

WARD COMMITTEE UPDATE



CLLR JAMES NXUMALO
COUNCIL
SPEAKER

WE ARE nearing the end of 2007, which has been a tremendous year for our municipality.

The festive season is upon us and our city is busy with thousands coming to Durban to relax.

As citizens of this city we should be proud and our visitors must not forget our warmth and friendliness.

Remember, that as members of ward committees we are the ambassadors of the municipality and our role does not end with us holding meetings.

We must maintain the high standard of our City and take pride in the City's accomplishments.

For the past two years eThekweni has been the champion of the Vuna Awards. However, this year we were beaten by Johannesburg.

It is a challenge we have to accept and deal with so that next year we are ready to reclaim our glory.

One of the categories we are judged on is community participation, which includes the functioning of ward committees. Now, you realise that you also have a role to play in order for us to succeed as a collective.

All ward committees must hold their monthly meetings and submit their minutes to

the Office of the Speaker.

This is one of the key performance areas that measures the performance of a ward committee.

We are almost done with putting systems in place for the ward committees to function properly.

In February we will engage all committees with the reviewing of our integrated development plan. Intensive training of ward committee members will begin in March.

Committee members are encouraged to participate in the training as it will equip you to deal with ward issues and understand the municipality better.

The council is taking a break in December and councillors will be back in office in mid-January.

Some officials will also take leave during this period and ward committee members will be relaxing with their families and enjoying the festive season.

The Office of the Speaker wishes everyone the best during this period and you are encouraged to observe the rules of the road: Drive safely and do not drink and drive or drink and walk!

Let us all come back in January alive, recharged and ready to make a difference to our communities.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

□ Inquiries on ward committees can be directed to the Office of the Speaker: 031 311 2015 or 031 311 2021.



A GROUP of 16 dream keepers were recruited at the first Imagine Durban workshop on creating a safer city recently.

These volunteers come from all walks of life and represented community-based organisations, tertiary institutions, media, ordinary citizens, the private sector, government and security companies.

Safety has emerged from the Imagine Durban survey as the primary concern of communities in eThekweni. The issue of crime and creating a safer city was discussed by participants from diverse backgrounds at a well-attended workshop held at Botanic Gardens.

The workshop's purpose was to use the expertise, insights and experience of the participants to establish a broad goal for safety within the Imagine Durban plan.

The workshop sought to identify underlying causes of crime and strategies to address these; identify stakeholders that Imagine Durban should be

networking with to share experiences; and to recruit safer city dream keepers, who are already doing great work in creating safer neighbourhoods.

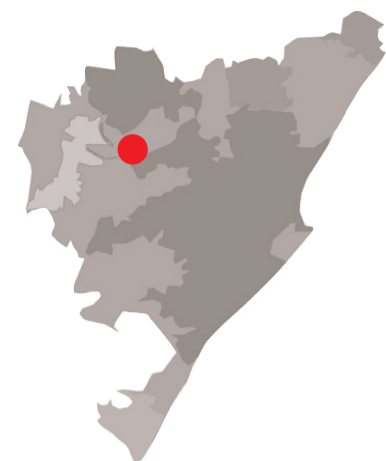
A range of suggestions emerged. These include: reclaiming ownership of neighbourhoods and streets; replicating best practice, that is, finding out what works and then doing it in other areas; addressing the causes of crime; challenging the media to play a more developmental role and putting out good news stories; make criminals understand that crime does not pay; getting buy-in from all levels of government; instilling good values in our young; and driving a message of peace, pride and patriotism.

Anybody interested in getting involved in this programme can contact Tommy Ferreira on 031 311 3424 or e-mail him on Ferreira@urbstrat.org.za or www.imaginedurban.com.

– Sohana Singh

PROFILES: WARDS

The city comprises 100 wards, each with its own ward committee. In this, and forthcoming editions we will profile these wards so you can get to know them better. This week we look at Ward 8



Ward: 8
Councillor: Mbongelwa Steven Phetha
Party: ANC

Contact: 031 311 1111

Areas within ward: Assagay, Bothas Hill, Forest Land, KwaNqetho, KwaSondela, Luke Bailes Farm, Mabeldlane, Mkholombe and Mshazi

Community need assessment priorities: Housing infrastructure, water & sanitation, safety & security, education and employment opportunities

Household income (pa)	Households	%
No income	1 898	27
R1 – R4 800	547	8
R4 801 – R9 600	1 281	18
R9 601 – R19 200	1 375	20
R19 201 – R38 400	923	13
R38 401 – R76 800	433	6
R76 801 – R153 600	241	3
R153 601 – R307 200	172	2
R307 201 – R614 400	56	1
R614 401 – R1 228 800	15	0
R1 228 801 - R2 457 600	19	0
R2 457 601 and more	17	0

Dwelling type		
Number of households	6 630	%
Formal	3 606	54
Informal	679	10
Traditional	2 339	35
Other	6	0

Population	33 510	%
African	31 273	93
Coloured	46	0
Indian	221	1
White	1 970	6
Pensioners	1 417	4
Disabled	1 623	5
Male	15 930	48
Female	17 580	52

Work Status	15 – 65 years	%
Employed	6 021	28
Unemployed	7 757	37
Not Economically Active	7 413	35
Literacy Rate (Grade 7 and above)	15 123	45
Dependency Ratio		6

Delivery Of Basic Household Services		
Electricity	5 281	76
Refuse Disposal	743	9
Flush Toilets	1 121	16
Water - dwelling/yard	4 335	62
Water < 200m	719	10

Age		
Age 0 – 4	3 510	10
Age 5 – 14	7 542	23
Age 15 – 34	12 877	38
Age 35 – 64	8 164	24
Age > 65	1 417	4

Major Community Facilities located in the Ward include:	
Library	0
Clinics	7
Police	0
Hospital	1
Pension pay points	0
Billing points	0
Metro police	0
Fire stations	0
Community halls	3
Post office	0
Schools	18

Approved Capital Projects (R million)				
Project	Type Task	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Electricity Technical Support	Waterfall 11kv Switchboard extension	2.8	0.0	0.0
Engineering Roads Provision	Sidewalk Embo Link Road	0.1	0.0	0.0
Parks, Recreation & Culture: Parks, Leisure & Cemeteries	Anderson Park Upgrade Ablution Lahee Park Cricket Drainage	0.5 0.3	0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0
Transport Authority Road System Management	PT Laybys & Shelters – Construction of Bus Laybys citywide	0.8	0.9	1.0
Water & Sanitation	KwaSondela	4.0	1.5	0.0