



Call For Nominations: Advisory Forum for the eThekweni Municipality's Disaster Management Centre

In terms of disaster risk reduction, the local sphere of government is the first line of defence and in the event of a disaster occurring or threatening to occur; the community is, in reality, the first responder. The primary responsibility for the co-ordination and management of local disasters rests with the local sphere. Thorough disaster risk management planning and effective co-ordination are key to saving lives and limiting damage to property, infrastructure and the environment. These factors are also necessary for the optimal utilisation of resources.

The Disaster Management Act (Act 57 of 2002) assigns discretion as to whether a Metropolitan Council or District Council constitutes formal structures such as a Municipal Disaster Management Advisory Forum (MDMAF) for the purposes of external stake-holder participation.

Consequently, the eThekweni Municipality has elected to establish the necessary institutional arrangements to give effect to the principles of co-operative governance, integrated and co-ordinated disaster risk management and stake-holder participation at local level.

In addition to evolving internal arrangements to allow for inter-departmental co-operation within the municipal sphere, it is intended to create a MDMAF, it being the ideal mechanism for dealing with disaster risk management planning and co-ordination.

The MDMAF is a collaboration between a range of stakeholders from key sectors – government, business, academia, labour and civil society, to support and enhance the City's efforts to reduce risk where possible; assist people to better understand the roles that they could play in reducing the impact of disasters; to assist in the development of clear actions to address all aspects of disasters risk reduction.

The MDMAF would:

1. Give advice and make recommendations on disaster related issues and disaster risk management matters;
2. Contribute to disaster risk management planning and co-ordination;
3. Establish joint standards of practice;
4. Make recommendations on response management systems;
5. Gather critical information about the municipality's capacity to assist in disasters and to access resources;





6. Advise/assist with public awareness, training and capacity building.

The Municipal Disaster Management Centre is seeking nominations for members to serve on the Forum.

For more information about the proposed Advisory Forum contact Mr Wilfred Mkhwanazi on 031 367 0033 / 031-367 0039, or via email Wilfred.mkhwanazi@durban.gov.za

Nominations to the forum are sought for individuals in all sectors – industry, traditional groups, rural groups, women, disabled, youth, faith based organisations, NGOs, CBOs, academia, parastatals and government. The full name, contact detail, current position and motivation of suitability for a potential nominee should be submitted to at the email given above, by fax to 086 751 8484, or in writing to P.O. Box 3965, Durban 4000. Self-nominations are also permitted.

Closing date for submissions is Thursday, 12 December 2013, at 16:00.

Sibusiso Sithole

City Manager

