

Subcouncil - Matters Receiving Attention Report

Subcouncil 4

Agenda Item No:	04SUB 6/4/2021	1	PRESENTATION: FLOODING IN UITSIG/RAVENSMEAD ASSESSMENT
Author:	Ardela van Niekerk;		
How Resolved:	Consensus		
Meeting Date:	2021/04/22		
Outstanding:	558		
Directorate:	URBAN MANAGEMENT		
Department:			

Preamble:

It must be noted that there was a delay to obtain all the necessary signatories relevant to the progress report as resolved at the previous Subcouncil meeting. The Official agreed to forward the report to the Subcouncil once all signatures were obtained.

The members agreed.

It was requested that the item remain on the MRA list.

16 February 2022:

Correction on folio page 48: the date must be amended to **23 September 2021**.

CLr van Reenen enquired and expressed concern about the delay to submit the progress report which was due for this meeting.

The Subcouncil Manager informed the meeting that an updated progress report will serve at the March 2022 subcouncil meeting.

The members agreed.

It was requested that the item remains on the MRA list.

24 March 2022:

That the item be dealt with in conjunction with items: **04SUB9/3/2022**, **04SUB10/3/2022** and **04SUB11/3/2022**

It was requested that the item remains on the MRA list.

21 April 2022:

It was requested that the item remains on the MRA list.

19 May 2022:

CLr van Reenen spoke to the item and asked that the Subcouncil follow up for a monthly progress report to serve at the next Subcouncil meeting. The Subcouncil Manager responded that a progress report will be submitted at the August 2022 subcouncil meeting. CLr van Reenen did not accept that the next report on the Elsie Kraal will only be submitted within the new financial year. She asked that the Subcouncil members support her request for a monthly report.

The request was supported.

It was requested that the item remains on the MRA list.

23 June 2022:

It must be noted that item **04SUB6/4/2021** will be dealt with simultaneously with item: **04SUB10/6/2022 PROGRESS REPORT ON ELSIESKRAAL RIVER STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION, JUNE 2022 (N3919)**

Cllr van Reenen does not agree with recommendation (b) in the report. She proposed that a monthly progress report instead of a quarterly progress report is submitted to the Subcouncil.

The item remains on the MRA list.

25 August 2022:

Item **04SUB8/8/2022 PROGRESS REPORT ON ELSIESKRAAL RIVER STORMWATERMANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION, AUGUST 2022** is an item on the agenda.

17 November 2022

The matter was discussed under item: **04SUB7/11/2022 REPORT ON THE STRUCTURED PROGRAMME ON POTHOLE REPAIR WORK, AS WELL AS THE PROGRAMME ON ROAD RESEALING FOR SUBCOUNCIL 3, 4, 5, 6, AND 15 - NOVEMBER 2022**

19 January 2023:

The Progress Report regarding the Elsieskraal River Stormwater Management Plan Implementation will serve at the serve at the February 2023 subcouncil meeting.

16 February 2023

Continuation from the previous progress report. Consultants were appointed to start with in-depth design modeling of the stormwater upgrades. RIM established a PMT to continue with the process going forward.

16 March 2023

Cllr van Reenen asked whether an updated report for the flooding in Uitsig can be submitted before the item is removed from the MRA.

20 April 2023

The item remains on the MRA. A detailed report to serve at the next Subcouncil meeting regarding the Stormwater Management Plan for ACSA, Uitsig, and Bonteheuwel with specific reference to Uitsig.

13 April 2023

Formal report not available due to signatures that must still be obtained - 15 May 2023.

(Johan Terblanche to elucidate)

1. Project commenced date = 1 September 2022
2. Project completion date = 31 July 2023
3. The final report will stipulate conceptual stormwater infrastructure upgrades belonging to both Urban Mobility and Water & Sanitation Directorates, including cost estimations; thereafter each directorate will have to apply for capital funding during the adjustment budget window, appoint consultants for final/detail designs, environmental authorisation and implementation phases etc.
4. Your request to provide feedback concerning Hanekam Street specifically will not be possible, seeing that Lukhozi must compile a holistic PCSWMM model for the main stormwater infrastructure/catchment area first. From this model they will be able to obtain data relating to flood prone areas and propose upgrades etc.
5. However, the CSRМ Branch could provide you with and overall progress report of the project via a PPP at this Sub Council meeting?
6. Below some background and scope what this project entails; furthermore,

Project Background

The City's Catchment, Stormwater and River Management Branch (CSRМ) in accordance with its mandate, under the legal framework of the Constitution (Schedule 4 – Part B), hereby puts out to tender this **Stormwater Master Plan for the Uitsig, Bonteheuwel, and Cape Town International Airport Catchments** in a bid to better manage the stormwater system within the these areas.

In terms of the National Water Act (No.36 of 1998), Section 2 of Chapter 1 states, among other things, that the Purpose of the Act is to protect aquatic and associated ecosystems, reduce and prevent pollution and manage floods. In addition to the above national framework the City's own policy relating to stormwater management has direct bearing on this tender and Consultants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the detail contained in the following policy documents which underpin and support the By-Law (also attached):

- Management of Urban Impacts Policy (Approved by Council : 27 May 2009 – C 58/05/09)
- Floodplain and River Corridor Management Policy (Approved by Council : 27 May 2009 – C58/05/09)
- By-Law Relating to Stormwater Management (Approved by Council : 30 August 2005 – C 38/08/05)

The By-Law Relating to Stormwater Management (Promulgated in September 2005) is based on the above legislation and brings the legal principles established through the above to a local level. Clause 3 prohibits the discharge of anything other than stormwater to the stormwater system (pollution) while Clauses 4 and 5 deals with

the protection of the stormwater system and the prevention of flood risk and enables Council to impose conditions with regard to these matters.

In order to better manage these stormwater systems various Best Management Practices (BMP's) apply as well as Water Sensitive Design standards (WSD), the principles of which has been embodied in the Spatial Development Framework for the City and must be adhered to in all stormwater master planning. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) is a branch of WSD which focuses specifically on stormwater management.

Compliant with the above regulatory framework the CSR branch has **three key objectives** to be met through the development of this Stormwater Master Planning process, i.e.:

1. Better Management of the Stormwater Drainage System,
2. Limit / Reduce Flood Risk,
3. Improve Water Quality and enhance local ecology.

The application of the above will enable the City to introduce and implement measures which will limit / reduce the number of properties exposed to flood risk, enable aquatic ecology to be protected, enable watercourses and wetlands to become part of the urban landscape and arrest deterioration and, in the long term, improve the state of its natural water assets. These objectives are integral to the processes requested in this tender document and the Tenderer has to clearly state and demonstrate their understanding of the principles and work to achieve the said objectives which will be expanded on later in this document.

The City's stormwater infrastructure within the Uitsig, Bonteheuwel and Cape Town International Airport catchment areas are to be reviewed and confirmed through this process. Infrastructure Asset Management is the process whereby municipal infrastructure is provided, operated, maintained and rehabilitated to achieve required levels of service in the most cost effective and sustainable manner. This infrastructure comprises large underground pipelines/culverts, attenuation ponds, rivers and canals. Existing stormwater master plans, where available, will be reviewed and utilised (where applicable) as a basis for constructing an integrated hydrological and hydraulic model of each catchment on the SWMM 5 platform. These models are to be fully compatible with the PCSWMM software, which can be updated and refined on a modular basis over time.

The physical features of the study area/site and key reference nodes are shown on **Figure 2.1**.

Figure 2.1: Rivers within the Uitsig, Bonteheuwel, and ACSA Catchment (Source, Date)

Refer to the Appendix A for areas that are frequently flooding (refer to **Appendix A**).

The purpose of this study is to produce a Stormwater Master Plan for the defined Catchment areas by producing a Stormwater Runoff Model of the catchments. The Stormwater Runoff Model must be compiled in PCSWMM Professional 2D, to better understand local losses and flooding.

Resolution Details:

RESOLVED

1. That the Presentation: Flooding in Uitsig/Ravensmead Assessment **BE NOTED**.
2. That the item **BE PART** of MRA list.

Department:

Responsible Officer(RO): **Ardela van Niekerk**

Response Date Comment from RO

2021/05/11

Officials from Line Dept was invited to the subcouncil meeting to provide feedback on the development of the project.

Agenda Item No:	04SUB 6/6/2022	2	MOTION OF EXIGENCY TO REDUCE SEWERAGE AND STORMWATER PIPE BLOCKAGES AND THE IMPACT OF FLOODING IN THE UITSIG AREA OF SUBCOUNCIL 4
Author:	Ardela van Niekerk; Jeanine du Preez; Siphokazi Madikane September;		
How Resolved:	Consensus		
Meeting Date:	2022/06/23		
Outstanding:	253		
Directorate:	CORPORATE SERVICES		
Department:	Subcouncils Area Central		

Preamble:

This matter was discussed under the MRA item: 04SUB5/6/2022

At this stage, the Subcouncil Chairperson introduced a Motion of Exigency received from Cllr Beverley van Reenen.

In terms of Rule 11 under Urgent Matters and I quote 11.1 which states:

“Any member may propose an urgent matter for consideration by way of a signed and dated motion submitted in writing to the chairperson or in his/her absence or unavailability to the Subcouncil Manager not later than 30 minutes before the commencement of the Subcouncil meeting unless ruled otherwise by the chairperson after consultation with the Subcouncil Manager.”

This motion was received via email on 22 June 2022 at 20:00

This motion is an urgent matter and submitted in view of the recent heavy winter rains and subsequent floods in Uitsig.

Delegation Part 25: 1(5)

“To request reports from the relevant line functionaries and activities planned to be executed within the Subcouncil”

MOTION OF EXIGENCY TO REDUCE SEWERAGE AND STORMWATER PIPE BLOCKAGES AND THE IMPACT OF FLOODING IN THE UITSIG AREA OF SUBCOUNCIL 4

BACKGROUND

The Uitsig area has been experiencing an increasing number of blockages to both sewerage and stormwater pipes in respect of both the Mobility Directorate, Water and Sanitation Directorate as well as Human Settlements Directorate. There could be many reasons for this including foreign objects in the pipes, weather pattern changes, buildings in flood plains, et cetera. These are not easily remedied, however, another possible contribution to flooding could be stormwater pipes from structures being fed illegally into the sewerage system or insufficient catchpits/stormwater drains.

In the case of a blockage at rental stock, frequently the work to unblock a pipe is impeded by illegal structures built over manhole covers and therefore there is no access to the manhole, and not addressed by the local housing estate offices. This has far-reaching implications for both the City of Cape Town as well as the affected resident/s.

MOTIVATION

The recent unacceptable levels of flooding have caused unacceptable difficulties for residents and therefore urgently require action to ameliorate the situation. It is suggested that immediate action be taken to ensure that no stormwater pipes on Council owned property are being fed into the sewerage system. Checks must be carried out where this is found, again, steps must be taken to rectify it. At the same time the access to the manholes which are used to unblock the pipes. Where there are manhole covers found to be accessible, either the structure is removed or moved with the immediate assistance of the housing estate office, or an alternative manhole is created by the responsible directorate.

It is understood that Uitsig covers a wide area and therefore the work should be carried out in an area-by-area basis commencing with the areas identified as those worst impacted by flooding. Only Council-owned properties are to be inspected, as a starting point.

Proposed by Cllr Beverley van Reenen and seconded by Ald Brian Watkyns.

25 August 2022:

The Subcouncil Manager informed the meeting that the motion of exigency was forwarded to Urban Mobility (Roads and Infrastructure Management) and Human Settlements (Public Housing). Investigations are underway. (See *Annexure A to the MRA report*) The officials from Public Housing were attacked and had to be removed from the area. The survey was put on hold until further notice. It was requested that the information from RIM be provided to the Subcouncil in writing. Mrs du Preez will further address the issue on the roads and infrastructure management.

Cllr van Reenen elaborated on the motion and highlighted the following concerns:

- Lack of consultation
- Have they done the necessary assessments?
- What are they going to do in terms of the communities?
- How can this be resolved?
- Is there a holistic approach? Will there be an assessment?

Chairperson highlighted the challenges being experienced by operation teams:

- Illegal structures built over sewer infrastructure, hindering access
- Manhole cover theft
- Foreign objects found in the sewer line: 43%
- Collapse sewers: 9%
- Fats: 10%
- Sand: 19%
- Rags: 19%

The Chairperson proposed that a meeting be arranged with the official from Reticulation and Distribution Services to discuss the challenges mentioned above and to also request monthly feedback on the progress and way forward. In the absence of Cllr N Williams, Cllr G Joachims asked that the report also be shared with all Councillors. Agreed.

22 September 2022

Due to the absence of Cllr B van Reenen, discussions on this motion will stand over until the October 2022 Subcouncil meeting.

The members agreed.

20 October 2022

Cllr B van Reenen provided feedback the labour force is from both Water and Sanitation and Human Settlements.

Cllr van Reenen read the feedback received from Mr O Abrahams from Human Settlements:

"We are to provide information regarding the survey on unauthorized structures in Uitsig that are built on manholes running eye which hampers the unblocking of the sewer system.

There are approximately 880 units in Uitsig and only 100 to 150 units could be completed within seven days. Due to the area being volatile, the work had to stop and is requesting visibility from Law Enforcement in order for the work to continue.

Anticipated start date for work to commence will be 1 November 2022."

Cllr van Reenen further reported that the water and sanitation staff work under serious pressure due to the shootings. There are days when the workers cannot enter the area and for that I want to thank the line departments for their effort and dedication given the difficult circumstances. Cllr van Reenen appealed to Water and Sanitation to work together and make this a joint effort with Human Settlements Department.

Mr Sanele Busika (Water and Sanitation) reported on the following:

- Encounter problems in terms of infrastructure collapsing in Jacaranda Avenue and

Pantsy Crescent in Uitsig.

- For the new FY, the upgrading of the pipeline system will be done in Jacaranda Avenue and Pantsy Crescent.

- Currently busy with daily maintenance by jet vac stormwater pipelines.
- Workers encounter challenges of wrongdoers who hijacked the heavy duty truck for Shootings between rival gang members.
- At this stage the area are identified as volatile and the assistance of LE is required to enter Uitsig area.

CLlr van Reenen asked whether Lupine Street can be included in the project for upgrading and expressed concern about the occurrence of road collapses in the Uitsig area.

Mr Randall Josephs (Water and Sanitation) responded that the additional roads are considered for this project. There are SCM challenges in terms of the catchment term-tender. The tender does not allow to replace manhole to manhole. At this stage the pitch fibre pipes are badly decayed and must be replaced. 72% of the blockages are caused by the behavior of the community. Regular campaigns and outreaches are planned to inform residents to abstain from damaging the stormwater infrastructure.

The Chairperson thanked the Officials for their feedback.

Item remains on the MRA

17 November 2022

Due to the absence of the official, CLlr van Reenen reiterated that written monthly reports be submitted to the Subcouncil.

19 January 2023

The report on the Existing Sewer Reticulation Infrastructure in the Uitsig Area Of Subcouncil 4 was attached to the MRA

Sanele Kwanda Busika reported on the following:

Blockages

Uitsig consists of two areas; the northern and southern sides. The challenges of continuous blockages are experienced in the southern side of Uitsig. The cause of these continuous blockages reflects in the pie chart on page 85 of the report.

Service requests received between 01/08/2022 and 12/01/2023 indicated only one fault in the suburb, identified as a sewer collapse at the corner of Jacaranda Avenue and Magnolia Crescent.

On page 83 the Proactive Maintenance Schedule reflects the list of street names with the most sewer overflows.

Challenges being experienced by operations teams include:

- Illegal structures built over sewer infrastructure, hindering access
- Boundary chambers and rodding eyes with missing covers resulting in foreign objects and other materials entering the sewer network
- Daily Manhole cover theft
- Illegal dumping into sewer manholes, resulting in continuous blockages
- Ongoing gang violence
 - Unauthorised structures built on rodding eyes. Must liaise with CRU maintenance to overcome this challenge.

This is affecting daily operations as teams require Law Enforcement Unit escorts to respond to service requests. This in turn affects the turnaround time (24 hours) to respond to service requests, as our operational teams need to schedule work around the availability of the Law Enforcement Unit.

The proposed rehabilitation of the collector sewers in Jacaranda Avenue and Pansy Crescent (Phase 1) will benefit the sewer reticulation serving the properties on the following roads, which cover the entire suburb of Uitsig:

Investigations concluded that the project can be considered for pipe cracking rehabilitation, which is a trenchless (requiring minimal excavation) rehabilitation method, resulting in less disruption to the public and is more cost-effective than open-trench methods. The rehabilitation project under tender 134Q/2020/21 is proposed to commence by the end of January 2023, with a due completion date of mid-May 2023. This method of rehabilitation will ensure greater pipeline capacity in the collector sewers included in this project, which will have an envisaged lifespan of approximately 50 years.

The midblock sewers will form part of Phase 2.

16 February 2023

Cllr van Reenen is satisfied with the progress to reduce stormwater pipe blockages and flooding in the Uitsig area. Item remains on the MRA.

16 March 2023

A meeting to be scheduled with Public Housing to discuss the survey currently undergoing in Uitsig in respect of the unauthorised structures affecting sewer and storm water blockages. The item remains on the MRA with bi-monthly reports to the Subcouncil.

20 April 2023

A meeting was held with Public Housing on Wednesday 5 April 2023 to discuss the survey currently undergoing in Uitsig in respect of the unauthorised structures affecting sewer and stormwater blockages.

A report on the progress will serve at the May 2023 Subcouncil Meeting. The item remains on the MRA.

Resolution Details:

RESOLVED

FURTHER resolved to recommend that:

1. Subcouncil 4 requires the relevant departments as mentioned above to **SUBMIT** a report to the next meeting of the Subcouncil indicating a work program with timelines identifying each area of Uitsig to be inspected, month by month regarding Council-owned properties to establish:
 1. If any stormwater pipes are being fed into the sewerage system.
 2. If any manhole covers in either stormwater or sewerage, systems have impeded access. For example, a structure constructed over a manhole.

1. Thereafter a monthly progress report is **SUBMITTED** to Subcouncil on the inspections detailing the findings and including, where required with addresses and what remedial action is taken with timelines.

25 August 2022:

That a meeting **BE ARRANGED** between the Subcouncil members and Reticulation and Distribution Services to discuss the challenges and operations experienced.

Department: **Citizen Interface**

Responsible Officer(RO): **Ardela van Niekerk**

Response Date Comment from RO

2023/06/08

A report will serve at the Subcouncil meeting on the 22nd of June 2023.

Agenda Item No:	04SUB 24/10/2022	3	MOTION: REGULAR UNDERGROUND PIPE BURSTS IN RAVENSMEAD - WARD 25
Author:	Ardela van Niekerk;		
How Resolved:	Consensus		
Meeting Date:	2022/10/20		
Outstanding:	168		
Directorate:	CORPORATE SERVICES		
Department:	Subcouncils Area Central		

Preamble:

Delegation no 51(6)

“To request reports from the relevant line functionaries on activities planned to be executed within the Subcouncil”

REGULAR UNDERGROUND PIPE BURSTS IN RAVENSMEAD - WARD 25

Chairperson, In terms of Rule 11 of the Rules of Order regulating the Conduct of Sub-council's, I wish to submit the following urgent motion for consideration by Sub-council 4.

MOTIVATION

Chairperson, my motion deals with the challenges associated with the continuous and almost daily **underground pipe bursts** and water ingress in Ravensmead and Uitsig within Ward 25, causing water outages.

Chairperson, we are all very much aware that as South Africa's oldest city, Cape Town certainly is antiquated in terms of infrastructure and so the Ravensmead and Uitsig area within Ward 25 is severely affected.

Chairperson, we also understand that pipe bursts are complex due to the numerous causes for the occurrence of leaks. First and foremost, leaks become far more common when underground infrastructure professionals sometimes fail to comply with certain regulations, guidelines, material standards as well as the lack of maintenance and monitoring of minor water ingress.

Whilst many people blame the City's poor and weak underground system, which they also describe as poorly designed; and others blame the garbage that clogs underground systems, the reality is a lack of daily water to communities due to almost daily pipe bursts is an injustice to the community, bordering on a human rights violation.

However, chairperson, I doubt that the failures are merely caused by the aforementioned; these pipelines are simply past their lifespan and when disturbed e.g. during pipe bursts it weakens the rest of the pipeline when pressurising the line and introduces air.

These regular pipe bursts are real and it is clear that we were caught napping or that we are still not prepared to resolve these ongoing pipe bursts.

Therefore, chairperson, attached, I have a long list of C3 Notifications, which have been logged over the last 6 months in an attempt for the Line Department to have a better understanding of the enormity of the problem that the community of Ravensmead and Uitsig is faced with. C3 Notifications are meant to assist line departments by showing hotspots as well as how long the bursts were unattended to and how long our residents were without water in order to avoid unnecessary accusations made against the City of Cape Town.

Chairperson, being without water for days in a row, is an injustice and as previously mentioned, quite frankly, a human rights violation.

So, Chairperson, by implication the City and more importantly, the line department is well aware of these regular pipe bursts that lead to a lack of water to our communities, but still

we fail to find solutions to the problem.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned chairperson, I would like to thank those officials for reaching out to the affected communities under sometimes-difficult circumstances.

Chairperson, not only are pipe repairs costly, bursts might also lead to contamination of the drinking water, as well as damage to other above and underground infrastructure as we have been experiencing over the last few years. Detection and localization of pipe bursts should long have been prioritized.

And, given the reality of the enormity of the problem, these pipe bursts will escalate in future unless we take some proactive measures to mitigate the problem.

Submitted by Cllr Beverley van Reenen – Ward 25

Seconded by Cllr Franchesca Walker – Subcouncil Chairperson

Resolution Details:

TO RECOMMENDED:

(a) That the Subcouncil supports this motion to address the regular underground pipe bursts in Ravensmead – Ward 25.

(b) That the motion be referred to the Executive Director of Water & Sanitation for attention and intervention with the view of securing a Budget for implementation.

(c) That a feasibility study be undertaken to establish the key root cause of the regular pipe burst within Florida, Ravensmead and Uitsig in Ward 25.

(d) That the City considers a strategy that will deal with the pipe replacement program holistically to avoid daily pipe bursts which include the Transport and Roads Department to mitigate the ongoing damage caused by pipe burst to the roads, in the future.

(e) To provide the Subcouncil with a report detailing a workable plan of action with remedial measures to mitigate future pipe bursts and implement SLAs to avoid delaying in fixing road reinstatements; and

To provide the Subcouncil with monthly feedback reports.

17 November 2022

Mr Roger Williams (Water and Sanitation) conducted a presentation on the underground pipe bursts in Ravensmead. *Presentation forms part of the subcouncil minutes.*

Cllr van Reenen requested that copies of presentations conducted by Line Departments be circulated before the Subcouncil meeting.

Cllr van Reenen raised disappointment in terms of the mitigation measures to reduce pipe bursts and water leakages. A monthly written report on the progress is submitted to the Subcouncil..

19 January 2023

The feedback report is dealt with at the next subcouncil meeting.

16 February 2023

Cllr van Reenen expressed dissatisfaction with the progress and requested that Florida/Ravensmead be re-prioritized, given the regular underground pipe bursts.

Cllr van Reenen requested that the report be referred to the Executive Director: Water and Sanitation for a review of the priority list.

16 March 2023

The item remains on the MRA with bi-monthly reports to the Subcouncil.

20 April 2023

The item remains on the MRA with bi-monthly reports to the Subcouncil

