

## **Media coverage for Sustainability Week**

**Take a LEAF out of Mayor's book**

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18/06/14

PTA NEWS



Tshwane mayor Kgosietso Ramokgopa will test drive a Nissan LEAF electric vehicle for the next two months.

## Take a LEAF out of the mayor's book

### STAFF REPORTER

THE CITY of Tshwane is going green, so don't be surprised if you soon see the mayor whizzing around the streets of the capital in an electric car.

To ensure future generations enjoy the same standard of living as we do today, Kgosietso Ramokgopa said he would be trying the first electric car to be commercialised in South Africa.

Ramokgopa received the keys to a Nissan LEAF from Nissan representatives last week and will test-drive it for two months.

The delivery of the electric car forms part of the city's programme to mark Sustainability Month.

The move is one of the practical steps the city is taking to transform to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and resource-efficient economy.

"We are gradually moving towards low carbon emission solutions and will procure several Nissan LEAF vehicles to be used for local operational activities and promote the use of cleaner sources of fuel. We plan to phase these vehicles into our fleet," said Ramokgopa.

After taking the car for a spin around the block, the mayor said: "I can see why it is called the Nissan LEAF. It drives so quietly, without an

ounce of a vibration, and the acceleration is much better than a normal car."

Nissan LEAFs produce zero carbon emissions, are environmentally friendly and run on rechargeable batteries.

The vehicles can be recharged by plugging them into a normal power source.

The exhaust of a small, big or even hybrid car releases thousands of cubic feet of carbon dioxide emissions annually. The Nissan LEAF doesn't have an exhaust.

The electric vehicle has been on show since Saturday and can be viewed at places around the city and during the Sustainability Week Conference this week.

The conference opened yesterday and runs until tomorrow at the CSIR International Convention Centre.

The municipality will take part in all seminars, dialogues and exhibitions and will launch the Tshwane Green Economy Strategic Framework, which is an eco-visionary's masterpiece and encourages a resilient and resource-efficient city that creates jobs and stimulates economic growth and sustainable development.

For more information on the conference, visit [www.sustainability-week.co.za](http://www.sustainability-week.co.za).

[http://www.thenewage.co.za/128415-1009-53-Mayor\\_sees\\_future\\_in\\_zero\\_carbon\\_emissions\\_car](http://www.thenewage.co.za/128415-1009-53-Mayor_sees_future_in_zero_carbon_emissions_car)

Jun 16 2014 12:26AM

## **Mayor sees future in zero carbon emissions car**



Ramokgopa received the keys to the first electric car to be commercialised in South Africa at the municipal offices in Centurion from Nissan SA representatives, which he will test drive for two months. Picture: NTOMBI NKOSI

### ***NTOMBI NKOSI***

The city of Tshwane is going green to ensure that future generations enjoy a better standard of living says Tshwane mayor, Kgositso Ramokgopa.

Ramokgopa received the keys to the first electric car to be commercialised in South Africa at the municipal offices in Centurion from Nissan SA representatives, which he will test drive for two months.

Nissan Leaf vehicles produce zero carbon emissions, are environmentally friendly and run on rechargeable batteries.

The move is one of the practical steps the city is taking to transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and resource efficient economy.

“We are gradually moving towards low carbon emission solutions and will procure several Nissan Leaf vehicles to be used for local operational activities and promote the use of cleaner sources of fuel,” Ramokgopa said.

He is scheduled to be at the sustainability week conference taking place from tomorrow until Thursday at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research International Convention Centre.

The conference will boast a stellar line-up of conferences, seminars and public lectures.

The city will participate in all seminars, dialogues, exhibitions and will launch the Tshwane Green Economy Strategic Framework.

The framework is an eco-visionary's masterpiece and encourages a resilient and resource-efficient city that creates jobs and stimulates economic growth and sustainable development.

The vehicles can be recharged by plugging into a normal electric power source.

The tailpipe of a small, big, or even hybrid cars releases thousands of cubic feet of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions every year.

The Nissan Leaf doesn't even have an exhaust.

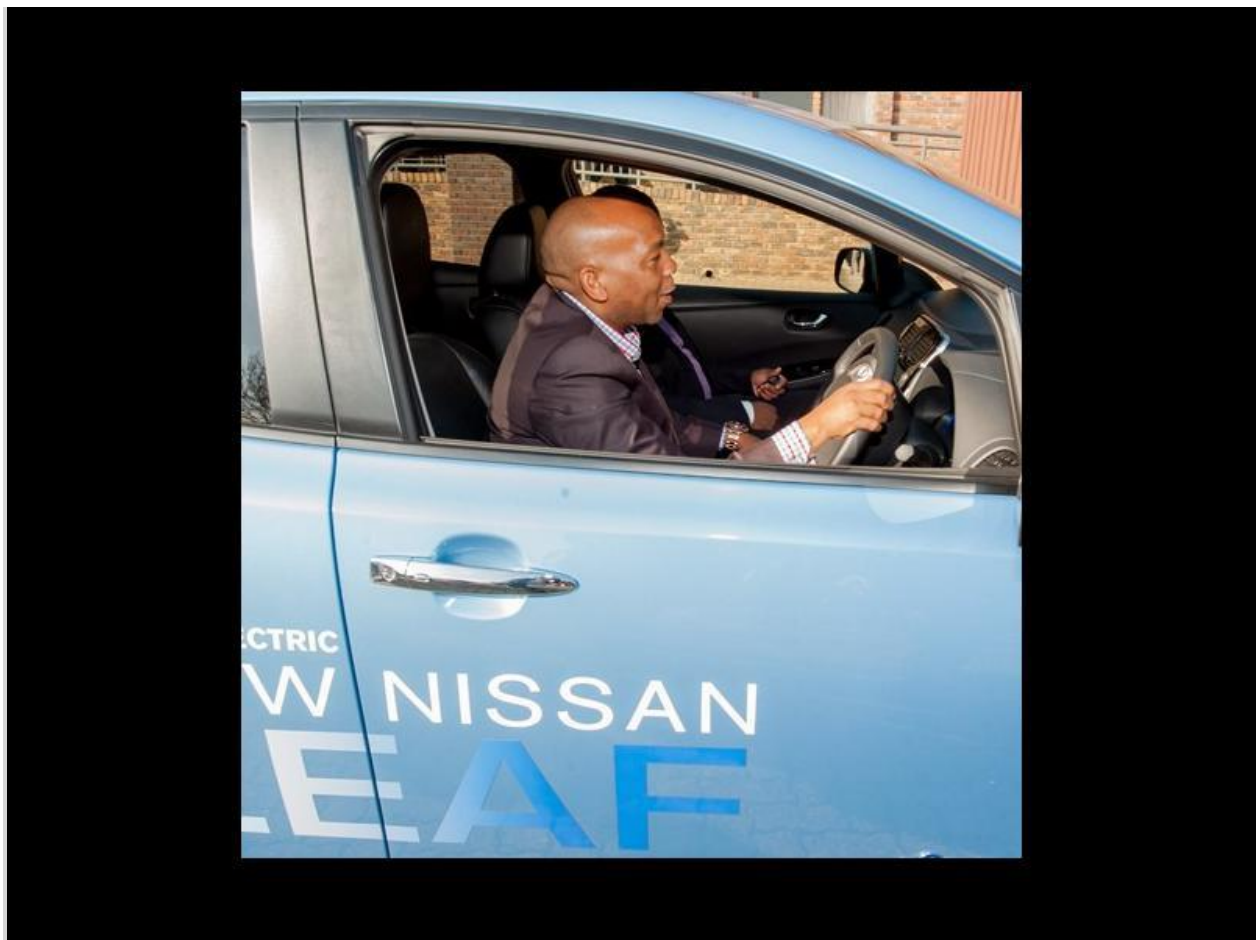
[ntombin@thenewage.co.za](mailto:ntombin@thenewage.co.za)

# Silent electric cars to replace Tshwane metro's fleet of vehicles

<http://rekordeast.co.za/22088/silent-electric-cars-to-replace-tshwane-metros-fleet-of-vehicles/>

Whispering electrical cars will replace the metro's fleet of more than 3 000 petrol and diesel powered vehicles.

Du P Martins | 18 June 2014 08:00



The Tshwane metro mayor, Kgosintso Ramokgopa, testdrived one of the electrical cars that will gradually replace the metro's fleet of vehicles.

The Tshwane metro embarked on the first steps to replace its fleet of vehicles, amounting into the thousands, with electric powered vehicles

“We are gradually moving towards low carbon emission solutions and will procure several Nissan LEAF vehicles to be used for local operational activities. In doing so, we wish to promote the use of



cleaner sources of fuel. We plan to phase in these vehicles in our fleet,” metro mayor, Kgosietsso Ramokgopa, said last week

He added that, as one of the transport innovative solutions, the city’s sustainability unit drives the process of igniting and enhancing the interest to move from fossil fuel-based modes of transport toward modes like electricity. This will demonstrate the metro’s seriousness regarding sustainable transport initiatives and a future economy with zero emission.

The electric vehicles are environmentally friendly, specifically because they have zero carbon emission. This has been identified as a viable and practical solution needed for the metro fleet to showcase the importance of gradually moving towards low carbon emission solutions.

By introducing the zero emission electric vehicles the metro will be promoting the use of cleaner sources of fuel. Emissions from the fossil fuel-powered vehicles cause the depletion of the ozone layer and lung diseases.

The electric vehicle will be showcased around the city and during the Sustainability Expo Week at the CSIR from 14 to 18 June 2014.

The mayor claimed that the metro had to implement simple and practical measures to reduce carbon emissions to combat the impact of climate change and global warming. Pretoria, as the capital and the largest metro by land mass on the continent, has to lead from the front in the fight against greenhouse emission, he said.

Ramokgopa said, in advocating for this green initiative, it will go a long way in encouraging residents and the rest of South Africa to migrate from fossil fuel-powered vehicles to electronic zero emission green cars and other green alternatives.



## Tshwane hosts eco conference

NTOMBI NKOSI

CITY of Tshwane hosts the sustainability week conference today.

The conference dealing with environmental issues, would be held at the CSIR International Convention Centre until Thursday.

Spokesperson Blessing Manale said that the city would participate in all seminars, dialogues, exhibitions and will launch the Tshwane Green Economy Strategic Framework.

"The framework is an eco-visionary's masterpiece and encourages a resilient and resource-efficient city that creates jobs and stimulates economic growth and sustainable development," Manale said.

There will also be a multitude of exciting eco-exhibitors, displaying eco-friendly technology such as electric cars and bicycles.

The city has planned a cocktail party tomorrow at 5pm where mayor Kgosietso Ramokgopa will launch the Tshwane Green Outreach Programme.

Ramokgopa was given a Nissan Leaf electric vehicle that produces zero carbon emissions, environmentally friendly and run on rechargeable batteries to test drive for two months.

"I can see why it is called the Nissan Leaf. It drives so quietly without an ounce of vibration and the acceleration is much better than a normal car," said Ramokgopa after driving it around the block.

Participants will comprise port and harbour authorities, key government decision makers, national and regional government, local and district municipalities, recycling companies, waste industry stakeholders and more.

[ntombin@thenewage.co.za](mailto:ntombin@thenewage.co.za)

### QUICK FACTS

Seminars scheduled to take place include:

- » Vision Zero Waste Seminar Series – 17 June 2014
- » Green Building Conference – 17, 18 June 2014
- » Sustainable Energy Seminar – 18 June 2014
- » Transport and Mobility Seminar and Exhibition – 19 June 2014
- » Water Resource Seminar and Exhibition – 19 June 2014
- » Food Security Seminar – 19 June 2014
- » Green Business Seminar Series – 19 June 2014
- » Responsible Tourism Dialogue – 19 June 2104



# GREEN AND CLEAN

## Mayor to test-drive environment-friendly car



Mercedes Mathebula, Keba Matlhako from Nissan SA, Tshwane Mayor Kgosientso Ramokgopa, Edwin Matlou from Nissan SA, Dorah Nteo and Dolly Mafa with the Nissan LEAF electric vehicle in Tshwane.

By LETLHOGONOLO MASHEGO

**THE** City of Tshwane is going green to ensure that future generations enjoy a better standard of living as people do today.

That was said by Tshwane Mayor Kgosientso Ramokgopa on Wednesday.

He was receiving keys to the first electric car to be commercialised in Mzansi.

For the next two months Ramokgopa will test-drive the Nissan LEAF electric

vehicle. "We are gradually moving towards low carbon-emission solutions.

"We will acquire several Nissan LEAF vehicles to be used for local operational activities and promote the use of cleaner sources of fuel. We plan to phase these vehicles into our fleet," Ramokgopa said.

According to the city's Lebogang Matji, the cars produce zero carbon emissions.

He said they are environmentally friendly and that they run on rechargeable batteries.

Matji said the vehicles can be recharged by plugging them into a normal electric power source.

Ramokgopa will open this year's Sustainability Week Conference, which will take place from Tuesday and end on Thursday at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria.





Expresso Show



SABC 3 interview

**Online coverage:**

- **Green Week to be held in Tshwane:**

<http://www.itweb.co.za/index.php?id=134876>

- **Working together for a brighter future:**

<http://rekordmoot.co.za/18442/working-together-for-a-brighter-future/>

- **This June will see the next annual staging of Sustainability Week:**

<http://showme.co.za/pretoria/events-entertainment/2014-sustainability-week/>

- **Striving for a green economy:**

<http://www.tshwane.gov.za/AboutTshwane/NewsandEvents/news/Pages/Sustainability-Week-%E2%80%93-striving-for-a-green-economy.aspx>

- **Green Week for Tshwane:**

<http://www.tshwane.gov.za/AboutTshwane/NewsandEvents/news/Pages/Green-Week-for-Tshwane.aspx>

- **Sustainability Week to be held in Tshwane:**

<http://www.pretoria-news.co.za/sustainability-week-to-be-held-in-tshwane/>

- **A green week for Tshwane:**

<http://www.tia.org.za/News/a-green-week-for-tshwane->

### **Radio interviews:**

SAFM

Ikwewezi

Motsweding

SABC

Growing Tomorrow

Expresso

Unisa Radio