

City gears up for the annual Mayoral Sports Day

In early September the City hosted the Mayoral Sports Day Media Launch, an event traditionally used to select which clusters will compete against one another at the Mayoral Sports Day.

This year will be the ninth annual Mayoral Sports Day and will see teams from across the City competing in various sports codes including swimming, dance sport, athletics, basketball, netball, soccer, rugby, karate, table tennis and volleyball, among others.

Municipal Manager, Dr Nhlanhla Sibeko thanked the various sports federations for the time and effort that they commit to developing sporting talent among the City's youth. He said the City was aware of the need to promote sport to provide the youth with entertainment and that he was looking forward to the City hosting beach soccer and beach volleyball later in the year.

Mr A Mdluli of the uMhlathuze Football Association spoke on behalf of all federations present and thanked the City's Sports and Recreation Section for providing sports facilities where the youth can play and develop their skills.

Ms Nonhlanhla Ndlela, from the Provincial Department of Sport and Recreation, commended the City on dominating the district team that is selected for the SALGA Games. She said the City's strong presence is because it has a considerable amount of raw talent among its youth and the City has invested in resources to promote sport among the youth.

Mayor Elphas Mbatha said that education and sport go hand in hand. Sport prepares the body to physically strong so that a person can think and work hard. He called on the community to support the teams competing in the Mayoral Sports Day and said that one of the objectives of the Games is to expose talent.

He said there were good career opportunities and much money to be made by players who were at the top of their sport, particularly now that South Africa can compete against the best in the world, as we saw recently at the Commonwealth Games.

Mayor Mbatha was then called upon to draw soccer balls from a sports trophy to determine which clusters would play against each other.

See next month's uMhlathuze Wami for photos and results of the Mayoral Sports Day.



Mayor Elphas Mbatha selects which clusters will play against one another by drawing soccer balls from a trophy. Each soccer ball had the name of a different cluster hidden inside. Assisting him is Dudu Ngidi of the City's Sports and Recreation Section.



Dr Nhlanhla Sibeko addresses members of the media and the various sports federations in the City at the Mayoral Sports Day Media Launch.

City Management changes

Council has resolved that Mr Mxolisi Kunene be re-appointed as the Deputy Municipal Manager: Financial Services while Mr Tumelo Gopane, who has been Acting Deputy Municipal Manager: Infrastructure and Technical Services for several months, has now been appointed to the position. Both are employed on fixed term contracts.

However, the contracts for the Deputy Municipal Manager: Corporate Services and Deputy Municipal Manager: City Development, which came to an end at the end of July 2014, were not renewed by Council and remain vacant.

Mr Mdu Mhlongo, the Manager in the Office of the Speaker, has been appointed as Acting DMM: Corporate Services and Mr Stanley Mbatha, the Manager: Public Transport, Facilities and Operations, has been appointed as Acting DMM: City Development. Both are appointed on a month-to-month basis for a period not to exceed November 2014.

Meanwhile the post of Manager: Specialised Services in the Office of the Municipal Manager is to be converted to a post of Chief Operations Officer, on the same salary structure as the posts of Deputy Municipal Manager, and be advertised.

Councillors believe there is a need for a Chief Operations Officer to provide operational assistance to the Municipal Manager in order to monitor and manage the specialised functions of Performance Management, Internal Audit, Risk Management, Communications, Integrated Development Planning and Business Analysis.



Acting DMM: City Development,
Mr Stanley Mbatha



Acting DMM: Corporate Services,
Mr Mdu Mhlongo



DMM: Financial Services:
Mr Mxolisi Kunene



DMM: Infrastructure and Technical
Services: Mr Tumelo Gopane

Getting uMhlathuze Wami to the people

Each month **65 000** copies of **uMhlathuze Wami** are printed and distributed across the City to inform residents about Council and municipal issues that may affect them.

While it is difficult to ensure that everyone receives a copy, our distributor Multi Media Direct, has a comprehensive distribution schedule that aims to get the newsletter to its readership as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Almost 22 000 copies are distributed in Richards Bay and the surrounding suburbs and a further 10 000 copies are delivered to Empangeni. These are mainly delivered door-to-door in residential areas, but some are also bulk dropped at businesses.

A further 30 000 copies are distributed to the outlying areas including Mevamlhlope, Maholoholo, Mandlazini, Matshana, Ndabayake, Ongoye, Vulindlela, Dube Village, Dumisane Makhaye Village, Ngwelezane and eSikhaleni. This also includes over 4 500 copies that are delivered to Ward Councillors in the rural areas.

Copies of the newsletter are also available on the City's website, www.umhlathuze.gov.za.

If you have difficulty in accessing a copy of the newsletter please call the Acting Chief Communications Officer, Mandy Govender on 035-9075403.



Strong likelihood of water restrictions for City

The City of uMhlathuze hosted the first Water and Sanitation Key Customer and Stakeholder Forum for 2014 in August where City officials and representatives of the Department of Water Affairs and Mhlathuze Water gave presentations about the current stage of water and waste water in the City and surrounds.

Mr S Gumede, a representative from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) reported that although the water resources available to the uMhlathuze Municipality are currently sufficient to cater for the existing requirement, should the anticipated growth rate and industrial development materialise the current water source may come under stress.

Regarding water quality, the City of uMhlathuze is currently the sixth best performing Municipality in the province in terms of its Blue Drop score for water quality. The City has also improved its municipal Green Drop score to 84,9% and is one of the top performers in KZN. The Department commended the City for its "preparedness for the audits as well as the manner in which waste water services is managed".

For the next three financial years the Department has allocated funding to the City through Municipal Water Infrastructure Grant. R17,5 million and R18,8 million has been allocated for the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 financial year respectively, a further R50,8 million for the 2015/2016 financial year and R7,9 million.

The City's Head of Water and Sanitation, Zukiswa Mbolekwa-Pupuma reported that the City's Water and Sanitation Services provides services to all 30 wards in the municipal area and has approximately 1 966km of water network and a further approximately 1 928km of waterborne network.

Commenting on Bulk Water Master Plan, the demand for treated water, she said that the demand for water would increase to between 148MI per day and 158MI per day by 2015. This would increase to 206MI per day by 2025, representing a 123% to 150% increase in demand.

She also said that the water level at Lake Mzingazi was less than 40% and Lake Chubu was about 50% as 30 June 2014 and continuing going down. Warning that there was a "strong likelihood" of water restrictions for Lake Mzingazi system (level at 28% as at end of August) being put in place for Richards Bay CBD, Alton, Arboretum, Veldenvlei, Aquadene, Birdwood, Veldenvlei, Weideweide, eNseleni, Mandlanzini, Mzingazi and KwaKhoza Traditional Area.

Letters have already been sent to the City's top 13 water consumers, including uThungulu District, requesting water conservation and demand management.

The Water and Sanitation Key Customer and Stakeholder Forum will meet on quarterly basis.



Officials from the City's Department of Infrastructure and Technical Services with some of the presenters at the Water and Waste Water Stakeholder Forum (from left): Neeran Maharaj (Scientific Services Manager), Zukiswa Mbolekwa-Pupuma (Head: Water and Sanitation), Sabelo Hlela (Planning Manager), Tumelo Gopane (Deputy Municipal Manager: Infrastructure and Technical Services), Simphiwe Xulu (Operations Manager, Mhlathuze Water), Thembinkosi Zondi (Customer Services Manager) and Mr S Gumede (Department of Water Affairs).



Hilltop reservoir kontrak uiteindelik toegestaan

Die munisipaliteit het die kontrak aan "Afrostructures" (Edms) Bpk toegestaan om 'n 20MI reservoir te bou in Empangeni nadat die maatskappy aan wie die tender oorspronklik toegestaan was, dit van die hand gewys het.

Die terrein oorhandiging het aan die begin van die maand plaasgevind en die kontrak, ter waarde van R41,6 miljoen sal 14 maande neem om te voltooi.

Die reservoir word in Wyk 24 gebou en is noodsaaklik vir die water opbergingskapasiteit van Empangeni, wat tans net deur Pearce Crescent reservoir bedien word. Die nuwe reservoir sal water aan die "Waterstone" ontwikkeling asook die nuut afgebakende wyke van Ntambanana voorsien.

E: *Afrostructures (Pty) Ltd has a 14 month contract, to the value of R41,6 million, to construct a 20MI reservoir for Hilltop. Located in Ward 24, the new reservoir is necessary to build water storage capacity for the Empangeni area.*

UHlelo Lokuthuthwa Kwendle NgamaBhakede Luyaqedwa EMandlazini

Uxhaso lwesiBonelelo seNqalasizinda kaMasipala esibalelwa kuR1,8 wezigidi luzosetshenziswa oHlelweni lokuQeda ukuthuthwa kwendle ngamaBhakede okumele kuphele ekupheleni kukaSeptember.

Lokhu kulandela ukuvakashelwa kwendawo nguMnyango wokuBusa ngokuBambisana neziNdaba zoMdabu, okuyiwona owahlonza imizi okusasetshenziswa kuyo uhlelo lwebhakede. Uhlelo lwebhakede luchaza indlela yokuthuthwa kwendle ngendlela engamukelekile kanti ukuqedwa kwalendlela kuzobase Wodi 4.

Inhloso yokuQedwa koHlelo lweBhakede wukuhambisana komnqamulajuqu kaSeptember 2014 owabekwa nguMongameli uJacob Zuma eNkulumweni yakhe yeSimo seSizwe ngomhlaka 17 June 2014. UkuQedwa kwaloluHlelo kubandakanya ukwakhiwa kwezindlu zangasese zohlobo lweV.I.P kuleyomizi ethintekayo njengesixazilulo sesikhashana njengoba vele usukhona umsebenzi wenqalasizinda yamanzi endaweni yaseMandlazini oyophela ngo2018.

Iziza eziningi endaweni yaseMandlazini zinawo amathange endle angakwazi ukuxhunywa kulenqalasizinda yamanzi ngoxhaso lwesiBonelelo seNqalasizinda esikhathini seminyaka emithathu. Lokhu kuyoqeda izindlu zangasese zamabhakede, kugqugquzele ukuqwashiswa komphakathi ngezempilo nenhlazeko, kuvule amathuba emisebenzi nxa sekwakhiwa kubuye kulethe uqeqesho ngamakhono kanye nokuncishiswa kokunukubeza ichibi laseMzingazi ngendle.

E: *Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) funding estimated at R1,8 million is to be spent on the Mandlazini Bucket Eradication Programme, which is to be completed by the end of September.*

Junior kunstenaars uitstalling by die Museum vir die Mondi Eisteddfod

Die kunswerke van laerskool-leerders in die Zoeloeland area word tans ten toon gestel by die Empangeni Museum as deel van die 2014 Mondi Eisteddfod. Die laerskole wat vanjaar deelneem sluit in Curro Grantleigh, Lucas Meyer (Vryheid), Felixton Kollege, St. Catherine's, Richardsbaai, Mtubatuba Christelike Akademie, Arboretum, Heuwelland, Veldenvlei, Zoeloeland Remedieërende Skool en Hluhluwe. Private kunsinskrivings is ook ontvang van Mari van Wyk, Fluitige Vingers en Neetlet Wessels.

E: *The artworks of primary school learners in the Zululand area are currently on display at the Empangeni Museum as part of the 2014 Mondi Eisteddfod.*



Iziphathimandla Zithamela Imfundiso YeBatho Pele

Iziphathimandla zikaMasipala ezisezingeni eliwu 19 kuya phezulu ziminywe ukwethamela imfundiso ngolwazi lweBatho Pele abibanjelwe e-Umfolozi Hotel Casino Convention Centre Empangeni ngo-August lapho kuchazwe khona ngesidingo nezinjongo zeKomidi leDolobha leBatho Pele.

IBatho Pele yinqubo-mgomo ethathelwe esishweni sesiSuthu esichaza ukuthi "Abantu kuqala." Yasungulelwa ukuba abasebenzi bakahulumeni banake umsebenzi, balwele ukusebenza ngemfanelo nanokuqhubeka ekuzinikeleni ukuba kwenziwe ngcono ukuhlinzekwa umsebenzi. Kuyindlela ebhekelela abantu uma kuhlinzekwa umsebenzi.

Kulemfundiso-ngxoxo iziphathimandla zatshelela ukuthi uMasipala "ngumkhumbi ozimelele" njengoba uthole imiphumela enganesici yomgcinimabhuku. Ungomunye womasipala abanozinto ezweni ngoba ube nombikishi okokuqala esigamekweni esingajwayelekile esabikwa ngaphambi koKhethe lukaZwelonke ngo2014.

Nokho uSihlalo weBatho Pele, uThemba Phahla wathi yize iDolobha lisebenza kahle kodwa lisengenza kangcono. Wakhuthaza iziphathimandla ukuba zixoxe ngolwazi eziluthola endaweni yomsebenzi nalokho ezikuqaphelayo ukuze zedlulise isiko lokuphatha okuyimfanelo kukaMasipala ngaleyondlela zithathe ukuhlinzekwa komsebenzi zikubeke kwelinye izinga.

E: *Municipal officials from post levels 19 upwards were invited to attend a Batho Pele information sharing session at the Umfolozi Hotel Casino Convention Centre in Empangeni in August where the need and objectives of the City's Batho Pele Committee were outlined.*



Public invited to IDP Review meetings

The 2015/2016 Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Review is currently underway and comprises public participation meetings throughout the City to inform and seek input from the community.

The IDP is a single, inclusive strategic plan adopted by Council to link, integrate and co-ordinate plans and takes into account proposals for the development of the Municipality. It aligns the resources and capacity of the Municipality with the implementation of the plan while also forming the policy framework and general basis on which annual budgets must be based. In addition the IDP needs to be compatible with national and provincial department plans and planning requirements binding on the Municipality in terms of legislation.

As legislated, Council must review and amend its IDP annually in accordance with an assessment of its performance measurement and to take into consideration changing circumstances.

The remaining meeting dates are as follows:

- Sunday, 28 September 2014 at 14:00 at the Hlanganani Community Hall
- Sunday, 5 October 2014 at 14:00 at the eSikhaleni FET Hall
- Sunday, 19 October 2014 at 14:00 at the Gobandlovu Community Hall

There will also be a meeting for stakeholders on Wednesday, 8 October at the Richards Bay Civic Centre in the Council Chambers at 11:00.



Women's Summit elects Women's Forum

The City of uMhlathuze celebrated Women's Month in August by hosting a Women's Summit at the Umfolozi Hotel Casino Convention Centre in Empangeni, which culminated in the election of a Women's Forum.

The Women's Summit had the theme "Celebrating women of character, courage and commitment and 20 years of freedom" and was attended by Deputy Mayor Zethu Gumbi, uThungulu District Mayor Thembeke Mchunu, uThungulu Deputy Mayor Thulani Mashaba, members of the House of Traditional Leadership, members of the Commission on Religious Affairs, City councillors, ward delegates, representatives of government departments, stakeholders and business professionals.

In her address, Cllr Gumbi expressed the City's appreciation towards those who continue to contribute towards the development of women in particular and community development in general. She said the Women's Summit aimed to "inspire one another and generations that will in the future lead this country to greater heights of prosperity".

Explaining the need to establish a Women's Forum, she said that "As part of good governance and public participation, it is important to engage citizens including engagement through their participation in sectoral and other forums. By doing so the government ensures that the needs of the vulnerable and marginalised groups are integrated or mainstreamed within the Municipality's core function. Each of the forums needs to be represented in the Integrated Development Plan or Budget forums, ensuring that their mandate is mainstreamed and considered within the IDP processes, projects and budgets."

She added: "The Women's Forum is an important means to "advocate for women's issues including their rights as well as opportunities for growth and development".

In closing Cllr Gumbi paid tribute to the stalwarts of the women's agenda "including leaders of the African National Congress Women's League who met 60 years ago, recognising the shared oppression of women, and came up with the Women's Charter for Effective Equality. We salute heroines such as Lilian Ngoyi, Charlotte Maxeke, Ida Mntwana, Bertha Gxowa, Albertina Sisulu, Adelaide Tambo and many more. As a government organisation we acknowledge the role of women towards nation building, and indeed, working together we move South Africa forward."



Government needs to focus on quality of women in politics

According to Professor Christopher Isike of the Political Science Department at the University of Zululand, the formation of the City's Women's Forum is important for the empowerment of women and offered his department's assistance in terms of research and projects.

In his informative and enlightening address, Prof Isike said that according to a UN Security Council resolution, every government structure in the world should have at least 30% representation by women by 2015. Prof Isike said that South Africa has already surpassed this and is aiming for 50/50 representation.

On the African continent, South Africa is second only to Rwanda in terms of having the highest representation by women in national, provincial and municipal government and the country is ranked fourth in the world.

However, even though South Africa has a considerably higher percentage of representation by women in politics on a national level at 43% compared with only 9% in Botswana, Prof Isike said that there is not much difference between the two countries in terms

of the policy outcomes from parliament that advances the development of women.

"What this means is that the numbers don't matter if the quality is not there. It's not enough to have so many women in government structures. The key for South Africa now is to look at the quality so that the numbers and the quality can match. We need to look at who these women are and how do they come into power," he said.

South Africa follows a proportional representation and quota system that is controlled by men. "So it is men who decide when women come into power, and when these women come into power their loyalty is not with other women but with the men who put them into power," he said.

"A solution is for women to have their own organisations or groups, like this forum you are about the start. Ultimately the goal should be for you to go to forums where women can compete directly with men," he said. This is the case in Botswana where women contests seats on their own against men and are voted



in by women. They are then accountable to the women who voted them into power.

He said women's forums are an ideal place to talk about issues that concern women.

"There is no way we can have progress in society if women don't talk and aren't happy. Our livelihood and our survival as men depends on the happiness and survival of women. So if you educate a woman, you educate a community. If you educate a man, you educate a family."

He added that women bring different values to politics than men. "Women are more empathetic than men, more aware of community needs than men, they are less corrupt than men they are more collaborative than men and are more peaceful than men. We need those differences to show when women are represented in politics and this can only happen when women are more conscious of who they are and what they can bring to the table."

He added that the "forum must meet across colour, across party lines and across interests and agree on the things that bind you to together as women. The things that bind you together are more than the things that differentiate you".

In closing he urged women to rise up and take their position of power saying that African women, by their nature, are very powerful people and research shows they are the most powerful women in the world. He reminded women that pre-colonialism, African women did not need to be legislated into power and had "real power". He said 40% of King Shaka's army that created the Zulu kingdom constituted women and his personal bodyguards were mainly women.



One of the guest speakers, Ayanda Madlala, with Lindiwe Dlodlo and Shusiso Mthethwa

Officials celebrate Women's Month

uMhlathuze municipal officials in the Halls and Thusong Centres Section celebrated Women's Month with guest speakers, who all related to women's health and welfare, as well as by competing against each other in a variety of stage acts. The competition was keen as these officials are at the forefront of providing services, advice and counselling to communities in areas outside of the City's major centres.



Celebrating Women's Month were Philadelphia Buthelezi and Brenda Langa



Enjoying the day together were Mphile Mthembe, Thoko Khumalo, Fikile Msweli and another guest speaker Promise Ngema.

Izindawo Zokudayisela Emakethe Eku-A Renke Zisadinga Ukusetshenzwa

IDolobha laseMhlathuze linqamule isivumelwano sezinyanga eziyisithupha nosonkontileka owanikwa umsebenzi wokwakha izindawo zokudayisela emakethe eseRenke-A Empangeni njengoba umsebenzi wabuyiselwa kuMasipala ungaphelile kanti futhi unezinto ezonakele ezazingalungisiwe.

Ngokombiko owathulelwa iKomidi eliPhezulu loMkhandlu-Dolobha, isikhathi esasibekiwe kwakuyinzinyanga eziyisithupha, esabe siphela ngomhlaka 6 April 2014. Kwakuba nemihlangano yobuchwepheshe eyayihlelwa phakathi kweminyango yemisebenzi kaMasipala nosonkontileka.

Kwathi uma kubonakala ukuthi inqubekelaphambili ishaya ngonyawo lonwabo emihlanganweni emathathu yokuqala kwathathwa isinqumo sokuba kube nemihlangano yobuchwepheshe ebanjwa njalo ngeviki ukuze kubhekwe kabanzi umsebenzi nanokuthi kusizwe usonkontileka ukuze akwazi ukubuyisela isikhathi esasilahlekile ngokusalela emuva komsebenzi.

UMnyango wokuThuthukiswa kweDolobha wahlola umsebenzi wabuye wamazisa usonkontileka ngezinto ezazonakele ezatholakala. Izinto ezonakele zenza isakhiwo sibukeke kabi kanti sibeka encupheni ukuphepha kwabahwebi kanye nesimo sokukhangeka kwesakhiwo sendawo yokudayisela.

Isizinda somsebenzi sabuyiselwa kuMasipala ngoJune 2014 kodwa umsebenzi ungaphelile nomonakalo ungalingisiwe.

AbaBhekelele ukuHlinzekwa kwemiSebenzi basalungiselela ukuba kuqokwe usonkontileka omusha ozoqedela umsebenzi ngokweqophelo loMkhandlu-Dolobha.

E: *The Supply Chain Management process is being followed to appoint a new contractor to complete the building of market stalls at A Rank Empangeni after the Municipality cancelled its contract with contractor who was initially awarded the work.*

Venue change and postponement for Richards Bay Air Show

The Richards Bay leg of the KwaZulu-Natal Winter Air Tour, organised by the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Treasury, has been postponed due to new regulations on the crowd line issued by the Recreational Aviation Administration of South Africa (RAASA).

The crowd line is the distance from the edge of the runway to where the spectators can sit. For safety reasons the new regulations extend the crowd line from 50m to 100m, which is now a few metres outside the airport fence. RAASA has also banned the hosting of air shows in densely populated areas based on an incident at one of last year's air shows where an aircraft that was part of the displays crash-landed and burst into flames taking the pilot's life.

To accommodate the new regulations an alternative venue has been identified at Alkantstrand because of the open space over the sea and the ample sitting space for spectators. The Richards Bay Airport is also short of parking space, whereas the beach is easily accessible, has ample parking and opens up an opportunity for other activities.

However, the nature of the venue makes the collection of entry fees impossible and, for that reason, it is suggested that no fees be charged for attending the air shows in Richards Bay from 2014 onwards. An advantage of this is that it might increase the number of people attending thus introducing more people to aviation, which is what the air show is intended to achieve.

The Municipality has recommended that the Richards Bay air show be planned for December to coincide with the uMhlathuze Beach Festival. Dates are to be communicated to the organisers and finalised closer to the event.

City embarks on Tourism Buddies Learnership

The National Department of Tourism has appointed Tourism World Academy to implement the Tourism Buddies Learnership project in KwaZulu-Natal and the City of uMhlathuze has been invited to take part in the project.

The City has identified 900 unemployed youth, between 18 and 35 years, who will be enrolled for either a National Certificate in Accommodation Services (NQF Level 2) or a National Certificate in Food and Beverage Services (NQF Level 4).

Learners will receive theory training at the Municipality by a service provider for three months after which they will be placed with host employers for nine months to gain in-house training experience.

An objective of the project is to ensure that all beneficiaries are provided with exit opportunities of either further employment with host employers, tourism entrepreneurship or further training.

Final count-down begins on John Ross upgrade project

At the time of going to press, contractors were hard at work towards completing the final phase of the John Ross Parkway upgrade – the section from the N2 towards the R102 in Empangeni which included the construction of two new bridges and the demolition of the old bridge over the railway lines.

Commuters have waited almost a decade for this project to reach finality, with the worst traffic disruptions occurring in the past five years when work shifted from the new east bound carriageway and its bridges to upgrading the westbound carriageway from the Arboretum intersection all the way through to Empangeni, including the two new bridges at the entrance to Empangeni.

Reporting at the 54th meeting of the John Ross Upgrade Public Liaison Committee, Elroy Smith of Royal Haskoning said the practical completion for the project was the end of September and they were on track for reaching this target, weather permitting.

This final 29 month contract of the upgrading of the John Ross Parkway started in April, 2012 is due for practical completion at the end of September which includes the completion *"of all the layerworks of the pavement structure, storm water reticulation, islands, sidewalks, the embankment slopes, road signs, road markings, ancillary works and the bridges"*. Smith added that the contractor would address any snags during October.

"The total value of the works is R132-million and the total expenditure to date (mid-August) is R106-million, 90% of the total works. The contract will finish under budget," said Smith.

"A substantial number of local suppliers, resources and sub-contractors are being used for the contract and a total of 89 job opportunities were created with R4,3-million spent on local wages."

Major works to be completed before the end of September were:

- The Oilco intersection and associated traffic signals;
- Asphalt surfacing, road marking, median drain, sidewalks and street lighting between the Oilco intersection and the new southern bridge or bridge B;
- Asphalt base, asphalt surfacing, road marking, median island and drain, sidewalks, traffic signals and street lighting from the new bridges to Mnterpala Street intersection (formerly known as the New Tanner Road);
- Tanner Road intersection, road marking, median island, sidewalks, traffic signals and street lighting in the section from Mpala Street to Grantham Highway or R102;
- Asphalt Surfacing, road marking, median islands, traffic signals and street lighting in the section from the R102 to the Engen garage;
- The superstructure of bridge B is complete but there was still sidewalks, asphalting and eight joints to be completed; and finally
- Street furniture including guardrails and open drains.

Smith said that the "switch over" of traffic onto the new bridge should happen before the end of September.

Spokesman for businesses in the Tanner Road area, Mike French, said businesses have all been negatively impacted by the disruptions to access to their premises but they are looking forward to the improved traffic flow in the area and hope that business picks up again.

The final meeting of the John Ross upgrade Public Liaison Committee is set for 9 October where members will reflect on a job well done.



Thoughts of traffic congestion experienced earlier in the year are gone when travelling through the upgraded and improved John Ross Parkway and Grantham Highway intersection.



All areas along the Tanner Road and Mpala intersections with the John Ross Parkway are a hive of activity as contractors work towards completing the project.



Some work is still required at the Oilco intersection before the practical completion of the final phase of the John Ross Parkway upgrade.



Ekuvulweni kwesiteshi sokuqaphela umoya eSikhaleni kwakungu Francois Nel (ummeleli weqophelo lomoya wakwaGoldae and Associates), uDonovan Barton-Hobbs, uFranz Schmidt, uGarth Domingo, uLance Coetzee, uSandy Camminga, uDenis leRoux, (uthishanhloko waseTisand), uNdumiso Ngongoma, uCandice Webb kanye noNock Okello.

Abakwa RBCAA Baqala Ukuqaphela Iqophelo Lomoya ESikhaleni

Iqophelo lomoya eSikhaleni selizoqashelwa ngabeNhlangu yomoya oHlanzekile yaseRichards Bay (RBCAA) efake isamba esingama R600 000 esiteshini sokuqaphela iqophelo lomoya kulelido lobha.

Lesisiteshi esinesiteshana sesimo sezulu, siseTisand Technical High School kanti sizokala iSulphur Dioxide (SO_2), iTotal Reduced Sulphites (TRS) kanye neParticulate Matter (PM10). Lezizinhlayiyana sezalokhu zabayinkinga ngenxa yothuli, inthuthu kanye nodoti ophuma ezimbonini eziseduze naseRichards Bay, kanti zihambisana nezimo zezempilo ezibandakanya ukuphathwa yikhanda, ukucinana, isihlungu, yisifuba somoya, ukuthimula kanye nokukhwehlela.

USihlalo weRBCAA, uHanif Mahommed, ephawula ngalesisiteshi esisha wathi, "Ukukhula kweRBCAA ngokuxhumana neSikhaleni kuzoqiniseka ukuthi sibekeka endaweni engcono ukuba siqonde iqophelo lokunokubezeka komoya ngenxa yezimboni ezakhelene nalendawo."

Waqhuba qathi, "Kubalulekile ukuba iRBCAA iqhubeke nokusebenza ngokubambisana nabobonke abathintekayo ukuqiniseka ukuthi labo abangeziwayo baletha iqophelo elifanele kuzozonke izakhamizi ezisendaweni yaseMhlathuze."

E: *Air quality in eSikhaleni will now be monitored by the Richards Bay Clean Air Association (RBCAA), which has invested about R600 000 in an air quality monitoring station for the suburb.*

Richards Bay Clean Air Association Monthly Report: July 2014

NEWS !!!!

RBCAA Opens New Office: Office A6-A7 Smart Plan Building, 95 Dollar Drive, Richards Bay. RBCAA Establishes Air Quality Monitoring Station in Esikhaleni (See story on left)

SO_2 (Sulphur Dioxide) Guideline Exceedances

There were no measured exceedances of the NEMAQA daily average standard (48ppb), hourly average standard (134ppb) or 10 minute average standard (191ppb) during July 2014.

TRS Odour Threshold Exceedances

TRS is emitted by Mondi and is monitored by the RBCAA at the Richards Bay Central Sports Complex. There were two measured exceedance of the WHO 30-minute H_2S Guideline (5.0ppb) There were Fifteen (15) measured exceedances of the RBCAA 10-minute Target (4.5ppb). The exceedances were recorded on the 9th, 26th and 27th of July.

PM10 Exceedances

There were no measured exceedances of the current NEMAQA Daily Standard ($120g/m^3$). There was one measured exceedance of the future NEMAQA Daily Standard ($75g/m^3$) recorded at the CBD station on 17 July. The exceedance was apportioned to veld fire smoke.

Air Quality Complaints

There were Eighteen (18) air quality complaints received during June 2014. Half of the complaints received during July 2014 were in response to odour and clinical symptoms resulting from Mondi Richards Bay.

For more information contact:

Sandy Camminga (Public Officer)

Tel: 035 -786 0076 Cell: 083 515 2384

Complaints can be logged at: complaints@rbcaa.co.za

Website: www.rbcaa.org.za

Celebrating Indian culture

The Art and Heritage Museum in Empangeni is hosting an exhibition that celebrates the Cinema and Monuments of India by courtesy of the Sivananda World Peace Foundation in partnership with the Consulate General of India in Durban.

Artist impressions of the myriad buildings and monuments that are well known landmarks and those that are lesser known but true works of art and ingenuity are on display together with the history of the film industry in India, more commonly known as 'Bollywood'. Patron of the Arts and this exhibition, Ishwar Ramlutchman, said the opening of the exhibition by the Consulate General Of India is an historic one for the region as generally "these events normally happen in Durban but it is wonderful to have the Consulate General, his wife and staff members visiting our City".

"Today we see the partnership between India and the City of uMhlathuze taken to another level. We already have representation of people from India in the region and more recently the investment of big business in the form of Tata Steel and now we bring arts and culture from India to the region for all to appreciate and enjoy," said Ramlutchman.

Having arrived in South Africa only days before the event, the Consulate General, Mr R Raghunathan, said he is already loving being in the country and is looking forward to growing the partnership between India and South Africa.

"I am sure this is the first of many more exhibitions to come as well as a forerunner to a planned Indian film festival to be hosted here," said Mr Raghunathan.

In welcoming the Consulate General to the City of uMhlathuze, former uMhlathuze Councillor, Ray Peyters, said it was important to reinforce and nurture the ties between the BRICS nations to ensure that all benefit.



Celebrating the opening of the exhibition were Ernst van Biljon (Deputy City Manager: Parks and Recreation); Nellanie Naidoo (uThungulu Councillor); Harsh Vardhan Negi (Head of Chancery at the Indian Consulate in Durban); Ishwar Ramlutchman (representative of the Sivananda World Peace Foundation) and Consulate General of India Mr R Raghunathan.



Cutting the ribbon to officially mark the opening of the exhibition of Cinema and Monuments of India at the Arts and Heritage Museum in Empangeni were (from left): Ray Peyters (former uMhlathuze Councillor), Nellanie Naidoo (uThungulu Councillor), Ishwar Ramlutchman (representative of the Sivananda World Peace Foundation) and Consulate General of India, Mr R Raghunathan.



Welcoming the Consulate General of India, Mr R Raghunathan, to the City of uMhlathuze were Ishwar Ramlutchman and former Councillor, Ray Peyters.



St Catherine's pupils visiting the museum joined in the festivities at the opening of the exhibition.

National golf tournament eyes uMhlathuze as a venue

The Municipality has the opportunity to boost the local economy and the City's profile as a tourism designation by hosting the inaugural PGA of South Africa National Club ProAm at the Empangeni and Richards Bay Country Clubs, which would see up to two hundred golfers compete for the prestigious title of National Club Champions.

A representative of World Golf Events South Africa, Craig Clay-Smith, gave a presentation to the Executive Committee in August where he explained that the PGA of South Africa would invite 50 golf professionals from across the country to each play together with three amateurs from their respective clubs in the inaugural National Club ProAm. Provisional dates for the tournament are November 2014 or March/April 2015.

The non-professional golfers would be businessmen, who see the event as a means of networking and investigating investment opportunities. Therefore, should the City host the inaugural event, the National Club ProAm would take place in the City annually, boosting the local economy and tourism and potentially attracting investment opportunities. Apart from the prize purse and the first placed team would gain automatic entry into the World Club ProAm during February 2016.

The concept was developed out of a need to stage a national event that would attract club professionals from across the country to compete for a prestigious national title. The strategy is designed to eventually secure up to 120 team entries out of 480 club professionals in South Africa, who would each in turn recruit three members from their own clubs on a paying basis. Importantly the event would incorporate the goals of the Mayoral Golf Day, which is to provide funds to assist deserving students with bursaries towards tertiary education.

The Mayor is to host a business breakfast in the near future to enable World Golf Events South Africa to present the concept to local businesses to gather support and sponsorship for the event.

Right: World Golf Events South Africa representatives, Beverley Theron (left) and Craig Clay-Smith (right) with Xolani Zuma, Manager in the Office of the Mayor after the presentation to the Executive Committee.



Important Municipal Telephone Numbers

In case of uncertainty, the main switchboard in Richards Bay can be reached by dialling 035-9075000

- **Building Inspectorate**
Office hours: 035 907 5434/5409/5410
- **Housing**
Office hours: 035 907 5486/5057
- **Tourism**
Office hours: 035 907 5018
Empangeni: 035 907 5630
- **Waste Management**
Office hours (Emp): 035 907 5670
Office hours (R/Bay): 035 907 5789/5790
- **Traffic**
R/Bay Motor Licencing 035 907 5268/5461
Emp Motor Licencing 035 907 5650/5652
Drivers Licences 035 787 1464
Traffic Section 035 907 5633
Control Room 035 907 5760/1
Learners Licences 035 907 5030
- **Fire**
Office hours 035 907 5722/3
After 035 797 3314/5
Emergency 035 797 3313/3911
- **Property Section**
Enquiries 035 907 5038/5073
- **Hall Bookings**
Empangeni 035 907 5620
Ngwelezane 035 907 5832
Richards Bay 035 907 5048
Esikhaleni 035 907 5825
Sport fields 035 907 5352/5941
- **Water Leaks & Sewer Leaks**
Roads & Storm Water
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Refuse Removal**
Empangeni 035 907 5670/5679
Richards Bay 035 907 5790/5769
- **Power Failures**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Streetlight Complaints**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Treasury**
Account enquiries 035 907 5497/5128/
5132/5131/5286/5960/5142
SCM enquiries 035 907 5770
Supplier's database registration 035 907 5773

uMhlathuze News - Also on: www.umhlathuze.gov.za

Correspondence: Mandy Govender, Private Bag X1004, Richards Bay 3900. Tel (035) 907 5403. E-mail: GovenderTM@umhlathuze.gov.za.

Articles, co-ordination: Gillian Readman, Mevamhlope Communications. Tel 0836420020. E-mail: greadman@iafrica.com

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Dial 0800 222 827 for the City's 24-hour Call Centre