

Memorandum

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SUBJECT: PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL BASIC WATER SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITIES OF MAKAUSI INFORMAL SETTLEMENT,

BACKGROUND

This bears reference to the correspondence from the HoD, which refers to the visit of the Executive Mayor and MMC to Makausi Informal Settlement on the 22 April 2015. Where numerous problems relating to the core functions of the department ranging as far as,

- Adequate water services points,
- Water leaks resulting from the illegal water connections
- Grey water with the vicinity of the communal stand pipes service points along the peripheral of the settlement
- Illegal connections into the informal settlement
- Illegal sales of water at the settlement.

DISCUSSION

The above informal settlement is located in the Northern part of Germiston (Primrose) along the Main Reef and Pretoria road with at least 5200 households (shacks) and approximately established in the year 1996, and falls within the service area of ward councilor Tania Campbell. The informal settlement is on privately owned land and it's on the Germiston and Boksburg mining belt with lots of shallow mine shafts.

The mining company has also flagged concerns of ground stability with the vicinity of the informal settlement, that the soil profile been very sensitive to uncontrolled water run-off that will automatically lead to saturation of the ground and trigger sink holes. The municipality has also attempted to re-allocate the community towards Nigel in response to such challenges and also after an incident of community member tumbling down into a mine shaft. The informal settlement since demarcate as high risk zone within all EMM informal settlements.

The informal settlement is getting its water supply through communal stand pipes that are strategically positioned at peripheral boarder lines opposite the road reserves spaced at 200m since the settlement is in privately owned land and the department doesn't want to risk the possibility of sink holes by extending the communal taps inside the settlement. That it be noted that the settlement has refused service of chemical toilets and insisted that the settlement be fully serviced and be developed for

residential irrespective of challenges raised. The residents have opted to use unimproved pit-latrines toilets.

Layout Plan of Makause Informal Settlement



CHALLENGES

The informal settlement has the following challenges that impact direct to the provision of temporary basic water services;

- The informal settlement is too congested with huge number of population, that it be noted that with attempts by the municipality to provide chemicals and the community rejecting the service. The municipality therefore risks the possibility to have the toilets vandalized and possibly spark riots.
- Considering that the settlement has lots of mine shafts and positioned on the mining belt, it will be extremely very risky to have communal stand pipes installed in the informal settlement irrespective that permission is granted by the land lord. The grey water and illegal water connections will greatly affect the soil profile integrity and cause sink holes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That an increase in the number of communal stand pipes on the peripheral boarder lines opposite the road reserves and that the trapezoidal drainage be extended in the entire boarders to properly control drainage system and the run-off from stand pipes (grey water).

- That there be another political intervention and engage with all groups of leaderships with the settlement to allow for the erection of chemical toilets and that the community provides access to for maintenance of the service purposes.
- That there is special intervention from the division of revenue collection in the department, legal service department and EMPD to deal with challenges of illegal water sales and illegal water connections.
- That it be noted that all water leaks are urgently attended by the nearby water depot in Driehoek responsible for operations and maintenance of the infrastructure. The settlement leadership also directly report all incidents of water leaks to the depot for urgently attention and irrespective of such reported, the depot also do routine visits to the informal settlements to attend to such matters.
- In the view that the depot has reached its curb amount on the appointed as and when contractors, therefore considers options of addressing the above through the emergency procurement route.

DEPARTMENTAL INTERVENTION

If the above as recommended in the report be considered, the depot will therefore consider the implementation of the below proposed interventions in relations with the proposed schedule.

- That there is an assistance from all groups of local leadership in the informal settlement to assist the department with the distribution of the chemical toilets, to avoid having toilets delivered been vandalized. That will improve on challenges of hygiene and improve living conditions. The erection of the toilets will be issued at the ratio of 1:10 families and at least 50 toilets will be required.
- The construction of grey water drainage facilities and additional stand pipes to complement the existing services. The proposed will be commence on condition that the emergency procurement report is approved considering that most emergency reports have been delayed for approval causing audit queries.

Makausi: Bar Chart Programme

Item no	Activity	Duration	Start	Finish	May 2015				June 2015			
					1wk	2wk	3wk	4wk	1wk	2wk	3wk	4wk
1.	Grey Water Drainage System	6 wks	4/5/15		█	█	█	█	█	█		
2.	15 no of Stand pipes	5 wks			█	█	█	█	█	█		
3.	Chemical toilets	1wk					█					

I hope you find the above in order.

Regards

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