

**30 August 2017**

## **Ward 101 Report Back Public Meeting**

### **Introduction**

Good evening to all of you.

We have had several public meetings as a Ward to address certain issues in or Ward, however this is the first report back public meeting since I took office in from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2016 after the Local Government Elections that took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2017.

There is a lot that has been achieved by the DA-led administration in the City of Johannesburg, there is also a lot that we have achieved as a Ward.

Preparing this report, I have realized that we have come far as the new administration in the City as well as in our Ward. I find comfort that a huge amount of positive changes has improved for the better since then.

The improvements have come about by using the basics “listening to the residents of the City”.

### **Looking at the previous year**

It is now just over 1 year after the 2016 Local Government Elections. I will run through at a high level, some of the highlights of the achievements that have been made by the City.

I want to spend a lot of time talking about our Ward specific issues that we have dealt with, and we continue to deal with in our quest to enable our Ward to be a better place to Live, Work and Play.

In terms of the overall City of Johannesburg Administration, the progress at a high level is as follows:

- (September 2016) -The Executive Mayor presented his inaugural speech at the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 13 September 2016, where he highlighted the priorities for the new administration.

- (September 2016) - Level 2 Water Restrictions were announced
- (September 2016) - Late delivery of statements to the residents.
- (November 2016) - City launched specialised K9-Narcotics Unit in the JMPD
- (January 2017) - A Joburg first – New open and transparent tender system. For the first time in the City’s history, members of the public will be able to attend the tender adjudication hearings – this is a victory against the culture of corruption which was allowed to fester and it is a triumph for the residents of the City.
- (January 2017) - Council approved the reintegration of Municipal Owned Entities
- (February 2017) – Council approved an Adjustment Budget for Johannesburg’s forgotten people.
- (March 2017) - Another step towards easing traffic congestion as City launch 24-hour Traffic Hotline -080 872-3342
- (March 2017) - City only partially lifts water restrictions in effort to promote a culture of water conservation.
- (March 2017) - City starts ‘No Join’ Policy for traffic lights
- (May 2017) - State of the City Address by Executive Mayor of Johannesburg Cllr Herman Mashaba
- (May 2017) - Maiden Budget Speech by Member of Mayoral Committee (MMC) For Finance Cllr Rabelani Dagada.
- (July 2017) – The City of Johannesburg ushered in the new 2017/2018 financial year with a new budget for the DA-led administration in our city.
- (July 2017) - Billing Crisis – Mashaba puts City back on track
- (July 2017) - Significant improvements in Joburg traffic lights

In terms of our Ward, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteer groups, Residents Associations, Interest groups that are contributing to well-being of our Ward.

### **Starting up as a Ward Councillor**

The following were implemented:

- (August 2016) - Ward 101 website was launched – [www.ward-101.co.za](http://www.ward-101.co.za)
- (August 2016) - Ward 101 Facebook Page was launched – “Ward 101 Residents Page”
- (August 2016) - Monthly newsletter was launched - “From the desk of Cllr Dalu Cele”

### **Golden Harvest Park and Surroundings initiative**

- (December 2016) -Golden Harvest Park and surroundings initiative to combat crime in partnership with private security companies, City of Johannesburg entities, SAPS and other stakeholders was now in operation.
- (January 2017) - crime incidents at the Golden Harvest Park continued once again.
- (January 2017) - We commenced with the security awareness campaign together with the private security companies for the Golden Harvest Park across the social media platforms. The aim of the campaign was to alert residents of their security at the park.
- (January 2017) – I was encouraged by a new initiative called “Large on the Lawns” inaugural concert event that was held at the Golden Harvest Park on Sunday, 26th of January 2017. The concerts were scheduled from 1-5pm.
- (March 2017) – We started to witness improvements to the Golden Harvest Park and surrounding initiative which was now moving into the right direction, although after several escalations to the office of the MMC of Economic Development. Notices for physical verification were issued to the residents both at the park and the old municipal nursery.
- (May 2017) - After careful consideration of the progress that had been made regarding to the Golden Harvest Park and surroundings initiative, I decided to discontinue with the Steering Committee approach. I am satisfied with the efforts and progress that has been made by most of the stakeholders to this point.
- (July 2017) – On Saturday, 22 July 2017, Pikitup provided the residents at the park and at the Old Municipal Nursery with municipal bins.

- At this stage, there is zero little crime at the park. The outstanding accommodation related issues are with the Office of the MMC of Economic Development. However there has been recent changes now that we have a new MMC in this position, Cllr Leah Knott. Once she has settled down in her new role, I will follow up on this matter.

### **Grass cutting**

- (January 2016) - The long outstanding grass cutting was huge challenge.
- (February 2017) - Grass cutting commenced across the major arterial roads across the ward, however at a very slow pace.
- Grass cutting related issues have largely been resolved.

### **Roads, Traffic Lights**

- (October 2016) - Residents had expressed concerns about the safety of the pupils around the school precinct. Some motorists, particularly taxis have been driving on the side of the road on Hyperion drive. I am pleased to advise that JRA has finally installed bollards on Hyperion drive, this is on the side of the school.
- (January 2017) – Long outstanding pot holes across the Ward during the rainy season.
- (February 2017) – We appreciated the good rains in February, however pot holes have continued unabated and the backlog increased.
- (March 2017) - I announced that the Northlands Property Developers have committed to upgrade Epsom Avenue from a dirt road to a tarred road. Epsom Avenue connects Malibongwe Drive to Riverband Road in Bloubostrand. The upgrade of the road will be part of the offset of their Retail Development in the area.
- (August 2017) – Traffic signal at Cnr Bellairs Drive and Hyperion has been upgraded to now include an arrow signal for both directions into Hyperion

- (August 2017) – Traffic signal at Cnr of Malibongwe and Bellairs Drive has been upgraded to include an arrow signal for traffic turning right into Malibongwe from Bellairs Drive.

### **Electricity & Street Lights**

- (October 2016) – Power outages in Northriding that were attributed to trenching of fiber cables by contractors where most of the power cables were being damaged. There was also high level of MV copper feeder cable theft from Northriding substation, thus, it causes outages and delays in power restoration.
- (February 2017) – We had a major power outage that impacted the residents in lower Olivedale. The power outage that lasted for over 37 hours. Part of the issue that contributed to the delay in the restoration of power, was denied access to the City Power technicians to the Olivewood Estate on the night of the 21st of February 2017.
- (February 2017) - Residents in parts of Sonneglans, parts of Bromhof and parts of Boskruijn were experiencing erratic power outages that lasted up to 5 hours per interval. The major cause of the power outage was due to the network overload because of increased capacity on the same network due to additional residential and commercial customers.
- (April 2017) - we had continued major power outages that affected parts of Sonneglans, Bromhof and Boskruijn. The power outages however affected the neighboring wards such as Randpark Ridge and Strijdom Park as well.
- (July 2017) - I was actively working with City Power daily to ensure that the utility fixed the cable fault, where in the interim a generator that was supplying power to some residents at Ascot Lane in Northriding.
- Although there has been major backlog for months with regards to street lights maintenance, these are now being fixed and the backlog has been reduced substantially.

### **Water**

- (October 2016) - a major water burst of a fire hydrant (Olievenhout Avenue) that resulted in a water outage of about 2 days affecting some

parts in our Ward. The areas that were affected included most parts of Northriding, Northwold, Olivedale, Sharonlea and other parts outside of our Ward

- (January 2017) – We had a huge service delivery failure with regards to the major cement water pipe burst at the Talavera Complex, that affected residents in parts of North riding, Fourways and surrounding areas.
- (July 2017) - We were also faced with major water pipe bursts along Bellairs Drive, Northriding which left affected residents in parts of Northriding without water for several hours.

### **Refuse removal**

- (November 2016) -We had major issues with regards to Pikitup and its delays in collecting refuse on time at various suburbs across the Ward.
- (January 2016) - delays in refuse collection continued unabated.
- Pikitup truck breakdown related issues have long been resolved.

### **Projects**

- The upgrade of Blandford Road has been handed over to our Ward from the previous Ward 115 under Region E. This was an Extended Public Works Programme project that has been moved into in our Ward in Region C. The project had already commenced at the time it had been handed over to our Region. Linked to this project is the closure of the intersection of Blandford Road into Witkoppen Road. The project is now complete.
- The upgrade of Jacaranda Avenue in Olivedale as a double carriage way was nearing completion. There were several concerns that have been raised by residents relating to speed, access into the road from complexes situated along Jacaranda Avenue and other traffic related issues. This was one of the successes by our former Cllr, Ralf Bittkau. This project is now complete.
- (January 2017) – We launched the new Water Pipe replacement project in Boskruin Ext. 5. The streets affected were as follows:
  - Sinclair Road,
  - Sherwell Avenue,

- Sharrow Road,
- Darley Avenue; and
- Castle Road.
- This project is now complete. The contractor is attending to the last few snags on resident properties.

### **Billing issues**

Amidst many successes the City of Johannesburg Administration had made since August 2016, billing continues to be an issue that is affecting the residents of the city. The Executive Mayor puts the city back on track.

A revised billing escalation process has been put in place. Outstanding billing issues over 90 days are currently being prioritised.

### **By-law infringements**

- (September 2016 ) -joint operation between JMPD and the Douglasdale SAPS crime prevention - This is where motorists are driving facing on incoming traffic and driving on the shoulder of the road, at corner Mahogany, President Fouche and Olive Roads in Sharonlea.
- (October 2016) - JMPD conducted several by-laws infringement operations as part of joint operations with other departments of the City at the Golden Harvest Park and the Old Municipal Nursery. Illegal structures were demolished. Traffic infringements operations were conducted at corner Amsterdam and Carroll avenue in Olivedale.
- (March 2017) - JMPD conducted several operations in our ward such as illegal advertising that were removed opposite the Olivedale Clinic. Traffic by-law enforcement operation conducted at corner Malibongwe Drive and Mahogany, Sharonlea.
  - Crime prevention operation in conjunction with Douglasdale SAPS to deal with taxis driving into oncoming traffic in Olive road, Sharonlea was also conducted. The operation was conducted twice during the month of March
  - By-laws enforcement at corner Witkoppen, New market and Malibongwe Drive was conducted to deal with illegal street trading. Finally, traffic by-law enforcement was conducted at

corner Windsor way and President Fouche to deal with motorists driving into incoming traffic lane.

- (May 2017) - JMPD conducted by-laws enforcement at Corner of President Fouche and Windsor way, President Fouche and Maple Road, Witkoppen and New Market Road, Malibongwe Drive and Bellairs Drive. Several illegally street traded items were confiscated.
- Taxi operations and crime prevention operations were conducted at corner of Mahogany and Malibongwe Drive, President Fouche and Malibongwe Drive. Citations were issued from these operations.
- Illegal dumping
  - (September 2016) - cleanup operation was conducted in conjunction with the owner of the leased land, JMPD, Balwin Properties and Pikitup at the open piece of land across corner Hornbill and Jacaranda.
  - (February 2017) - Illegal dumping continued to be a major challenge facing our city and our Ward in particular. There is a massive illegal dumping site along Malibongwe Drive towards the Total service station leading up to the corner of Malibongwe Drive and President Fouche. Still awaiting approval from the Conservation and Waste Management from the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

### **Ward Committee**

- (October 2016) - The office of the Speaker of Council of the City of Johannesburg announced the Civic Education on Ward Committee nominations and elections for the new term. This was across many media platforms.
- (November 2016) – Ward committee nominations took place
- (February 2017) - Ward Committee elections took place in our ward on the 4th of February 2017 for the only contested Environment and Infrastructure Services portfolio. The rest of the portfolios were duly elected.
- (July 2017) - an induction training of Ward Committee members took place on 29th of July 2017.

- (August 2017) – Inaugural Ward Committee meeting was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2017

### **Public Meetings**

- (October 2016) - first public meeting for the Ward in this term, to address service delivery and crime related issues around Golden Harvest Park and surroundings. The stakeholders presented action plans to address the above:
  - Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo;
  - Johannesburg Property Company;
  - Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department;
  - South African Police Services;
  - Private Security Companies; and
  - Banbury Cross Village Centre Management.
    - The Action Plan from this meeting was to establish a steering committee consisting of the above stakeholders.
- (May 2017) - We had a successful public meeting that was held on the 31st of May 2017 at the Sharonlea Primary School. This meeting dealt with reclaimers, recycling and illegal dumping in our Ward. The outcome of this meeting was as follows:
  - Central and Lower Sharonlea are the proposed suburbs to run a pilot where a site will be identified for the reclaimers to bring recycling material, get it weighed by recycling companies, get paid and for Pikitup to clean the area afterwards.
  - The Central Sharonlea Residents Forum offered to lend equipment to the residents at the Old Municipal Nursery to clean up the area and cut invasive trees.
  - Pikitup bins will be provided to the residents of the Old Municipal Nursery to keep the environment clean.
- (August 2017) – The City Power public consultation meeting was held on the 3rd of August at 6.30pm at the Boskruin Community Centre, Kelly Avenue, Boskruin. This was combined meeting including Ward 101, Ward 134 and Ward 98 to address the major power outages mentioned above.

## **Green belts and displaced people**

Our ward has several green belts and open spaces. Maintenance of these spaces remain a challenge. The green belts are full of displaced people. The City unfortunately does not have adequate accommodation to house displaced people. This issue remains a challenge as it may also be linked to crime related issues.

## **Crime**

Our ward falls into Douglasdale and Honeydew SAPS police stations. I am actively involved with both CPFs in dealing with crime related issues in our Ward.

## **Integrated Development Planning (IDP)**

The Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 provides for the mechanisms that must be put in place to promote public participation by local communities such as the Integrated Development Planning.

- (March 2017) - the Integrated Development Planning (IDP) documentation and budget information was tabled in Council.
- (April 2017) – IDP Cluster Meetings were held, including our Ward. There were no IDP for our Ward. Subsequently submitted via the office of the Regional Director.
- (April 2017) – Regional IDP Consultation took place which was presented by the Executive Mayor.
- At this stage, we have very little to none, in terms of capital projects for the City.
- The new IDP process will be tabled in Council tomorrow.
- I will convene an IDP meeting in our Ward so that the residents can submit their wish list.
- We do however have a base list of capital projects we would like in our Ward.

## **Cleanup Operations**

- (October 2016) - cleanup operations were conducted by the respective entities of the City of Johannesburg such as JMPD, City Parks and Zoo, Pikitup and Customer Relationship Urban Management as follows:
  - Old Municipal Nursery;
  - Corner President Fouche and CR Swart;
  - Corner President Fouche and Malibongwe;
  - Corner Jarra and Lima; and
  - Conservation/greenbelt area along President Fouche.
- (February 2017) - A major cleanup operation is currently being conducted by Pikitup at Epsom Avenue, the road that links Malibongwe Drive and Riverbank Road in Bloubastrand. Epsom Avenue marks the border line for our ward.
- (March 2017) - on the 18th of March 2017, the residents of ward 101 joined hands with Balwin Properties and the Klein Jukskei Initiative to clean up the Klein Jukskei river. This initiative was a resounding success that saw tons of litter removed from the river banks and surrounding environment along the river.

### **Volunteer groups**

- (October 2016) - We had our inaugural Ward 101 volunteers team meeting during the month of October. I am very encouraged by the number of residents in our Ward, that are looking to contribute their time and talents to the improve the environment we live in, over and above the services that are being rendered by the City
- We have the Environment (Enviro101) Volunteer Group that is active in our Ward.

I thank you.