

**THE PROPOSED PHASE 2 & PHASE 2 EXTENSION OF HOUMOED AVENUE
KEY NOTES OF MEETING WITH LAKE MICHELLE RESIDENTS
5 JUNE 2018**

VENUE: Lake Michelle Boat House

1. ATTENDEES

PROJECT TEAM		
FULL NAME	INITIAL	ORGANISATION
Claudette Muller	CM	Chand Environmental Consultants
Fred de Villiers	FDV	hho Consulting Engineers
Sadia Chand	SC	Chand Environmental Consultants
Ingrid Eggert	IE	Chand Environmental Consultants
Andre Frieslaar	AF	hho Consulting Engineers
Simon Todd	ST	3 Foxes Consulting
Dean Ollis	DO	Freshwater Consulting Group

ATTENDEES		
NAME		
Lorna Kirsten	Cain Barn	J Van Baal
Janice Duff	Peter Raine	Marcus Biron
Janet Cannan	Chris Foad	F. Siffert
Carl Wainman	Ian Bowyer	Jenny & Gavin Shaw
Jenny Nieman	Vicki Edwards	Kerryn Desai
Peter Foad	Peter & Jacki Curtis	Emile Furno
Chris Pickering	Janet Jackson	Laura and Nick Graves
Brian Hambleton Jones	Joyce & Graham Futcher	Rolf Hillerman
Ceryl Hambleton Jones	Brenda Devine	Mike Williams
Mally MacBawty	Pat McKune	Peter Ray
R. Van Der Vluot	Allan Collins	Steve Moulton
Helen Moffett	Pam Graham	Rudi Hauschild
Margie Louw	Stuart Leach	Rebyn Smith
Judy Mannington	Brian Gold	Eternity Brady
Derick & Frances Barratt	Heidi Ellerholtz	Craig & Sue Philp
Phillip Mason	Tony Grave	Pieter Lodolff
SA Daly	Arno Mayer	Sakkie Neeuwsen

1. INTRODUCTION

- Ms. Lorna Kirsten from the Lake Michelle Homeowner's Association welcomed attendees, thanked the project team for accepting the invitation and introduced SC.
- SC explained that Chand, as the Environmental Consultants on the proposed extension of Houmoed Avenue Phase 1 and Phase 2, and the appointed specialists were invited by the Lake Michelle Homeowner's Association to answer questions by Lake Michelle residents related to the proposals.
- Questions were provided to the project team beforehand who prepared responses.
- SC introduced the project team.

2. SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION

Q1: The effect the upgrade of phase 1 will have on us living in Lake Michelle with regards to traffic that will automatically flow along Noordhoek Main road before turning into Silvermine road is a concern. There is a development in the pipeline for an additional 110 homes in the undeveloped part of Lake Michelle. Entrance and egress to the estate is already a concern.

- AF presented development scenarios over the short/medium term and long term.
- AF presented the predicted increase in flows at the Noordhoek/Lakeshore intersection during the AM and PM peak hours, east bound and west bound, over the short/medium term and long term.
- The anticipated increase of traffic along Noordhoek Road is related to the development within the area rather than the extension of Houmoed Avenue.
- AF presented the Alternative Routes out of the Valley.
- Based on travel distances of the alternative routes and reduced congestion levels during peak periods once the current Ou Kaapse Weg and Kommetjie Main Road upgrade is operational, travelling via Noordhoek Road and Silvermine Road would not be the more attractive option (being 1.6 km longer).
- Signalising the Noordhoek/Lakeshore and Noordhoek/Northshore intersections is not warranted over the short/medium term but will be monitored. It is predicted that signalisation would be warranted in the long term.

Q2: Will the water quality in the lake be affected? This would be a costly expense to the owners if the lake becomes contaminated in any way. Lake Michelle is in an onerous position because it is unable to control the quality of the water flowing in to Lake Michelle but it is responsible for the quality of the water flowing out.

- Impacts on Lake Michelle were considered and it is not believed that the road would affect Lake Michelle in any way.
- FDV explained that the effect of the road extension on stormwater flow was looked at and a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan drafted. This will be finalised post-authorisation.
- It has been determined that the proposed road will not impact on the water levels in the adjacent wetlands and will not impact on the drainage or quality of water of Lake Michelle.
- The stormwater management plans are available for review after the meeting with FDV.

Q3: Concern that there is a main sewerage pipe that runs from Lake Michelle to a connection near Masiphumelele before emptying into Wildevoelwei – should this be damaged with shacks being erected it would cause human waste to be spilled into the wetlands and have an impact on the sewerage system at Lake Michelle?

- The Houmoed extension and accompanying infrastructure upgrades as part of Phase 2 including the implementation of a formalised sewerage system and proposed stormwater interventions would vastly improve the quality of water entering the wetland and greatly improve the current poor sanitation in Masiphumelele.

- Sewage from Masiphumelele will be diverted to Wildevoelwei.

Q4: Will the construction of phase 1 make it easier for the informal settlement to build shacks in the wetlands along Houmoed Road?

- It is believed that the road will allow for increased visibility, surveillance and accessibility which will enable the City and others to better manage invasion and vagrancy.

Q5: Concern what impact Phase 2 specifically will have on Lake Michelle. Shacks are being built in the wetlands on an ongoing basis. The informal settlement is extending almost up to Lake Michelle's perimeter walls/fences.

- All shacks extending into the wetland will be removed during relocation and the wetland rehabilitated.
- As explained, the road will allow for better policing to avoid further encroachment.

Q6: Can phase 2 of the extension be developed before phase 1?

- Yes. The two phases are subject to two separate environmental applications. The phases are not interdependent.

Q7: Can it be disclosed where the 2500 Masiphumelele households will be relocated?

- A number of suitable properties have been identified but the exact locations cannot be confirmed as yet, as the City is still in the process of determining which of the sites are available for residential use.
- The City has, however, indicated that all possible relocation sites are within a 2.5km radius from Masiphumelele.
- Should development on any of these sites require environmental or land use planning authorisation, the necessary processes will be followed and the public will have an opportunity to comment.

3. ADDITIONAL CONCERNS RAISED

	KEY CONCERN		Responses/Comments
1.	Does the traffic scenarios presented by AF take into account Kommetjie Road	AF	Yes.
2.	Does the scenarios include Chapman's peak?	AF	No.
3.	What is the purpose of the road?	IE	Multiple benefits are presented in the Basic Assessment Reports (BAR) for each phase. Benefits for phase 1 include 1) traffic alleviation 2) to provide longer term capacity (5 years) to the road network 3) to allow for better surveillance along the road edge to prevent encroachment into the wetland 4) the road would form a physical barrier to prevent further encroachment 5) NMT facilities including a cycling lane and 6) the road would serve Masiphumelele residents by enhancing accessibility to shopping areas, work and transport opportunities.
4.	Concern that road would simply cause a bottleneck at Ou Kaapse Weg.	AF	Noted. The Far South Traffic study is looking at this. Congestion in the Valley due to limited routes and limited capacity of these routes is

			however also a problem which the Houmoed extension will address.
5.	The wetland is being drained and channels have been constructed. Shacks are extending up to Lake Michelle properties. Encroachment needs to stop. It causing severe pollution and impacting on the wildlife of Lake Michelle and surrounds.	IE	Halting encroachment is the City's mandate thus the team cannot comment. The road will however serve as a way to better police further encroachment. During project implementation, shacks will be removed and the wetland rehabilitated in these areas.
6.	There is no reflection of the water crisis in the wetland report?	DO IE	Addressing the water crisis was not one of the objectives of the Freshwater study. The study aimed to establish the baseline conditions of the wetland, determine the impact the road would have on the wetland and to determine appropriate measures to manage and mitigate impacts to acceptable levels The necessary water-saving measures will be implemented during the construction phase as outlined in the EMPr.
7.	Concern that the development and implementation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) is complex and a challenge is the Provincial capacity to implement the process. It should be better highlighted that the resettlement process poses a significant risk to the project.	IE & SC	Agreed. The complex nature of the RAP was acknowledged by the social specialists and in the BAR. The relocation process requires significant planning and consideration. The project team has recommended that a Project Steering Committee be established which will comprise of key community members. It is suggested that Lake Michelle nominate members to sit on the committee. The Project Steering Committee will be actively involved in the development and implementation of the Relocation Action Plan.
8.	Concern that the ponds adjacent to the extension are breeding ponds for the Endangered Western Leopard Toad (WLT) and their importance is not highlighted adequately in the reports. The road will impact heavily on the breeding and thus survival of the WLT and their importance as an Endangered species is essentially being ignored by the project team, It is unacceptable that no amphibian study was completed* <i>*the commentator was asked to leave by an attendee as she is not a Lake Michelle Resident and was disrupting the meeting.</i>	IE	The significance of the breeding ponds was highlighted in both the Faunal and Freshwater studies. A number of mitigation measures to minimise the impact on WLT populations have been recommended and will be implemented. The Faunal report was conducted by a Faunal expert with the necessary expertise. The report will also be reviewed by a herpetologist given the Endangered status of the WLT and concern expressed by the public. It should be noted that ToadNUTS was approached for a meeting but declined.
9.	Has there been consultation with Masiphumelele residents?	SC	A number of Focus Group Meetings has been held with Masiphumelele leadership to inform them of the proposal. An Open House with informational posters, translated pamphlets and isiXhosa speaking translators were also hosted at the Masi Community Centre. The

			social specialists also had meetings with leadership to inform the social study. Engagement with key stakeholders and the broader community will intensify post-authorisation during the detailed design phase. Stakeholders will be involved in the development and implementation of the required Resettlement Action Plan. The Project Steering Committee will also include stakeholders from Masi.
10.	Will structured houses be provided?	IE	Yes. The exact design of the houses however will only be determined during the detailed design phase post-authorisation. This will be dependent on housing subsidies and also the best land use considering the scarcity of available land. The City will be looking at different designs with input from Masi residents.
11.	Will there be more opportunity to comment on the BAR?	IE	The commenting period is now closed. Residents are however encouraged to still submit their comments to Chand who will attempt to incorporate the comments into the Final BAR.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- Ms. Kirsten thanked SC and the project team for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend.
- SC invited to attendees to directly engage with the relevant project team member should they have more questions.
- The meeting was adjourned.