otherwise and includes any operation or activity incidental thereto;

"MPRA"

means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004); "new order right" means a tenure or other right in communal or other land which has been confirmed, converted, conferred or validated by the Minister in terms of section 18 of MPRA;

"Multiple purpose"

Means a property that cannot be assigned to a single category due to the different uses of such property in which event the property will be valued based on the apportionment of uses in accordance with the applicable category of property in terms of this policy;

"Municipal property"

Means any rateable or non-rateable property owned by the Municipality

"Newly rateable property"

Means any rateable property on which property rates were not levied before the end of the financial year preceding the date on which this Act took effect, excluding:-

- (a) a property which was incorrectly omitted from a valuation roll and that reason was not rated before that date,
- (b) a property identified by the Minister by the notice in the Gazette where the phasing in of a rate is not justified or
- (c) a property that is the result of sub-division or consolidation of land or new township establishment.

"Non-permitted use"

Means any use of property that is inconsistent with or in contravention with the permitted use of that property in which event, and without condoning the non-permitted use thereof, the property shall be valued as if it were used for such non-permitted purposes only;

"Occupier"

Means a person in actual occupation of a property, whether or not that person has a right to occupy the property;

"Old order right"

Means a tenure or other right in or to communal land which.

- (a) Is formal or informal;
- (b) Is registered or unregistered;
- (c) Derives from or is recognized by law, including customary law, practice or usage; and
- (d) Exists immediately prior to a determination by the Minister in terms of section 18 of MPRA, but does not include-
 - (i) Any right or interest of a tenant, labour tenant, share cropper or employee if such right or interest is purely of a contractual nature; and
 - (ii) Any right or interest based purely on temporary permission granted by the owner of lawful occupier of the land in question, on the basis that such permission may at any time be withdrawn by such owner or lawful occupier;

"Owner";

- (i) in relation to a property referred to in paragraph (a) of the definition of " property" means a person in whose name ownership of the property is registered.
- (ii) in relation to a right referred to in paragraph (b) of the definition of " property" means a person in whose name the right is registered.
- (iii) in relation to a land tenure right referred to in paragraph (c) of the definition of " Property " means a person in whose name the right is registered or to whom it was granted in terms of legislation, or
- (iv) in relation to public service infrastructure referred to in paragraph (d) of the definition of " property" means the organ of state which owns or controls that public service infrastructure as envisaged in the definition of "publicly controlled"

"Pensioner"

for purposes of this rates policy and eligibility for old age rebate, pensioner means any owner of rateable property who has reached the age of 60 years or more during the Maruleng Municipality financial year;

"Permitted use"

Means the limited purposes for which the property may be used in terms of-

A condition of title or provision of the Maruleng Municipality applicable Town Planning or Land Use Scheme as amended from time to time;

- (iii) Any legislation applicable to any specific property or properties; or

(iv) Any alleviation of any such restriction;

"Person"

Includes both a natural and a juristic entity as the case may be

"Physically or mentally disabled"

Means a person who, owing to physical or mental disability, is unfit to obtain by virtue of any service, employment or profession the means needed to enable him or her to provide for his or her maintenance. (Social Assistance Act, No. 6 of 2004);

"Property"

means-

- (a) Immovable property registered in the name of a person, including, in the case of sectional title scheme, a sectional title unit registered in the name of a person;
- (b) right registered against immovable property in the name of a person, excluding a mortgage bond registered against the property;
- (c) a land tenure right registered in the name of a person or granted to a person in terms of legislation; or
- (d) public service infrastructure;

"Property register"

Means a register of properties referred to in section 23 of MPRA

"Protected area"

Means an area that is or has to be listed in the register referred to in section 10 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003;

"Public benefit organization property "

Means property owned by public benefit organizations and used for any specified public benefit activity listed in item 1 (welfare and humanitarian), item 2 (healthcare), and item 4 (education and development) of part 1 of the Ninth Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1962;

"Public Service infrastructure"

Means publicly controlled infrastructure as defined by the MPRA and as amended by the municipal property rates amendment act

"Public Benefit"

Organisations as contemplated in Part 1 of the 9th Schedule of the Income Tax Act No. 52 of 1962:

"Public worship"

Means property registered in the name of and used primarily as a place of public worship by a religious community, including an official residence registered in the name of that community which is occupied by an office-bearer of that community who officiated at services at that place of worship. Property used

primarily as an office of a religious community or property used as parking facilities, camping sites not operated for gain and cemeteries for that religious community will receive a 100% rebate for rates.

"Rebate"

In relation to a rate payable on a property, means a discount granted in terms of Section 15 of the MPRA, on the amount of the rate payable on the property;

"Reduction"

In relation to a rate payable on a property, means the lowering in terms of Section 15 of the MPRA, of the amount for which the property was valued and the rating of the property at that lower amount;

"Residential property"

Means in respect of which the primary use or permitted use is for residential purposes without derogating from section 9 of the MPRA.

"Rate"

Means the cent in the Rand of the market value of a rateable property that may be levied on the rate payer as may be determined by the Council from time to time during the Municipality's budget process;

"Rateable property"

Means property on which Municipality may levy a rate subject to the criteria to be applied as defined in this policy, excluding property fully excluded from the levying of rates in terms of Section 17 of the MPRA;

"Rate ratio"

Means a prescribed ratio to the rate as referred to in section 19(1)(b) of the MPRA;

"Sectional title unit"

Means a section of a building together with its undivided share in the common property apportioned in accordance with the participation quota of the section;

"State trust land"

Means land owned by the state-

- (i) in trust for persons communally inhabiting the land in terms of a traditional system of land tenure;
- (ii) over which land tenure rights were registered or granted; or
- (iii) which is earmarked for disposal in terms of the Restitution Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994);

"Vacant land"

means any vacant land excluding farmland where no immovable improvements have been erected.

"Zoning" means the purpose for which land may lawfully be used or on which buildings may be erected or used, or both, as contained in an applicable town planning scheme and "zoned" has a corresponding meaning. Where a property carries multiple zoning rights, the categorisation of such property will be by apportioning the market value of the property, in a manner as may be prescribed, to the different purposes for which the

property is used, an applying the rates applicable to the categories determined by the Municipality for properties used for those purposes to the different market value apportionments

3. AN OVERVIEW ON PROPERTY TAXES IN MARULENG MUNICIPALITY

3.1 Introduction

- General Valuation Roll is a legal document that consists of property information of all rateable properties within the boundaries of a municipality.
- It is implemented through the Rates Policy which is annually reviewed and adopted with the budget.
- It is developed according to legislation at least once in every 5 years.

3.2 General Valuation Roll and Property Rates

- It is essential that property owners check the valuation of their properties and object if they feel that the valuation is not market related.
- If they don't object the valuation will be accepted as realistic, and objections must be submitted on the prescribed forms within a given period.
- Property will be levied on the market value.
- Properties will be rated according to specific categories of properties based on the existing Land use.
- Property owners who own more than one property, before requesting Clearance certificate, Zoning certificate, Valuation certificate and before approval of any Building Plans, Town Planning Application the property owners must have all their accounts with the municipality up-to-date.
- There will be no automatically additional rebates, organisation or individual who qualify for rebates will have to make a written request, for the rebates to be applied to their property. A ratepayer remains liable for the payment of the rates whether or not an account has been received and if an account has not yet been received, the onus shall be on the ratepayer concerned to establish the amount due for the rates and to pay that amount to the municipality

3.3 The objective of this policy is to ensure that :

- All ratepayers within a specific category are treated equal and reasonable;
- Rates are levied in accordance with the market value of the property;
- The rate will be based on the value of all rateable property and the amount required by the municipality to balance the operational budget, taking into account the surplus obtained from the trading- and economical services and the amounts required to cover the costs of exemptions, reductions and rebates that the municipality approve from time to time;

3.4 Additional Rebates

In order to address this and also in line with section 15 of the Act, the following are recommended:

- Additional rebates should not be granted to every property category and there will be no automatic rebates.

- Property owners should apply for additional rebates if they cannot afford to pay for rates
- Property owners should update their accounts before they can apply and qualify for additional rebates
- When applying for additional rebates the following should be produced.
 - ID book
 - Proof of income/ no income
 - Supporting documents

3.5 Property Valuations

- In terms of Section 50 of the Municipal Property Rates Act 6 of 2004, the property owner may object to any information displayed on valuation roll, as long as the owner is able to back up his objection. It is up to the objector, to prove that the market value assessment is not a fair amount.
- Comparing the valuation to neighbouring valuation does not imply that the valuation is incorrect.
- Unhappiness with the amount of rates payables does not constitute an objection
- **The municipality will not consider the following types of objection:**
 - Incomplete objection forms
 - Multiple objections per objection form
 - Objections completed in bad faith
 - Frivolous objections to unrelated issues
 - Objections not submitted on the official objection form
 - Late objections
 - Objections to properties not appearing on the Supplementary Valuation Roll
- Objections must be lodged on the prescribed objection forms during the prescribed period.
- Property owner is still entitle to pay rates and taxes on the current valuation until the objection is resolved, your account will be debited or credited after the valuation outcome.
- The lodging of an objection does not defer liability for payment of rates beyond the date determined for payment. (Section 50(6) of the MPRA)

4. POLICY PRINCIPLE ON IMPOSING RATES AND TAXES

- 4.1 Rates are levied in accordance with the Act as an amount in the rand based on the Market value of all rateable property contained in the municipality's valuation roll and supplementary.
- 4.2 Rateable property shall include any rights registered against such property, with the exception of a mortgage bond.
- 4.3 The rates policy or imposing of rates for the municipality is based on the following principles:

- a) Affordability:** The ability of a person to pay rates will be taken into account by the municipality. In dealing with the indigent or poor rate payers the municipality will provide relief measures through exemptions, reductions or rebate
- (a) Cost efficiency:** That the administrative cost related to rate policy is minimal taken in to consideration a mounts required to finance exemptions, rebates, reductions and phase-in of rates as approved by the municipality
- (b) Equity:** That all categories of property and categories of owners be treated equitable in relation to each other.
- (c) Financial Sustainability:** Rating of property will be implemented in a way that:
- (i) it supports sustainable local government by providing a stable revenue source within the discretion control of the municipality.
 - (ii) support local social economic development.
- e) Poverty Alleviation:** *That the rate policy should facilitate poverty alleviation within the context of the mechanism at its disposal*
- d) Social and Economic Development:** That the rate policy should be cost efficient and should enhance the financial sustainability of the municipality
- e) Community Participation:** That municipality will in amending this policy commits itself to a process of community participation and will engage interested parties and structures such as rate payers' organizations and ward committees.
- f)** Encourage development of property in the Maruleng Local Municipality, that the rate policy does not discourage improvements of properties within jurisdiction area of the municipality

5. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy document guides the annual setting (or revision) of property rates. It does not make specific property rates proposals. Details pertaining to the applications of the various property rates are published annually in the Provincial Gazette and the municipality's schedule of tariffs, which must be read in conjunction with this policy.

6. PROPERTIES USED FOR MULTIPLE PURPOSES

- 6.1 Rates on properties used for multiple purposes will be levied on properties used for;
- (a) a purpose corresponding with the permitted use of the property, if the permitted use of the property is regulated; and
 - (b) a purpose corresponding with the dominant use of the property
- 6.2 Properties used for multiple purposes, other than those referred to under residential properties above, shall be rated on the value assigned to each components, and shall receive the rebate applicable to such component.
- 6.3 Where one component on average represents 90% or more of the property's actual use, such property shall be rated as though it were used for that use only.

- 6.4 Property that cannot be assigned to a single category due to the multiple use of such property in which event the property will be valued based on the apportionment of uses in accordance with the applicable category of the property in terms of this policy.

7. DETERMINATION OF CRITERIA FOR LEVYING OF RATES

7.1 Different Categories and Rates of Properties

In this rates policy, the determination of rate categories to levy different rates

For different categories of rateable property, are determined according to the following criteria:

7.1.1 Actual use of property and or;

7.1.2 Permitted use of the property

The municipal valuer of the Maruleng Municipality will be responsible for the categorizing of rateable properties and the maintenance thereof, and any change in the actual use of the property, may result in a change of categories.

Categories of rateable property for purposes of levying differential rates are determined as follows:

- a) Residential properties
- b) Business and commercial properties
- c) Educational Institutions
- d) Industrial properties
- e) Mining
- f) Municipal property
- g) State Owned properties
- h) Public Service Infrastructure
- i) Farm property used for agricultural
- j) Farm property used for business & commercial
- k) Farm property used for residential
- l) Farm property not used for any purpose
- m) Non-permitted use
- n) Public Worship
- o) Vacant Land Residential
- p) Vacant Land Business& commercial
- q) Vacant Land Industrial
- r) State Trust land
- s) Public benefit organization
- t) Multiple use
- u) Privately owned open space
- v) Private Roads

w) Communal owned property

7.2 Levying of rates

7.2.1 Period for which rates may be levied. When levying rates, a municipality must levy the rate for a financial year, and this rate lapses at the end of the financial year for which it was levied.

- (a) The levying of rates must form part of a municipality's annual budget process and at this time of its budget process review the amount in the Rand of its current rates in line with its annual budget for the next financial year.
- (b) A rate levied for a financial year may be increased during a financial year only when required in terms of a financial recovery plan (Section 28 (6) of the MFMA).
- (c) A rate becomes payable as from the start of a financial year.

7.2.2 Amount due for Rates

The Municipality shall as part of each annual operating budget determine a rate in the rand for every category.

Rates are levied in accordance with the MPRA as an amount in the Rand based on the market value of all rateable property as reflected in the valuation roll and any supplementary valuation roll.

7.2.3 Liability for Rates

A rates levied by the Municipality on a property must be paid by the owner of the property.

Rates will be levied monthly. If an amount due for rates levied is unpaid by the owner of the property, the Maruleng Municipality may recover the amount from the tenant or occupier of the property. The amount due for rates may be recovered from the agent of the owner.

Where the rates levied on a particular property have been as a result of a supplementary valuation made in terms of Section 78 (1) of the MPRA, these rates will be payable with effect from either of the dates as contemplated in section 78(4) (a),(b),(c) or(d) of the MPRA. Recovery of rates due will be in accordance with the Maruleng Municipality Credit control and debt collection Policy.

8. EXCLUSION FROM RATES

Maruleng Municipality will not levy rates on the following:

- a) On those parts of a special nature reserve, national park or nature reserve within the meaning of the Protected Areas Act, or of a national botanical garden within the meaning of the Protected Areas Act, or of a national Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004, which are not developed or used for commercial, business, agricultural or residential purposes;
- b) On mineral rights within the meaning of paragraph (ii) of the definition of "property" in section 1 of this rates policy;

- c) On a property belonging to a land reform beneficiary or his or her heirs, provided that this exclusion lapses ten years from the date on which such beneficiary's title was registered in the office of the Registrar of Deeds;
- d) On the first R15000 of the market value of a property assigned in the valuation roll or supplementary valuation roll of a municipality to a category determined by the municipality
 - (i) for residential properties; and
 - (ii) for properties used for multiple purposes, only on the component of the property that is used for residential purposes.
- e) On a property registered in the name of and used primarily as a place of public worship by a religious community, including an official residence registered in the name of that community which is occupied by an office-bearer of that community who officiates at services at that place of worship; and
- f) The property exclusively used and/ or occupied by the Maruleng Municipality.

In an event of any change in use, ownership and/or status of any nature that may affects the exclusion of rates hereof during a financial year, the beneficiary in receipt of such exclusion from rates must notify the municipality and immediately becomes liable for any rates payable on the property, effective from the date such change may have occurred

9. EXEMPTIONS, REDUCTIONS AND REBATES

EXEMPTIONS

The following properties are exempted from rates:

- (a) Municipal properties: are exempted from paying rates as it will increase the rates burden or service charges to property owners or consumers.
- (b) Cemeteries and crematoriums: registered in the name of private persons and operated not to gain.
- (c) Property referred to in Section 17 of Municipal Property Rates Act No. 6 of 2004
- (d) Public Benefit Organisations: may apply for the exemption of property rates subject to producing a tax exemption certificate issued by the South Africa Revenue Services (SARS) as contemplated in Part 1 of the 9th Schedule of the Income Tax Act No. 52 of 1962:
 - (ii) Health care institutions
 - (iii) Welfare institutions
 - (iv) Educational institutions
 - (v) Independent schools
 - (vi) Charities institutions
 - (vii) Sporting bodies

- (viii) Cultural institutions
- (ix) Museums, libraries, art galleries
- (x) Youth development organisations
- (xi) Animal welfare

Exemptions, Reductions and Rebates will be given to the different categories of properties and owners as follows:

9.1 Different categories of properties:

9.1.1 Residential Properties

In addition to the impermissible rates of R15, 000 as referred to in paragraph 5 (v) above,

All residential property with a market value of **less than the amount as annually determined** by the Municipality, are exempted from paying property rates. For the 2017/2018 financial year the maximum amount is determined as R50 000. The impermissible rates of R15 000 contemplated in terms of section 17(1)(h) of the Act are included in the amount as referred to above as annually determined by the Municipality. The balance amounting to R35 000 is aimed primarily at alleviating poverty and forms an important part of the Municipality's indigent policy.

Residential property shall include smallholdings/agricultural holdings unless the owner can provide sufficient proof to the Chief Financial Officer that he/she/it is conducting bona fide and sustainable farming activities on such property; provided that the keeping of animals or plants for sports and/ or recreational activities shall not be deemed to be a bona fide use for agricultural purposes; provided further any such activities that are merely incidental to the primary use of the property shall not be taken into account. In its exercising as to whether proof is provided the Chief Financial Officer shall inter alia take the following into account in exercising its' discretion:

- a) Income and expenditure statements
- b) The actual primary use of the property as determined by the municipal valuer.

9.1.2 Agricultural Properties

The ratio as referred to under the definition for agricultural property referred to above shall be as follows:

- a) The ratio in relation to residential property is:

Residential property1: Agricultural property1:0.25

9.1.3 Public Benefit Organization Properties

The rate applicable on public benefit organization property, as prescribed by the *Amended* Municipal Property Rates Regulations published in Government Notice No. 33016 of 12 March 2010 that take effect on 1 July 2010, may not exceed the ratio on to the rate on residential properties where:

- a) Public benefit organization property 1:0.25

9.1.4 Multiple use properties

Properties in this category will be granted a reduction, rebate and/or exemption applicable in accordance with the apportionment of the value in use in respect of such a property.

9.2 Different categories of owners

The following owners of rateable property may be granted further rebates on rates as hereunder stipulated.

9.2.1 Indigents

Indigent household as defined in the Municipality's indigent policy

50% rebate will be granted to registered indigents in terms of the Indigent Policy of the Maruleng Municipality.

9.2.2 Pensioners

- (a) A maximum/total rebate of 20% will be granted to owner of residential rateable property, who have reached the age of 60 years or his/her spouse, if any, not to exceed an amount equal to two state pensioners allowance per month. The amount will be reviewed during the Maruleng Municipality annual budget process. The pensioner property owner must apply for the rebate; for affordability purposes, proof of income and latest bank statement(s) must be attached.
- (b) The rateable property concerned must be occupied only by the applicant and his/her spouse, if any, and by dependents without income;
- (c) The applicant must submit proof of his/her age and identity and proof of annual income.
- (d) The property must be categorized as residential.

9.2.3 Physically Disabled

- a) A maximum/total rebate of 20% will be granted to owners of residential rateable property, who are physically disabled. The disabled property owner must apply for the rebate, bank statement(s) and proof of disability must be attached.

- b) The applicant must submit proof of his/her identity, proof of certification by a medical Officer of Health (will be reviewed in bi-annually) and proof of annual income from a social pension;
- c) The property must be categorized as "residential".

9.2.4 Mentally Incapacitated

The applicant must submit proof of his/her identity, proof of certification by a medical Officer of Health (will be reviewed in bi-annually) and proof of annual income from a social pension;

9.2.5 Owners temporarily without income

The Indigent criteria may be applied temporarily on successful application.

9.2.6 Disaster-hit property owners:

Owners of property situated within an area affected by a disaster within the meaning of the Disaster Management Act, 2002(Act No. 57 of 2002); or Serious adverse social or economic conditions.

9.2.7 Schools

Public Schools granted a further 15% rebates upon submission of proof that they are quintile 1, 2 or 3 (no fees school)

9.3 Applications for additional rebates:

All applications for rebates etc. will require the applicant's municipal account to be up to date or the conclusion of a suitable arrangement in this regard.

Application must include copies of the following items:

1. identity document, failing which, your birth certificate or any other proof of age;
2. Salary advice or other acceptable proof of income.

All applications for rebates etc. will require the applicant's municipal account to be up to date or the conclusion of a suitable arrangement in this regard.

The application must be signed by a commissioner of oaths and submitted to the municipality
Only a signed form together with all the relevant documentation (as mentioned above) will be accepted for further processing.

Failure to provide the required documentation will result in the application not being considered

10. CATEGORIES OF PROPERTIES AND CATEGORIES OF OWNERS OF PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OF EXCLUSIONS, EXEMPTIONS, REDUCTIONS, REBATES, OTHER IMPERMISSIBLE RATES AND DIFFERENTIAL RATING

10.1. Categories

- The categories of property are determined according to actual *use* of the property irrespective of the permitted use in terms of the Town Planning scheme.
- Property land use categories will be in line with the Maruleng Land Use Management Scheme 2008
- The Council may determine additional categories of rateable property, provided that the determination of such property categories does not circumvent the categories of rateable property that must be determined in terms of subsection of the act.

10.2. The following categories of properties are exempted from rates:-

a) MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES

Municipal properties exclusively used and or occupied by Maruleng Municipality are exempted from paying rates as it will increase the rates burden or service charges to property owners or consumers.

However, the Municipality may levy rates and taxes on its own properties if the property fall within the following categories:

- (i) Municipal properties that are leased out, more so on long leases. The lessee will be responsible for the payment of the determined assessment rates.
- (ii) Municipal properties that have been sold by a municipality and of which possession was given to the buyer pending registration ownership in the name of the buyer.

b) RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

The first R15, 000 is an exemption on the market value of a property assigned in the Valuation Roll or Supplementary Valuation Roll of a Municipality to a category determined by the Municipality for residential properties; or for properties used for multiple purposes, provided one or more components of the property are used for residential purposes. The impermissible rates on the R15,000 contemplated in terms of section 17(1)(h) of the MPRA is included in the amount referred to above as annually determined by the Municipality. This is an important part of the Municipality's indigent policy and is aimed primarily at alleviating poverty.

c) PUBLIC SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE

Different Exemptions, Reductions or Rebates will be granted to different types of Public Infrastructure. (For details refer to table on 9.3)

Exemptions in 9.2 above will automatically apply and no application is thus required. In the event of any change in use, ownership and or status of any nature that may affect exclusion of rates hereof during a financial year, the beneficiary in receipt of such exclusion from rates must notify the municipality and immediately becomes liable for any rates payable on the property, effective from the date such change may have occurred.

10.3. The following categories of owners are exempted from rates:-

a) CHILD HEADED FAMILIES

- (i) Families headed by children are accepted from paying rates, according to monthly household income. To qualify for exemption the head of the family must:-
- (ii) Occupy the property as his / her normal residence;
- (iii) Not be older than 18 years of age;
- (iv) Still be a scholar or jobless; and
- (v) Be in receipt of a total monthly household income from all sources not exceeding an amount equal to twice the amount of two state pensions;
- (vi) These applications must be made in terms of the adopted indigent policy of the Municipality.

b) INDIGENT CONSUMERS

Are owners who qualify, and who are registered as indigents in terms of the adopted indigent policy of the municipality.

Applications must be accompanied by:-

- (i) A certified copy of the identity document or any other proof of the applicant's age which is acceptable to the municipality.
- (ii) sufficient proof of total household income; which must not exceed an amount equal to twice the amount of two state pensions
- (iii) an affidavit from the applicant;
- (iv) a letter of Authority issued by a Court of Law, if not the registered owner of the property

These applications must be made in terms of the adopted indigent policy of the municipality.

The Municipality retains the right to refuse the exemption if the details supplied in the application form were incomplete, incorrect or false.

10.4. IMPERMISSIBLE RATES:

In terms of section 17(1) of the Property Rates Act the Municipality may, inter alia, not levy a rate:-

- a) On those parts of a special nature reserve, national park or nature reserve within the meaning of the **National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003)** or of a national botanical garden within the meaning of the **National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004**, which are not developed or used for commercial, business, or residential agricultural purposes.
- b) On mineral rights within the meaning of paragraph (b) of the definition of “property” in section 1 of the Act.
- c) On a property belonging to a land reform beneficiary or his or her heirs, provided that this exclusion lapses ten years from the date on which such beneficiary’s title was registered in the office of the Registrar of Deeds.
- d) On a property registered in the name of and used primarily as a place of public worship by a religious community, including an official residence registered in the name of that community which is occupied by an office bearer of that community who officiates at services at that place of worship.

11. REDUCTIONS

11.1 Reductions as contemplated in section 15 of the Act will be considered on an *ad hoc* basis in the event of the following:

11.1.1 Partial or total destruction of the property

11.1.2 Disasters as defined in the **Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act 57 of 2002)**.

11.2 The following conditions shall be applicable in respect of 10.1:

11.2.1. The owner referred to in 10.1.1 shall apply in writing for a reduction and onus will rest on such applicant to prove to the satisfaction of the Municipality that his property has been totally or partially destroyed. He or she will also have to indicate to what extent the property can still be used and the impact on the value of the property.

11.2.2. Property owners will only qualify for a rebate if affected by a disaster as referred to in the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No 57 of 2002).

11.2.3. Upon verification by the Municipal Valuer, the destroyed property will be treated as a vacant stand.

11.2.4. If rates were paid in advance prior to granting of a reduction the Municipality will give credit to an owner as from the date of reduction until the date of lapse of the reduction or the end of the period for which payment was made, whichever occurs first.

12. REBATES

Rebates for 2017/2018 are based on existing Land Use

- Public Schools are granted 15% rebate (upon submission of proof that they are quintile 1, 2 or 3 (no fees school))
- Properties falling under Use Zone 14 (Agric) and being a *nature/ game reserve/ lodge* (by falling under a legitimate nature reserve body) are granted 20% rebate (upon submission of proof by the legitimate nature body that said properties falls within its nature reserve).
- Areas declared as Protected Areas but used for commercial are granted 20% rebate and used for residential purposes are granted 25% rebate
- Pensioners will be granted an additional 20 % rebates.
- People with disability will be granted 20% rebates
- a further 15% rebates (upon submission that the owner cannot afford to pay rates and taxes) Residential, Sectional Titles and Rural Residential properties are granted

12.1 Categories of properties:-

a) Residential Properties

In addition to the impermissible rates of **R15,000** as referred to in paragraph 7.1 (b) above, a further **R35,000** exemption in the market value of a property will be granted, and a further rebate of 15% on assessment rates computed will be granted to all residential properties including state owned residential properties. Nevertheless, the R35, 000 exemption on market value and the 15% rebate is NOT applicable to residential properties that are **VACANT**.

b) Agriculture Properties

The rate applicable to Agricultural properties used solely for Agricultural / Farming purposes will be calculated on a ratio of 1:0.0030 to residential properties, in line with Regulation Gazette No. 32061 of March 2009. The rate takes into account the socio-economic contributions that farmers make with respect to job creation, accommodation, provision of services etc.

c) Public Benefit Organisation-owned Property (PBO's)

The rate applicable to public benefit organization owned properties as listed in item 1 (welfare and humanitarian), item 2 (health care) and item 4 (education and development) of part 1 of the ninth schedule to the Income Tax Act, No. 58 of 1962, will be calculated on a ratio of **1:0.0030** to residential properties, in line with Gazette No. 33061 of March 2010. The rate takes into account the contributions that PBOs make to the community.

The following are the categories of the **PBOs**:-

i) Welfare and Humanitarian Organisations

Properties used exclusively for the care or counselling of, or the provision of education programs relating to, abandoned, abused, neglected, orphaned or homeless children as well as the provision of disaster relief, poverty relief, rehabilitative care or counselling or education of prisoners, community development for poor and needy persons etc. as listed in item 1 of part 1 of the income Tax Act No. 58 of 1962.

ii) Education and Development Organisation

Properties owned and used by organizations that provide education, higher education, Adult basic education and training i.e. Schools, Higher Education Institutions, Public or private Colleges etc. as defined by the South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996); Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act 101 of 1997); the Adult Basic Education and Training Act, 2000 (Act No. 52 of 2000); the Further Education and Training Colleges Act, 2006 (Act No. 16 of 2006) as listed in item 4 of the Income Tax Act No. 58 of 1962.

iii) Health Care Organisation

Properties owned and used by organizations whose sole purpose is the provision of Health care services to poor and needy persons, the care or counselling of terminally ill persons with severe physical or mental disability, and the counselling of their families in this regard, the prevention of HIV infection, the provision of preventative and education programmes relating to HIV/AIDS etc. as listed in item 2 of part 1 of the Income Tax Act, No. 58 of 1962.

d) Retired and Disabled Persons Rate Rebates

Retired and Disabled persons qualify for special rebates according to monthly household income. The criteria for qualification will be by application to the Municipality. The extent of the rebate shall be determined by the Municipality and it shall be included in the annual Budget.

13. QUALIFYING CRITERIA FOR ADDITIONAL REBATES

a) Pensioners

- Be a natural person of at least 60 years of age, or be in receipt of a disability pension from the Department of Social Development;
- Occupy the property as his/her normal residence; (provided that where the owner is unable to occupy the property due to no fault of his/her own, the spouse or minor children may satisfy the occupancy requirement);
- Not be the owner of more than one property.
- Qualifying pensioners will be granted an additional 20% rebates

b) Indigents

- Be in receipt of a total monthly income from all sources (including income of spouses of owners) not exceeding R7 000.00;

c) Schools and Agricultural Properties

- Public schools are granted a further 15% rebates upon submission of proof that they are quintile 1, 2 or 3 (no fees school)
- Area declared as Protected Areas falling under Use Zone 14 (Agric) and being a Nature / Game reserve / lodge (by falling under a legitimate nature reserve area) but used for commercial are granted 20% rebate and used for residential purposes are granted an additional 25% rebate. The said properties must be gazetted and a legitimate proof must be provided.

NOTE: THE APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED BY A COMMISSIONER OF OATHS AND SUBMITTED TO THE MUNICIPALITY

ONLY A SIGNED FORM TOGETHER WITH ALL THE RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION (AS MENTIONED BELOW) WILL BE EXPECTED FOR FURTHER PROCESSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION NOT BEING CONSIDERED.

All applications for rebates etc. will require the applicant's municipal account to be up to date or the conclusion of a suitable arrangement in this regard.

Your application must include copies of the following items:

- 1. PROOF OF AGE:** Preferably your identity document, failing which, your birth certificate or any other proof of age; and
- 2. PROOF OF INCOME:** All pay advice, salary/wage advice, savings or other deposit record and/or investment records.

14. RATING CATEGORIES

The Council has determined the following categories of property for purposes of rating:

#	RATING CATEGORY	DESCRIPTIONS OF PROPERTY IN TERMS OF LAND USES	REBATES	RATIOS	DESCRIPTIONS OF PROPERTY IN TERMS OF LAND USES	REBATES	RATIOS
1	MLT – MULTIPLE USE	Township/Land development areas with Residential (in proclaimed areas)	15%	0.0121			
		Farms (Agricultural, residential, commercial etc.)	15%	0.0121			
2	RES - RESIDENTIAL	Single family	15%	0.0121	ST - Flats & Business	15%	0.0121
		Two family	15%	0.0121	ST - Maisonettes/Rowhouses	15%	0.0121
		Rowhouse	15%	0.0121	SB - Dwellings <<SHARE BLOCK>>	15%	0.0121
		Residential & Business (mostly residential - 51% and more residential)	15%	0.0121	SB - Flats	15%	0.0121
		Detached structures only	15%	0.0121	SB - Flats & Business (mostly residential - 51% and more residential)	15%	0.0121
		Multiple dwelling Formal / Informal	15%	0.0121	SB - Maisonettes/Rowhouses	15%	0.0121
		Block of flats	15%	0.0121	ST - Residential Garages	15%	0.0121
		Flats and Business (mostly Flats - 51% and more residential)	15%	0.0121	ST - Residential Carports	15%	0.0121
		Retirement Village	15%	0.0121	ST - Residential Granny Flat	15%	0.0121
		Hostel/Barracks	15%	0.0121	ST - Residential Storage	15%	0.0121
		Old age home/Nursing home	15%	0.0121	Farms: Residential > 1 Ha	15%	0.0121
		Terraced/Multi dwelling (3+ units)	15%	0.0121	Smallholdings: Residential ≤1 Ha	15%	0.0121
		Three family residential	15%	0.0121	Unregistered Formal Townships	15%	0.0121
		Doctors/Nurses Quarter	15%	0.0121	Informal Township	15%	0.0121
		ST- Parent Property	15%	0.0121			
		ST - Dwellings	15%	0.0121			
		ST - Flats	15%	0.0121			
		RURAL AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENT(Villages)	15%	0.0121			
3	IND - INDUSTRIAL	Cold storage	0%	0.0142	Bus/Truck depot	0%	0.0142
		Container storage	0%	0.0142	Warehouse	0%	0.0142
		Heavy industrial	0%	0.0142	Workshop	0%	0.0142

		Industrial park	0%	0.0142	Oil refinery	0%	0.0142
		Light industrial	0%	0.0142	Special Manufacturing	0%	0.0142
		Storage	0%	0.0142	ST - Industrial	0%	0.0142
		Research facility	0%	0.0142	SB - Industrial	0%	0.0142
		Storage tank facility	0%	0.0142			
		Pack house	0%	0.0142			
4	BUS – BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL	Bank	0%	0.0142	· BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES(Lodges ,B&B, Business Retail, Filling Service Station, Retail Warehouse, Office)	0%	0.0142
		Bar/Lounge	0%	0.0142	· BERLIN FARM (Non Agricultural Use)	0%	0.0142
		Car sales/Showroom	0%	0.0142	Storage - Business	0%	0.0142
		Car wash	0%	0.0142	Research facility - Business	0%	0.0142
		Club (Sports club)	0%	0.0142	Warehouse - Business	0%	0.0142
		Commercial & Residential (mostly commercial)	0%	0.0142	Workshop - Business	0%	0.0142
		Convenience store	0%	0.0142	Derelict commercial	0%	0.0142
		Creche	0%	0.0142	Boarding/Lodging house	0%	0.0142
		Department/Discount store	0%	0.0142	Guest house/B&B	0%	0.0142
		Fast food	0%	0.0142	ST - Offices and/or Retail	0%	0.0142
		Film studio	0%	0.0142	SB - Offices and/or Retail	0%	0.0142
		Funeral parlour/Undertaker	0%	0.0142	ST - Non Residential Garages	0%	0.0142
		Health club	0%	0.0142	ST - Non Residential Carports	0%	0.0142
		Hotel	0%	0.0142	ST - Non Residential Granny Flat	0%	0.0142
		Medical centre (Office)	0%	0.0142	ST - Non Residential Storage	0%	0.0142
		Medical clinic	0%	0.0142	ST - Hotel	0%	0.0142
		Office	0%	0.0142	College/University/Technikon (Tertiary)	0%	0.0142

		Office - dwelling conversion	0%	0.0142	Exhibition/Conference centre	0%	0.0142
		Office and retail	0%	0.0142	Private Hospital	0%	0.0142
		Parking garage	0%	0.0142	Private Medical Clinic	0%	0.0142
		Petrol station/Convenience store	0%	0.0142	Private School	0%	0.0142
		Restaurant	0%	0.0142	Worship centre	0%	0.0142
		Retail - dwelling conversion	0%	0.0142	Transmisson Element - Substation	0%	0.0142
		Retail shop	0%	0.0142	Water Reservoirs/Treatment Works/Pumpo House	0%	0.0142
		Shopping center-neighbourhood	0%	0.0142	Depot	0%	0.0142
		Shopping centre-regional	0%	0.0142	Farms: Comm/Ind/Bus (brick fact, game, eco tourism) > 1 Ha	0%	0.0142
		Shopping mall	0%	0.0142	Smallholdings: Comm/Ind/Bus ≤1 Ha	0%	0.0142
		Supermarket	0%	0.0142	Small Holdings Mixed	0%	0.0142
		Theatre/Cinema	0%	0.0142	Amusement park	0%	0.0142
		Casino	0%	0.0142	Airport	0%	0.0142
		Abattoir	0%	0.0142	Golf course	0%	0.0142
		Drive-in Cinema	0%	0.0142	Sports/Country club	0%	0.0142
		Nursery	0%	0.0142	Stadium/Sports facility	0%	0.0142
		Open Parking	0%	0.0142	Land Fill sites	0%	0.0142
		Cold Storage - Business	0%	0.0142	Caravan Park	0%	0.0142
		Industrial Park - Business	0%	0.0142	Crematorium	0%	0.0142
		Light industrial - Business	0%	0.0142	Mortuary	0%	0.0142
		Welfare and Humanitarian	0%	0.0142	Commercial Hijacked	0%	0.0142
5	AGR - AGRICULTURAL	NATURE/ GAME RESERVE/ LODGE IN FARMS B&B, Resort(Refer to Point No.3)	20%	0.0142			
		FARM BERLIN (Commercial Use)	0%	0.0142			
		FARMING & AGRICULTURAL COMPONENTS	0%	0.0030			

		AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS	0%	0.0030			
		INDUSTRIAL (Factories, Pack house)	0%	0.0142			
		RESIDENTIAL	20%	0.0121			
		LAND REFORM PROPERTIES	100%				
		STATE FARMS (Villages)	0%	0.0142			
		PROPERTY USED FOR BONA FIDE FARMING	0%	0.0030			
6	VAC - VACANT LAND	Nature reserve	ZONING		Worship land	ZONING	
		Private open space	ZONING		Parking	ZONING	
		Private road	ZONING		Road Reserve	ZONING	
		Public open space	100%		Road	ZONING	
		Public park	100%		Informal Settlement	ZONING	
		Vacant commercial land	ZONING				
		Undeveloped land	ZONING				
		Township Title/Developers stock (Township Est., Land Development Area, Division of Land)	50%	0.0121			
		Vacant industrial land	ZONING				
		Vacant residential land	ZONING				
7	PSP - PUBLIC SERVICE PURPOSES	Residential	15%	0.0121			
		Public Service Infrastructure (RAL/SANRAL)	30%	0.0030			
		Hospitals, Police Stations, Clinics & Offices	0%	0.0142			
		Schools (refer to Point No. 2)	15%	0.0142			
8	MUN - Municipal Properties	Community Halls	100%		Roads other property	100%	
		Bus/Taxi terminal	100%		Road	100%	
		Cemetery	100%		Transmission element (substation)	100%	
		Sewerage/Water treatment	100%		WaterReserv/TrtmtWks/PumpHse	100%	

		Municipal Buildings (Offices, Library, Museum, Courts etc)	100%		Municipal Parking	100%	
		Municipal Depot	100%		Medical Facility / Clinic - Municipal	100%	
		Residential Land	100%		Municipal Traffic Control / Ambulance / Fire	100%	
		Other Land	100%				
9	PRO - PROTECTED AREAS	· PROTECTED AREAS (referred to in Section 17 of MPRA)	100%				
		· PROTECTED AREAS Residential(referred to Point No.4)	45%	0.0121			
		· PROTECTED AREAS Commercial (referred to Point No.4)	20%	0.0142			
10	PSP - PUBLIC SERVICE PURPOSES	Public Hospital	0%	0.0142			
		Public Medical Clinic	0%	0.0142			
		Military installation	0%	0.0142			
		Prison	0%	0.0142			
		Public Buildings (Library/Museum, Courts etc)	0%	0.0142			
		Public School	0%	0.0142			
		Police/Fire/Ambulance/Traffic control	0%	0.0142			
11	POS - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	PROPERTIES ON WHICH NATIONAL MONUMENTS ARE SITUATED AND WHERE NO BUSINESS OR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED IN RESPECT OF SUCH MONUMENTS	100%				
		PROPERTIES ON WHICH NATIONAL MONUMENTS ARE SITUATED, BUT WHERE BUSINESS OR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED IN RESPECT OF SUCH MONUMENTS	0%	0.0142			
12	PBO - PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATIONS	PROPERTIES OWNED BY PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATIONS AND USED TO FURTHER THE OBJECTIVES OF SUCH ORGANISATIONS	0%	0.0030			
		PROPERTY REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF AND USED PRIMARILY AS A PLACE OF WORSHIP BY A RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY, INCLUDING AN OFFICIAL RESIDENCE - PLACE OF WORSHIP					

13	MIN - MINING AND QUARRIES	MINING	0%	0.0142			
		QUARRYING	0%	0.0142			
14	PSI - PUBLIC SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE	Airport element	30%	0.0030	PUBLIC ROADS (SANRAL & RAL)	30%	0.0030
		Harbour element	30%	0.0030	PUBLIC SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE (RAL & SANRAL)	30%	0.0030
		National Roads Corridor	30%	0.0030	RAILWAY (TRANSNET)	30%	0.0030
		Provincial Roads Corridor	30%	0.0030	PUBLIC SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE (TRANSNET)	30%	0.0030
		Railway Corridor	30%	0.0030	MUNICIPAL ROADS (Local & District Municipality)	100%	
		Railway other property (transnet)	30%	0.0030	Run Ways and Aprons	30%	0.0030
		Transmission corridor	30%	0.0030	Water reservoirs/treatment works/Pump House	30%	0.0030
		Transmission element (substation)	30%	0.0030	Dam	30%	0.0030
		Water Pipeline corridor	30%	0.0030			
		Electrical Power Stations	30%	0.0030			
		Telecommunication Corridor	30%	0.0030			
		Telecommunication other property	30%	0.0030			
		Gas/Liquid fuel Corridor	30%	0.0030			
15	AER - AERODROME	AERODROME	0%	0.0142			
16	RCL - RURAL COMMUNAL LAND	Communal land	100%				
		Communal land res	15%	0.0121			
		Communal land Business	0%	0.0142			
		State Land Trust	0%	0.0142			

14. FREQUENTLY OF PAYMENTS OF RATES

- 14.1. Payments for rates shall be made monthly on or before the date specified in each monthly rate account.
- 14.2. A property owner who is responsible for the payment of the property rates in terms of this policy, fails to pay such rates in the prescribed manner, it will be recovered from him/her accordance with the provisions of the Credit Control, Debt Collection and policy of the municipality.
- 14.3. Rates on arrears shall be recovered from tenants, occupier and agents of the owner in of Section 28 and 29 of the Municipal Property Rates Act No 6 of 2004.
- 14.4. Where the rates levied on a particular property have been incorrectly determined, whether because of an error or omission on the part of the municipality or false information provided by the property owner concerned may be put, the rates payable shall be appropriately adjusted for the period extending from the date on which error or omission is detected back to the date on which rates were first levied in terms of the current valuation roll.
- 14.5. Where the error occurred because of false information provided by the property owner or the use of the property, interest on the unpaid portion of the adjusted rates payable shall be levied at the maximum rate permitted by prevailing legislation.
- 14.6. Rates are calculated as follows:-
- Property rates are calculated on the value of the property.
 - The Property Rates Act requires that this value must be the "Market Value"
 - Rates are calculated by multiplying the market value of immovable property by a Cent amount in a Rand which is determined from the budget.

For example

Residential Property (Res1 Use Zone 2)

Property value (R600 000.00) -15000 -15% x 0.0121
=R 6 016, 72 ÷ 12 Months
=R501.39 Monthly

Farm Property (Agric Use Zone 14)

Property value (R1 000 000.00) x Levying rate (R0.0030c)
=R 3 000 ÷ 12 Months
=R250.00 Monthly

15. RATES INCREASES

- 15.1. The Council pledges itself to limit each annual increase as far as practicable to the increase in the consumer price index over the period preceding the financial year to which increase relates, except when the approved integrated development plan of the municipality provides for a greater increase.
- 15.2. All increases in property rates will be communicated to the local community in terms of the municipality's policy on community participation.

- 15.3. The council shall further, in imposing the rate for each financial year, strive to ensure that the aggregate budgeted revenue from property rates, less revenue forgone and less any contributions to the provision for bad debts, equal at least 25% of the municipality's aggregate budgeted net revenue for the financial year.
- 15.4. The municipality will ensure that its revenue base and the collectability of its revenues remains sound.

16. CATEGORY OF PROPERTY OWNERS

- 16.1. Residential property owners who are both the permanent occupants and the sole owners of the property concerned and who are registered indigents in terms of the municipality's indigent management policy. (Rebates-100% of the rebates based on the rateable value up to R30 000 and 75% of the rates value above R30 000)
- 16.2. Residential property owners who are over 60 years of age (pensioners), who are both the permanent occupants and the sole owners of the property concerned, and whose aggregate household income is proved to the satisfaction of the municipal manager not to exceed R7 000 per month, or such other amount as the council may from time to time determine. (Rebates – 100% of the rates based on the rateable value up to R30 000, 70% of the rates based on the rateable value above R30 000 but below R100 000, and 50% of the rates based on the rateable value above R100 000).
- 16.3. Owners of properties being developed for approved industrial or commercial usage. (Rebates – 80% of the rates based on the rateable value until the development is completed, 60% of the rates based on the rateable value for the municipality's financial year or part thereof immediately following the completion of the development, and 40% of the rates based on the rateable value for each of the two ensuing years).
- 16.4. Land Reform Beneficiaries
- 16.5. Public Benefit Organisation
- 16.6. Business
- 16.7. Owners Temporarily without income
- 16.8. Sporting Bodies
- 16.9. Government
- 16.10. Government Agencies and Parastatals
- 16.11. The council grants the above rebates in recognition of the following factors:
 - (a) The inability of residential property owners to pass on the burden of rates, as opposed to the ability of the owners of business, commercial, industrial and certain other properties to recover such rates as part of the expenses associated with the goods or services which they produce.
 - (b) The need to accommodate indigents and less affluent pensioners.
 - (c) The services provided to the community by public service organizations, schools and hospitals.
 - (d) The value of agricultural activities to the local economy coupled with the limited municipal services extended to such activities, but also taking into account the municipal services provided to municipal residents who are employed in such activities.

- (e) The need to preserve the cultural heritage of the local community.
- (f) The need to encourage the expansion of public service infrastructure.

- (g) The indispensable contribution which property developers (especially In regard to commercial and industrial property development) make towards local economic development, and the continuing need to encourage such development.
- (h) The requirements of the Property Rates Act no. 6 of 2004.

16.12. The Municipal Manager shall ensure that the revenues forgone in respect of the foregoing rebates are appropriately disclosed in each annual operating budget component and in the annual financial statements and annual report, and that such rebates are also clearly indicated on the rates accounts submitted to each property owner.

17. NOTIFICATIONS OF RATES

- 17.1. A municipality will give notice of all rates approved at the annual budget meeting 30 days prior to the date that rates become effective.
- 17.2. The date on which the new rates become operational will be displayed or advertised on the provincial gazette and local newspaper and on the Municipality website.

18. REVIEW OF POLICY

- 18.1. The rates policy will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the process to prepare the annual budget and to ensure that it complies with the Municipality strategic objectives and legislations.

19. DECLARATION

This Draft Property Rates Policy 2017/2018 is for Maruleng Municipality.

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

DATE:_____

