

Notes of a Meeting held with Mr G Mullins of eThekweni ECPDP

Date: Wednesday 6th June 2018

Time: 2pm

Venue: Room 226, Engineers Department, **

Attendance:

G Mullins – EPCPD

V King – Metamorphosis Environmental Consultants

Mr D Styles – Vegetation Specialist

Mr A Wolfaardt – Project Manager

A discussion was held around the processes undertaken to date for the project in terms of the interaction with ECPDP and the amendments made to the project as a result of previous concerns raised by the Department.

The long term ownership and management of Erf 2957 was discussed. Clarity needs to be sought on whether the property is currently public or private open space. The entire site is designated as DMOSS and communication must be held with the City with regard to long term management of this property.

Action AW

The remainders of the Erfs which will be developed must also be set aside for conservation. The simplest option will be to establish a non user conservation servitude on these areas which is then managed by the property owner in the long term.

The proposed layout was presented and Mr Mullins agreed that it was in accordance with the previous discussions with the client and the engineer.

The key concerns from the ECPDP were confirmed as:

- Earthworks on the site and possible cut to spoil
- Sewage disposal pipe routing
- Stormwater management and discharge.

Mr Mullins queried whether the new traffic reports and geotechnical reports have been undertaken. AW confirmed that they have.

Earthworks:

Mr Mullins stated that the soils are shales and do not therefore absorb water and are inert, so it is difficult to establish vegetation on them. It was confirmed that the latest geotechnical report confirms this.

The Geotechnical report will be circulated to all present.

Action: VK

The engineer will be asked to provide earthworks design drawings to inform the process. This will be discussed with Mr Mullins once it is available.

Action: AW/Project Engineer

Sewage and Stormwater:

The proposed routes for the sewer lines which link into the bulk sewer were discussed as shown on the latest engineering plan. GM confirmed that these appear to be acceptable and are a great improvement on the original routes proposed.

DS will examine the routes in terms of vegetation disturbance and the mitigation and management provisions must ensure that no erosion occurs on these lines in the long term. GM stated that these trenches will have to be constructed by very small machines to ensure that the working servitude and any adjacent damage are kept to a minimum.

Action VK /DS

The stormwater discharge points do not appear to have been amended. The project team will require more detail in terms of the volumes of stormwater for discharge and the design of the discharge points. GM stated that the majority of attenuation should be undertaken on site in order to minimise off site discharge of stormwater. AW to request detailed stormwater management plan to be developed by engineer for discussion with ECPDP.

Action: AW/Engineer

Vegetation

DS queried what the City will look for in terms of mitigation. GM stated that he does not foresee the requirement for offsets, and that management undertaken on the remainder of the property should suffice, such as alien plant control etc. Plant rescue must be undertaken on the remnant grassland patch. GM stated that the forest is all secondary as the area was previously grassland and farmland as shown by the old aerial images of the area.

A discussion was held with regard to the possible DAFF requirements. GM stated that they should not consider it to be primary coastal forest and should not therefore require offsets. However it was recommended that DAFF are engaged outside the EA process to facilitate their comment.

DS stated that there is significant forest on Erf 2956. AW commented that the layout has changed slightly on that property to avoid some of the forest. It was recommended that once DS has undertaken his detailed survey, the layouts are reviewed to see whether the forest can be avoided completely, reducing the possible requirements from DAFF. It was noted that there are numerous Cheesewoods on the Dwyka Tillite.

Action: DS, AW and architect.

Once the detailed vegetation information is available and the layouts have been revised, DS will liaise with GM who will prepare a pre-consultation memo which can be used in communication with DAFF.

Action: DS/GM

GM suggested that VK presents a Background Information Document for circulation as part of the Basic Assessment Process.

Action: VK

Ms King thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.