

Blackheath City Improvement District Chairman's Report – 11 November 2020

**Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Blackheath City Improvement District,
Honoured Guests, Officials of the City of Cape Town,**

Thank you all for your attendance here today at the 15th year Annual General Meeting of the Blackheath City Improvement District.

Due to Covid-19 precautionary measures, we have not printed any documents, we have rather made use of the website where we have listed all the applicable documents relating to today's meeting. If you would like hard copies of any of the items tabled for discussion and approval here today, please contact Brendan van der Merwe and he will be happy to assist you with printed versions of the documents. We trust that you have all studied the documents, as listed on our website at bcid.co.za.

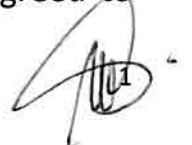
Today we shall approve the renewal of the 5th term of the Blackheath CID. In so doing we will present the business plan, budget and implementation plan for the period 2021 – 2026.

Thank you to all of those who are present today for making the time to support this important meeting and thank you to the members that trusted us with their proxies today. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the respective lockdown levels, we have operated as normal as an essential service provider throughout the lockdown period having been shut only for a few weeks in April until our status as an essential service provider was approved and confirmed and we were issued with the necessary permits to continue to deliver services within the Blackheath Industrial area.

The Buttskop road project, although delayed is currently being rolled out and the safety of pedestrians that has been our primal concern is being addressed there. This is another project that we have driven over several years. We appreciate the efforts of the Local Municipality to address infrastructure in Blackheath during these difficult times where Municipal resources are limited.

The realignment of Frederick Street, non-motorised transport upgrades in Buttskop Road and the resealing of Buttskop Road are a top priority right now. The proposed Buttskop Rail Crossing overpass road layout project is in an advanced stage of planning.

Public Meetings have been held and the designs have been approved and will now queue for funding and roll out. We have also seen road layout changes to parts of Range Road where after many years of complaining, the City eventually agreed to



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introduce traffic calming measures and formal pedestrian crossings between School Road and the Blackheath Station. More improvements like the raised intersection at Anfield Road are also eagerly awaited.

Most of you would have already noticed that the concerns relating to the electrical Eskom infrastructure in Frederick Street are currently being addressed and after more than a year of delays this project is swiftly moving forward again.

Brendan will present briefly on feedback on our operations today, but our main focus today will be to table and approve the renewal of the term of operation of the Blackheath CID. We also welcome our guest speaker, Mr Albert Brink from Productivity SA who will bring us important news on business support to small and medium enterprises during this difficult financial period brought about by the hard lockdown and the resulting difficult economic climate and resultant challenges.

We have continued to make use of the Law Enforcement initiative in partnership with the City of Cape Town and our other partnerships with ST3 Security and the SAPS ensure safety in the public space and contribute to a low crime level and a rapid response to security incidents on a 24-hour basis.

Thank you to everyone who makes this partnership a successful one and thank you to each and every person here for your support in this essential service to the property owners in Blackheath. Please remember to report all incidents of crime to the South African Police Services, so that we may attract the necessary resources to assist us in dealing with crime within the local area.

Gun related crime is high in the surrounding areas and firms who handle cash are always targeted. We remind you to please make alternative arrangements for cash handling at your premises and specially to find alternative payment methods in order to receive payments from customers. Priority crime in the Cape Flats is currently reported to be extortion with increased incidents relating to protection fees being demanded by gangs in exchange for the safety of both residents and logistics vehicles and companies. Delivery vehicles are often targeted and again those carrying cash are in grave danger of being attacked and robbed.

Over years our partnership with the City of Cape Town's Municipality that has been led by Brendan Van Der Merwe has brought huge dividends. We have grown our Rates Base from just R300M in 2006 to almost R2B in 2017-2018. And we can now report that the Rates Base for the 2020 – 2021 financial year is sitting at R2.640 Billion Rand. This is as a result of vigorous infrastructure led development that Brendan embarked on since the establishment of the BCID and that has attracted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Van Der Merwe', with a small superscript '2' to the right.

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much business interest to Blackheath as a result of improved basic services and infrastructure.

The type of industries that are attracted to Blackheath have changed and represent a much larger manufacturing component and much property development has been enjoyed and much future property development is planned. Further large-scale developments in Range, Wimbledon and School Roads are currently in the planning phases and we are excited to learn of the potential further increase in property values that this will bring to Blackheath.

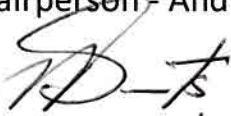
We trust that with your ongoing support for this valuable initiative, we will continue to grow our Industrial Area, increase the value of our properties and protect the fabric of the Blackheath Industrial Area whilst making our mark as serious competitors in the various industries that we represent.

As usual we show much appreciation to the current Directors of the BCID for their ongoing commitment to making the BCID the best run CID in Cape Town. Thank you also to HomeChoice for the kind use of their venue and for the catering today and our sincere appreciation to Brendan and the BCID team for their daily service to the Blackheath property owners and tenants.

Thank you again for being here today and for your ongoing support and please remember the social distancing norms, hand sanitising and normal COVID-19 safety protocols here today. Your safety is our number one priority here today.

This venue has been sanitised and each person present is urged to stay protected and to wear your mask at all times here today. Thank you.

Chairperson Andre Smuts



2020-11-11