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CK 2006/014630/23 **VAT NO.: 4360226270**

2020-08-19

To: Me. T. Tshivhase

**South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
Burial Grounds & Graves Unit**

RE: Social Consultation Process - Grave Exhumation Process for the proposed Senwabarwana Mall on ERF 300, Bochum A, in Senwabarwana, Limpopo Province.

Dear Me. Tshivhase,

My Letter Refers to the above and the required consultation process that has been on-going since June 2019, as well as the requested further consultation that has been undertaken since the 15th of June 2020. The following has bearing:

1. A Phase 1 HIA was undertaken during May 2019 during which between 10 & 15 graves were identified and recommendations made to the client and developer regarding the handling of the graves. There were two rows with graves with gaps that could contain unmarked graves.
2. SAHRA provided Final Comments on the report and recommendations on the 19th of August 2019
3. Based on the recommendations in the HIA the client put up site notices and placed an advert in the newspaper on the 19th of June 2019. Although the graves issue was not mentioned as a stand-alone and also included the EIA/WULA Process, it did speak to the graves and the intent of the developer to exhume and relocate the graves. The Senwabarwana Municipality and Molshe Business Solutions (Me. Disego Moloto) was indicated as the individuals to be contacted.
4. On the 19th of June 2019, Molshe also called for an I&AP Meeting to be held in the Senwabarwana Community Hall in which again the graves were indicated as part of the consultation process.

AJ Pelsers BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology) [WITS], MA (Archaeology) [WITS]

Beatrix Bed & Breakfast Trading as A Pelsers Archaeological Consulting

5. The said Public Meeting was held on the 18th of July 2019 during which around 70 community members attend. A Comments and Response Report (dated to the 20th of July 2019) is included in the application
6. During this meeting, which also included a visit to the grave site, it was indicated by the community that they did not know these graves as they are very old and that they did not have any issue in their exhumation and relocation. They want the development as it will bring job opportunities and economic prosperity to Senwabarwana
7. As I have understood from discussions with the client and Municipality there is not a local newspaper and that is why the one used (the Capricorn Voice) was utilized (they only publish in English). The Municipality uses other forums such as social media to communicate with the community and mostly by calling Public Meetings such as the one indicated
8. Environmental Authorization for the development was issued on the 6th of November 2019 in which the graves were also included, indicating that either they should be fenced in or if they cannot be avoided then they could be exhumed and relocated after a permit has been obtained
9. Subsequent to that I was appointed to undertake the exhumation process and permit application, for which I started the process on the 11th of February 2020.
10. In June we were requested to erect new site notices (including Sepedi) and place a Sepedi Advertisement in a local newspaper (Capricorn News). This was subsequently done, with Site Notices placed on the 19th of June 2020 and a 2nd set replacing these on the 15th of July 2020 in order to provide people more than 60 days to respond.
11. In the more than 1 year since Public Participation has commenced no one has come forward to identify or claim the graves or to lodge any objections to their relocation. Letters to this effect has been provided by the Blouberg Municipality and Molshe Business Solutions and is included in the application as well.
12. It should also be stated here that Covid-19 regulations during lockdown has had no restrictions on the ability of people to view these notices and accessing them as is stated in the various letters.

In light of the above and in reference to all the relevant documents provided and uploaded onto sahris on the Case we believe that we have done all that is possible to try and trace possible descendants of the deceased buried at the site.

Should there be any questions please contact the undersigned as soon as possible at any time.

Kind regards

Anton Pelser

