

**Appendix E5**  
**Minutes of any public meetings**



# EXPANSION OF SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AT THE COUNTRY CLUB JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY, 04 JULY 2022 AT 13H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

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Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Nondumiso Bulunga**

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
**E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)**

*Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

## MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Organisation	Position
Portia Makitla	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Control Biodiversity Officer
Vedhant Maharaj	Rebelbase Camp	Architect
Steven Nicholson	Country Club Johannesburg - Woodmead	General Manager
Charmaine Klug Price	Country Club Johannesburg - Woodmead	Club Manager
Wendy Robertson	Woodmead Khyber Rock Residents Association	Director
Mmakoena Mmola	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Lead Consultant

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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**Nondumiso Bulunga** welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Expansion of Sports and Recreation Facilities at the Country Club Johannesburg - Woodmead.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

## APOLOGIES

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Steven Mukhola - Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD).

## BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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**Mmakoena Mmola** provided an overview of the proposed project relating to the Expansion of Sports and Recreation Facilities at the Country Club Johannesburg in Woodmead, Gauteng Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Basic Assessment (BA) being undertaken in support an application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project. **Mmakoena Mmola** presented the following key information:

- overview of the project relating to the Expansion of Sports and Recreation Facilities at the Country Club Johannesburg - Woodmead;
- overview of the BA Process;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the BA Report; and
- summary of the environmental impacts identified.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

## DISCUSSION SESSION

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Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Portia Makitla	This application is submitted to GDARD and the project applicant is a private entity.	Mmakoena Mmola confirmed that GDARD is the Competent Authority (CA) and the applicant is a private entity.
	If GDARD is the CA, then we as DFFE will not comment on the project since we are not the CA and GDARD has their own Biodiversity and Conservation department which should comment and we do not want to cause any confusions.	Nondumiso Bulunga acknowledged the statement, and no further response was required.
Wendy Robertson	At this moment no comments but I will follow up with an email.	Nondumiso Bulunga acknowledged the statement, and no further response was required.

## WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

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Further project information will be relayed accordingly. It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

**Nondumiso Bulunga** thanked the participants for making time available to attend FGM and for their valuable input into the process.

The meeting was closed at 13h26.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment	CA	Competent Authority
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
GDARD	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development		

Meeting Summary

Total Number of Participants

Meeting Title Invitation to Meeting for Proposed Expansion of Sports and recreational Facility at the Country Club Johannesburg  
Meeting Start Time 7/4/2022, 12:56:02 PM  
Meeting End Time 7/4/2022, 1:26:32 PM  
Meeting Id 84a8c70d-971e-44f5-aaaa-ae00b1d84568

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Full Name	Join Time
Nondumiso Bulunga	7/4/2022, 12:56:02 PM
Charmaine Klug Price	7/4/2022, 12:57:22 PM
Mmakoena Mmola	7/4/2022, 12:59:59 PM
Portia Makitla	7/4/2022, 1:02:12 PM
Vedhant Maharaj	7/4/2022, 1:07:33 PM
Wendy Robertson (Guest)	7/4/2022, 1:10:41 PM
Steven Nicholson	7/4/2022, 1:24:47 PM

Leave Time	Duration	Email	Role	Participant ID (UPN)
7/4/2022, 1:26:28 PM	30m 25s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Organizer	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com
7/4/2022, 1:26:27 PM	29m 4s	Charmainek@ccj.co.za	Attendee	Charmainek@ccj.co.za
7/4/2022, 1:26:32 PM	26m 32s	Mmakoena@savannahsa.com	Presenter	Mmakoena@savannahsa.com
7/4/2022, 1:26:21 PM	24m 8s	PMakitla@dffe.gov.za	Attendee	pmakitla@environment.gov.za
7/4/2022, 1:26:28 PM	18m 55s	vedhant.maharaj@rebelbase.camp	Attendee	vedhant.maharaj@rebelbase.camp
7/4/2022, 1:26:25 PM	15m 43s		Attendee	
7/4/2022, 1:26:28 PM	1m 40s	stevenn@ccj.co.za	Attendee	stevenn@ccj.co.za




# **Proposed Expansion of Sports and Recreation Facilities at the Country Club Johannesburg, Gauteng Province**

**Focus Group Meeting  
Monday, 04 July 2022**

# AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Project Overview
- Basic Assessment Process
- Key Environmental Findings
- Way Forward
- Discussions

# MEETING CONDUCT

- Recording of meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation 
- Register attendance on Chat  function (name, surname & affiliation)
- Please raise your hand  to indicate comment or to raise a question
- Questions and comments can be submitted on the chat function during the presentation – team will respond after presentation
- Equal opportunity for input and queries
- Please hold all verbal questions until after the presentation



# PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Provide stakeholders and I&APs with an overview of the proposed project
- Summary of the **Basic Assessment Process & Public Participation** being undertaken
- Present a summary of the key environmental findings as documented in the **Basic Assessment Report**
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the project and environmental studies, as well as the opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the Basic Assessment Process
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the submission to the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

(Mmakoena Mmola)

# LOCALITY MAP



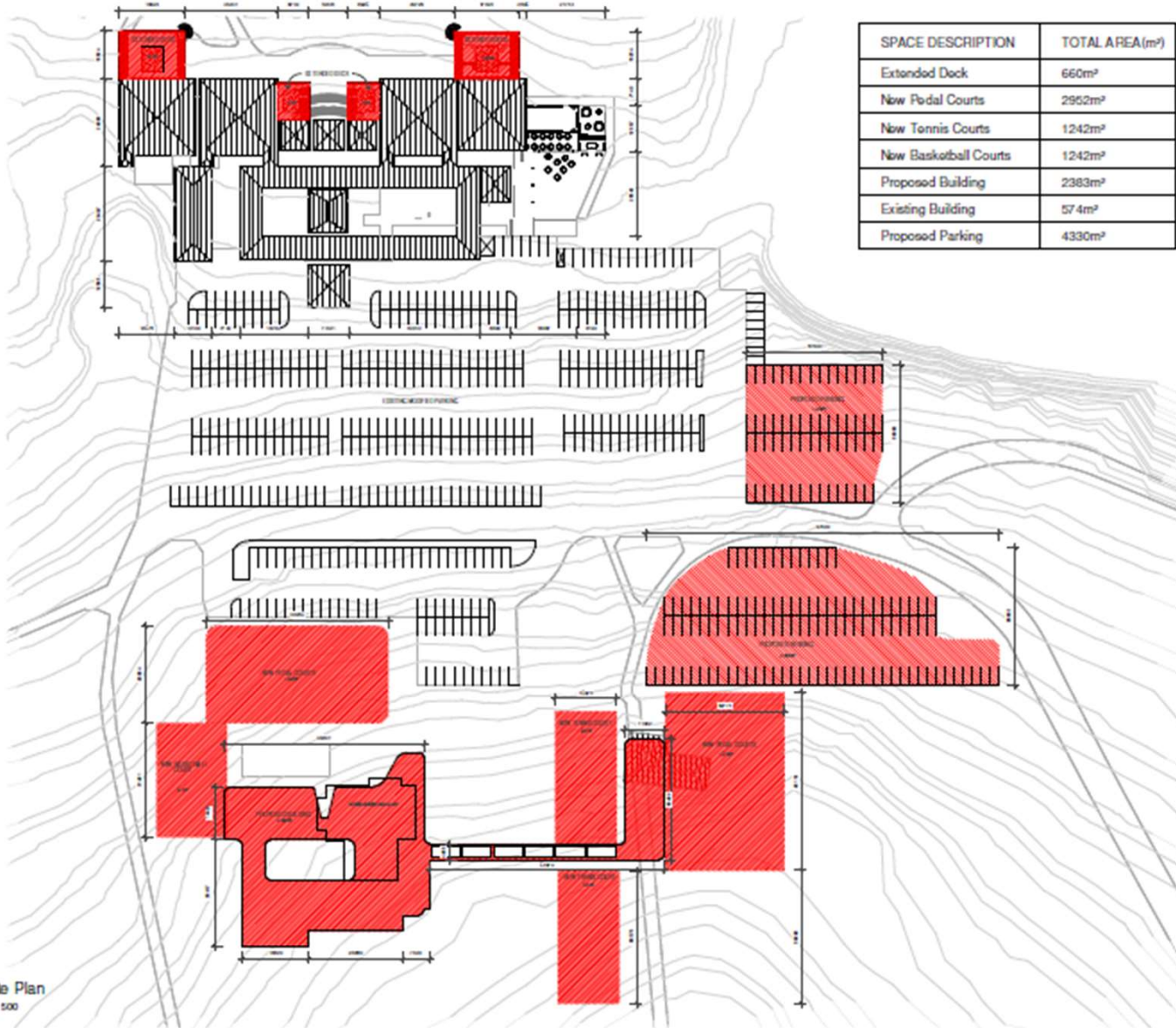
- **Applicant** – Country Club Johannesburg – Woodmead
- **Location** – Portion 433 of the Farm Rietfontein IR 2, located in Woodmead, Johannesburg, within jurisdiction of the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality in the Gauteng Province

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## ■ Project Proposal:

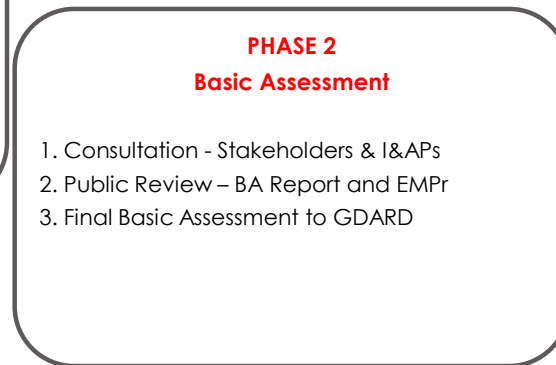
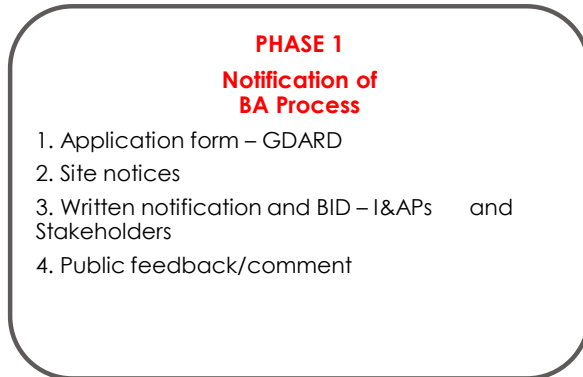
- The expansion of sports and recreational facilities –
  - This will entail the construction of additional tennis courts and new padel courts; upgrading the existing building at the facility to include a gym, changerooms and squash courts; expanding the parking area; and upgrading the restaurant and bar to provide a modern, multi-sport and family facility for members of the Country Club Johannesburg.
  - A development footprint of up to ~1.3ha has been identified by Country Club Johannesburg for the expansion of their sports and recreational facilities.

SPACE DESCRIPTION	TOTAL AREA(m <sup>2</sup> )
Extended Dock	660m <sup>2</sup>
New Padel Courts	2952m <sup>2</sup>
New Tennis Courts	1242m <sup>2</sup>
New Basketball Courts	1242m <sup>2</sup>
Proposed Building	2383m <sup>2</sup>
Existing Building	574m <sup>2</sup>
Proposed Parking	4330m <sup>2</sup>

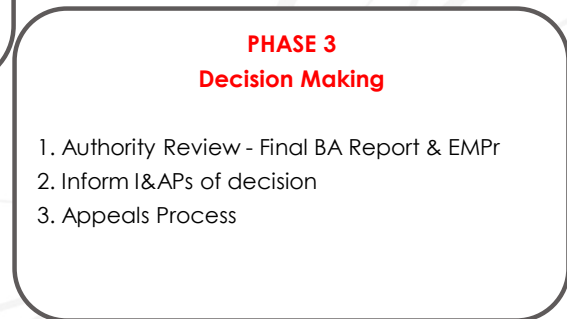


1 Site Plan  
1:500

# BA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



← We are here



# SPECIALIST STUDY FINDINGS

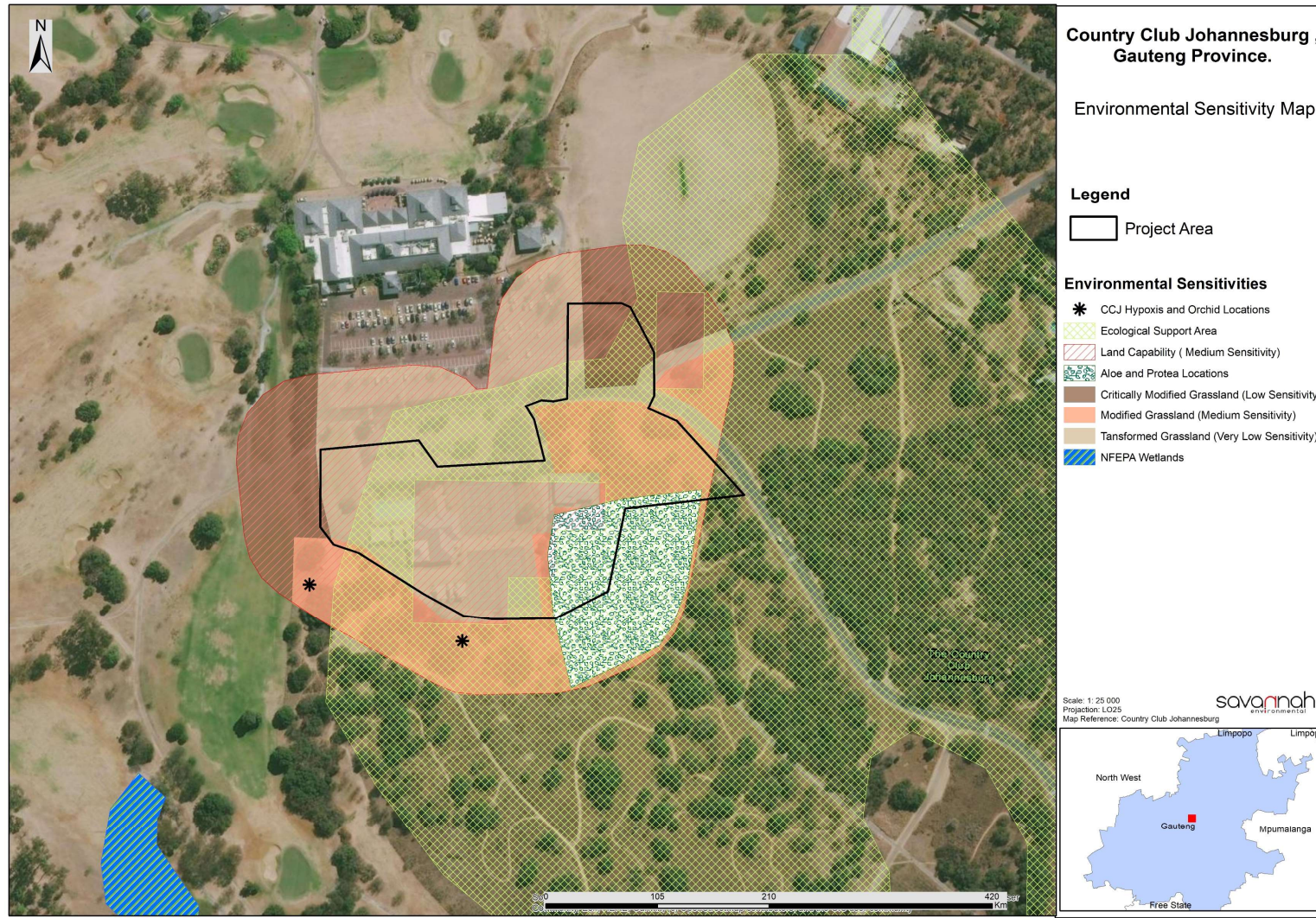
Impact Report Specialist Studies	Findings
<p data-bbox="65 410 562 475">Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement</p> <p data-bbox="65 516 562 613">Michael Schrenk and Andrew Husted of The Biodiversity Company</p>	<p data-bbox="562 410 2043 508">Based on the sensitivity of the development footprint, a compliance statement was undertaken and not a full impact assessment in accordance with the relevant specialist protocols published in Government Notice 320 of 20 March 2020 and Government Notice 1150 of 30 October 2022.</p> <ul data-bbox="562 548 2043 1295" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="562 548 2043 646">• The project area is situated within the Egoli Granite Grassland. The conservation status of this vegetation community was listed by Mucina and Rutherford (2006) as Endangered and is listed as Critically Endangered based on the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA) (2018).</li> <li data-bbox="562 654 2043 751">• According to the Gauteng Conservation Plan, portions of the project area overlap with an Ecological Support Area (ESA). The closest Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) is the Sandspruit river greenbelt, located approximately 1 km west of the project area.</li> <li data-bbox="562 760 2043 784">• Falls across a Critically Endangered ecosystem.</li> <li data-bbox="562 792 2043 849">• Falls across three habitat units, namely, transformed habitat, critically modified grassland and modified grassland.</li> <li data-bbox="562 857 2043 987">• Four provincially protected plant species: <i>Eulophia ovalis</i> var. <i>bainesii</i> (Cream courting harlequin orchid), <i>Aloe maculata</i> (Soap aloe), <i>Protea caffra</i> subsp. <i>caffra</i> (Common sugarbush), and <i>Cussonia paniculata</i> subsp. <i>sinuata</i> (Mountain cabbagetree) and one flora species of conservation concern was recorded, namely, <i>Hypoxis hemerocallidea</i> (Star-flower).</li> <li data-bbox="562 995 2043 1125">• No mammal activity was recorded. Although signposts and discussions with staff revealed that <i>Atelerix frontalis</i> (Hedgehog) have historically been observed in the region. The Hedgehog is listed as 'Near Threatened' (NT) nationally and is considered protected game by both national and provincial legislation.</li> <li data-bbox="562 1133 2043 1230">• One herpetofaunal species was observed, namely, <i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i> (Leopard tortoise), which is provincially protected and also listed under appendix II of CITES – affording the species international protection.</li> <li data-bbox="562 1239 2043 1263">• The project area is near numerous wetlands and the Sandspruit River.</li> <li data-bbox="562 1271 2043 1295">• There are no fatal flaws for this project.</li> </ul>

# SPECIALIST STUDY FINDINGS

Impact Report Specialist Studies	Findings
<p>Soils and Agricultural Potential Compliance Statement</p> <p>Michael Douglas and Andrew Husted of The Biodiversity Company</p>	<p>The project area is regarded as having a “Moderately low to Moderate” land capability and as such, an agricultural compliance statement has been prepared as opposed to a full impact assessment. Since an agricultural compliance statement was prepared as per Government Notice 320 dated 20 March 2020, an assessment of the identified potential impacts was not undertaken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two soil forms were identified within the 50m regulated area of the project area, namely, Glenrosa and Avalon. Of these soil forms, the Avalon soil form is most sensitive.</li> <li>• The land capability of the Avalon soil has been determined to be class “II” (arable land) and the land capability of the Glenrosa soil has been determined to be class “VI” (grazing land).</li> <li>• Considering the nature of the proposed activities and the low sensitivity of the soil resources identified within the 50 m regulated area, it is the specialist’s opinion that no concernable loss of land capability is expected and that no segregation of high production agricultural land will occur.</li> </ul>
<p>Heritage Impact Assessment</p> <p>Vedhant Maharaj of Rebel Base Collective</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no significant heritage value to the property and the surrounds of the project area. The land was initially purchased in 1966 and has no heritage structures or signs of heritage landscape.</li> <li>• The bulk construction of the proposed construction is planned to be undertaken on already developed land.</li> <li>• All development of the property at the Country Club Johannesburg is less than 60 years of age and therefore holds no heritage value.</li> <li>• It is the specialist’s opinion that the proposed development proceed with no restrictions as there is no sites of heritage significance within the project area.</li> </ul>



# ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITIES



# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMEMNDATIONS

- There are no identified environmental fatal flaws associated with the implementation of the project.
- Through assessment of the project within the project area, it can be concluded that the project is environmentally acceptable (subject to implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

# **WAY FORWARD**

**(Nondumiso Bulunga)**

# WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Report review and comment period: **Monday, 06 June 2022 until Thursday, 07 July 2022** (the report can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website: (<https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/other/>))
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development and register you as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available
- Comments / queries will be captured and included in the Comments and Responses Report which will be submitted with the Final BA Report
- The Final BA Report will be submitted to GDARD for decision-making

# WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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