

## OYSTER BAY

### CONTRIBUTION TO THE KOUGA MUNICIPALITY IDP FOR 2019/20

#### 1. Introduction

The meeting with the Honourable Mayor and his team planned for the 15 th of April 2019 at Oyster Bay hall refers.

#### 2. Expectations from Oyster Bay

We would like to see excellence in service delivery through good governance and the following expectations are important to us:

- ✓ Visionary focus based on a clear vision, mission, specific objectives and values
- ✓ Goals and projects scheduled in a realistic action plan with disciplined execution that make the goals and projects materialize
- ✓ Good, honest and frequent communication to inform on the progress on goals and projects.
- ✓ Living the agreed values in all actions to achieve the goals and projects.
- ✓ Invites to some of the meetings to liaise and to get understanding and buy in.

#### 3. Economic development

There is still a great need to create jobs in the Oyster Bay area. To make this possible a strategic approach should be addressed. There is just too many people out of work and that creates a lost cause kind of approach by the residents in Umzamowhetu. The people that do have work have a better life and it can easily be seen.

We recommend the following to address the problem:

- Firstly, the roads from St Frances and Humansdorp to where it joins to the N2 must be tarred.
  - ✓ The present state of the road at times are dangerous and people don't like to use it. Many accidents with fatal consequences happen frequently on this road.
  - ✓ Oyster Bay is losing out on tourism, because the road is an obstacle. More tourism will create more jobs.
  - ✓ Just getting things to Oyster Bay is a mission
  - ✓ With the road tarred the development opportunities will increase
- Secondly more skills development must be conducted at Unzamowhetu to give the people multi skills. Some of the jobs in the area is coupled to seasonal nature. Multi skills in driver licences, building work, farm work, dairy work, manufacturing of domestic furniture, manufacturing of all kinds of things the farmers need in the area. Arts and crafts that can be sold, baking of bread and other delicacies. The shop fetches all its bread from Humansdorp. There could be more opportunities.
- Lifesavers must be trained so that service can be rendered from inside town.
- The new school and its staff is a big plus for the town. The Children are now being properly schooled, but this would lead to nothing if they don't see a different living standard and style in the town
- We must get the people's self-worth to a new level otherwise the negative spiral will swallow them in, especially the kids.
- A buy in approach with the residents and the help of professionals will be key ingredients.

#### 4. Infrastructure

- **Roads and storm water**

In both Oyster Bay and Unzamowhetu the roads are gravel and no formal storm water drains exist. The roads deteriorate very quickly with the storm water running in the streets. In both Oyster Bay and especially Unzamowhetu we need open channel storm water drains that can also be a curbing between the houses and the roads.

- **Drinking water**

A lot has been done between the Oyster Bay Residence Association and the Kouga Municipality to upgrade and improve the following:

- ✓ The bore holes were all checked and refurbished where problems were detected
- ✓ The water works should be serviced and repaired to ensure a constant supply of clean drinking water
- ✓ The whole safety at the water reservoir area needs to be repaired. Specifically, the Chlorine gas and handrails at high level work areas.
- ✓ The whole water system needs to be upgraded with a proper management system
- ✓ The caravan park should also be limited to its demand at peak times at Oyster Bay.
- ✓ The water pipelines in the older and lower section of the town have frequent pipe bursts that cause a lot of dirty water problems. We should start budgeting to replace these pipes in the 2019/20 financial years
- ✓ Together with that an updated plan of all the water reticulations and infrastructure must be initiated so that we know what is where and that it can be properly managed and when incidents happen that it can be quickly isolated
- ✓ A small store with critical spares must be established and managed so that incidents can be easily and quickly supported on site.
- ✓ When the power falls away or load shedding is done then the top houses is out of water supply, because they are served by a pressure pump. An automatic generator is a must at the supply point for the top houses
- ✓ The same applies for the supply well at the bottom of the town. An automatic generator is necessary to manage outage incidents in the electricity supply.
- ✓ The two new boreholes that were drilled during December of 2018 must still be fitted with pumping arrangement
- ✓ The collection sump where all boreholes and fountains deliver their water needs to be upgraded with a higher volume capacity.
- ✓ The water team is doing a great job and deserves recognition

- **Electricity**

- ✓ The electrical installations in the houses in Umzamowhetu is not in a good state and in very dangerous and illegal connections are part of it. This needs urgent attention
- ✓ The electrical team deserves recognition and appreciation in the prompt way they handle problems at Oyster Bay and Umzamowhetu

- **Sewerage**

- ✓ There is a capacity problem at the caravan park and proper arrangements must be in place to forbid the owner to dump the sewerage in the street and storm water channel that exist next to the caravan park.
- ✓ The availability of the honeysuckers is critical in the holiday season.
- ✓ The clay and marshy area in Unzamowhetu makes septic tanks and french drains not an option. A small sewer works linking the houses through a proper reticulation system will

address the problem in Umzamowhetu and then Oyster Bay can also utilise it and the honeysuckers will run much shorter distances. The other alternative would be a large suction tank to collect from all the houses linked through a proper reticulation system. Then the honeysuckers will still run to Humansdorp.

- **Houses**

- ✓ New houses shouldn't be allowed in Umzamowhetu unless a proper study has been conducted on the sewerage, clay conditions of the erven and the storm water flow from the township.
- ✓ The present houses need some urgent repairs and some of the houses are lower than the ground level with the result that these houses are constantly wet inside. Storm water drains are critical to relieve these problems.

- **Oyster Bay Hall**

The hall needs upgrading and the following are the most important items for attention:

- ✓ New gutters and rain water tanks
- ✓ Aluminium windows
- ✓ Floor repairs
- ✓ Painting of the roof
- ✓ Painting and repairs in the toilets
- ✓ Kitchen cupboards, painting, electrical repairs, geyser repairs
- ✓ Storm water repairs and prevention around the building
- ✓ Racking in the offices
- ✓ The OBRA has maintained the Hall for years, but do not have the means to cover the expenses
- ✓ Fencing of the Hall premises with a separate vehicle and pedestrian gates

- **Drop Zone**

- ✓ Rubbish tip area have been upgraded and made a big difference. Recognition deserved by the Kouga Waste Management team
- ✓ The following needs urgent attention:
  - An under-roof facility for the permanent operator for protection against weather conditions.
  - Toilet facilities
  - Recycling must be implemented
  - Dumping of garden refuse must be adequately addressed.
  - All recycling must be based on a business solution and these must create job opportunities for people in Umzamowhetu
  - The tipping ramp should be made safe with a steel curbing.



- **River Mouth**

- ✓ The Slang River mouth is a risk if it is closed by sand blown in by the wind. We have received approval to repair the mouth and to implement a management plan to keep the mouth open. For this we will implement marker poles and if the sand builds up to a certain level it must be cleaned out. We are not sure how frequent this will happen, but we envisage five to six times a year when the river is not flowing. We estimate for this and the management plan for the repairs on the dunes a TLB or small dozer at a cost of approximately R8000 per day and we estimate one day would be enough for both the river mouth and the cleaning at specific catchment areas at the dunes. This would result in budgeting R48 000 in the Kouga Budget
- ✓ There is further embankment protection necessary at the Slang River Mouth. The present protection is not adequate and geotechnical sand bags are required to complete the sandbag wall at the beach area. A quote from the contractor who are presently building 61m of the wall, is R1,9 mil for an additional 104 m.
- ✓ Further up the mouth residents have provided gabions which are not adequate against large storms and the wire baskets are starting to rust away. For giving proper protection further geotechnical sandbags would be required for at least another 60m. In relation to the present contractors quote it results in an estimated amount of R1.1 mil.

- **Repairs to the dunes overrunning Brander Street**

- ✓ After the work that was done during 2016 the dunes build again, especially in the areas where little work could be done.





✓



- ✓ About 80% of the dunes overrunning Brander Street have been pushed back. The rehabilitation must still be done and R10 mil was provided by Environmental Management over a 5-year plan. The dunes over Brander Street and properties were made possible by funds that was provided by the Kouga Municipality



Foreground pushed already. Background and to the right still to be pushed back.







Three erven(346, 347, 348 )  
reclaimed with Brander Street



Five erven(341, 342, 276,277, 278 )  
reclaimed with Brander Street

House on 387 completely  
cleaned





- ✓ The remaining 20% dunes must still be removed and can be done within a 2-week period with one D6 bulldozer, one excavator and one dumper for one week . R200 000 would be adequate to complete the total removal within in the approved plan ready for the rehabilitation.
- ✓ The sand moved was moved towards the sea to create an embankment to help control the sand blown on the beach towards the sea and away from dune forming at higher levels. The whole embankment and the flat surfaces will be rehabilitated to stop sand overrunning Brander Street and properties in future. Little maintenance would be necessary in future to contain that sand build up and overrun Brander Street and properties.





The plan is to create a flat surface and an embankment that will control the sand at beach level and create a nature area for plants and birds and animals. Also create pathways to the sea for people to use. This example is between Knysna and Wilderness.

- **Beach facilities**

We lost the following facilities in the storm water floods of 2011 when the Slang River was blocked with a wall of sand that broke after the flood water build up behind it.



✓ Main beach entrance being washed away



- ✓ Toilet and store facilities being washed away



- ✓ Parking area



- ✓ Life saver chair damaged. A new one was supplied by Mark Mans at his cost and we are very grateful to him
- ✓ No board walk for handicapped and old people for access to the sea

We would need assistance to build and construct these again and an EIA would be required as well. Three alternatives have been identified and shared with the Municipality officials.

- **Sport facilities**

Presently there are no proper sport facilities at Oyster Bay or Umzamoqhetu.

There is a need for tennis courts, volley ball courts, netball courts (OBRA donated all needed for netball – poles, balls and net – the area now needs paving) and an upgrade of the soccer field at Umzamoqhetu. The tennis court could be used for a lot of sports and activities.

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