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BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED IRT PHASE 2A TRUNK ROUTE: PORTION E1, 3.5KM OF GOVAN MBEKI ROAD, MANENBERG & GUGULETHU: MEETING WITH CITY OF CAPE TOWN REPRESENTATIVES: BIODIVERSITY OFFSET DISCUSSION
PRE-APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 16/3/3/6/7/1/A2/19/3028/18
KEY MEETING NOTES- DRAFT

MEETING DATE: 5 April 2018
VENUE: Plumstead Municipal Office, 3 Victoria Road, Plumstead, 7800
TIME: 09h00 – 10h30
ARRANGED BY: Chand
CHAIR: Ms. Marielle Penwarden

1. ATTENDEES

FULL NAME	INITIAL	ORGANISATION
Mr. Rashaad Samaai	RS	City of Cape Town Environmental Management Department (CCT: EM)
Mr. Dalton Gibbs	DG	City of Cape Town Environmental Management Department (CCT:EM)
Ms. Luzann Isaacs	LI	City of Cape Town: Edith Stephens Wetland Park: Reserve Manager
Mr. Sean Altern	SA	NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd
Mr. Justin Miller	JM	NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd
Mr. Eugenio Mazzarella	EM	GIBB (Pty) Ltd
Ms. Marielle Penwarden	MP	Chand Environmental Consultants (Environmental Assessment Practitioner)

2. AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction (MP)
- Botanist Findings (SA)
- Discussion Regarding the need for an Offset (All)
- Other (ALL)
- Close (MP)

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. Welcome and Introduction

- a) MP welcomed all attendees to the meeting, thanking them for their time.
- b) SA gave the presentation (see attached).

3.2. Botanist Findings

Refer to the attached presentation.

3.3. Discussion Regarding the need for an Offset

- a) It was confirmed that, although the City is presently in agreement with the fact that there would be no direct impacts on the sensitive vegetation within the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve, the

City believes that there cannot be certainty regarding the extent of the possible edge effects, so would therefore err on the side of caution with respect to an offset. In addition, the City believes that the potential impacts on the greater wetland system are also unknown and would also tread cautiously in that regard.

- b) The City concluded that they would likely still recommend an offset for of the potential encroachment into wetlands, which would need to be calculated in terms of the requirements of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). Note that an offset in terms of biodiversity/ biodiversity offset guidelines would most likely not be recommended by the City.
- c) It was agreed that the City would provide their comment on the proposal and associated freshwater ecology and botanical reports, particularly with regard to an offset by the end of April 2018. It was also agreed that the City would include in this comment an estimate of the rate per square meter or possible costs associated with such an offset.
- d) EM suggested that it may also be possible to incorporate certain refurbishments to the Lotus Canal which could serve as a contribution to an offset.
- e) It was agreed that, although the DWS is the competent authority with regard to setting requirements for a wetland offset, the City would comment on the issue anyway.
- f) Chand committed to making attempts to meet with the DWS to discuss their requirements in terms of a wetland offset, adding that, should attempts be unsuccessful during the pre-application phase, the DWS would have to provide comment on the Basic Assessment Report, and the wetland offset issue, as part of the post-application public participation process.
- g) Chand committed to providing the City with the DWS comment on the matter if and when it is received.

3.4. Other

The following other aspects/issues pertaining to the proposed project were raised during the meeting:

- a) DG stated that there may be a City proposal in the pipeline to use the botanically sensitive section labelled "C" as a small by-pass for the Lotus Canal which would serve as a polishing system for the water, however conceded that the plans (if still in place) would have no effect on the proposed project and vice versa.
- b) DG requested that, throughout the documentation pertaining to this Basic Assessment process, the Edith Stephens Wetland Park be instead referred to the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve. MP confirmed that this would be done.
- c) It was confirmed by EM that the stormwater/ surface water from the proposal would travel from the boundary inwards, thus being directed away from the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve. He also added that an impermeable dike would be constructed below ground-level to prevent sub-surface drainage toward the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve and that this dike could be extended approximately 300mm above ground to provide a boundary between the proposal and the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve. It was noted that details such as this would be further unpacked during the detail design phase.
- d) It was confirmed that a bus station is currently anticipated to be located approximately 100m to 120m east of the gate of the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve and would extend approximately 100m down the road thereby providing constant security and supervision in that area. It was agreed that this would be beneficial to the presently unfenced area of the reserve. It was noted, however, that details such as this would be further unpacked during the detail design phase.
- e) It was also confirmed by EM that access to the stations would be provided via traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing. It was noted that specific details regarding the location of these aspects of the design would be further unpacked during the detail design phase.
- f) The nature of the proposed fence (to be located along the presently unfenced area of the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve) was discussed particularly with regard to the type of fence which would be successfully installed (and which would be relatively "theft-proof") as well as the responsibility for the maintenance thereof. It was agreed that such details would be discussed with affected parties during the detail design stage of the project. EM added that he would confirm with the Project Manager whether there is presently any intention for where this responsibility would fall.
- g) With respect to the existing culvert and weir nearby Edith Stephens Nature Reserve, EM confirmed that the weir would likely be retained and that, although there are no current plans to remove the culvert, a condition assessment would be undertaken at the commencement of

construction in order to establish the state and fate of the culvert in question. It was noted that details such as this would be further unpacked during the detail design phase.

- h) DG also stated that the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve management is considering the construction of an additional access point and LI added that the reserve receives many buses. EM explained that critical accesses would remain along the proposed route, but certain other accesses would fall away. It was agreed that, should an additional access point be required by the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve, it would have to be the subject of a study (which would fall beyond the scope of this Basic Assessment process). It was also agreed that, while there is the potential to design an improved bell-mouth access to the reserve, such details would be further unpacked during the detail design phase.

3.5. Close

- a) MP thanked all attendees for their time and input and closed the meeting at 10h30.

4. ACTIONS

A number of actions arose from the meeting. The details thereof are tabled below.

No.	Action	Details	Responsible Party
1	Correct reference to the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve	All documentation associated with the Basic Assessment process will refer to the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve (instead of the Edith Stephens Wetland Park).	MP
2	Provide written comment on the City's requirements with regard to an offset	Written comment on the freshwater ecology and botanical reports is to be provided to Chand by the end of April 2018. The comment is to include the City's recommendation with respect to the need for an offset as well as an estimated rate or cost which may be associated with it.	RS DG
3	Meet with the DWS to discuss their requirements associated with a wetland offset	Set up a meeting with the project team and DWS to discuss whether or not they would require a wetland offset and furnish RS with their comment, if provided. <i>If attempts at such a meeting fail, then the DWS would be afforded the legislated opportunity to comment on the documentation associated this Basic Assessment process.</i>	MP
4	Clarify the responsible party for the maintenance of the fence associated with the proposal along the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve	Feedback is to be provided to RS, DG and LI with respect to whether or not there is presently a considered intention regarding which party would be responsible for the maintenance of the fence to be constructed along the Edith Stephens Nature Reserve (specifically in the area which is currently not fenced).	EM to obtain clarity from Project Manager/ MP to send information to RS, DG and LI