



**TGM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

**UPGRADE OF ROAD D620 & ROAD D621**

**Ref Nr. TGM2015/002**

**PREPARED FOR:**

Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport  
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**COMPILED BY:**

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**JULY 2015**

# **SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR PROPOSED UPGRADE OF ROAD D620 & ROAD D621**

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

**Ref Nr. TGM2015/002**

### **1. Introduction**

Nyeleti Consulting (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport appointed TGM Environmental Services CC to obtain environmental authorisation from the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) for the proposed project.

The Scoping and Environmental Impact reporting process (S&EIR) will apply to this application. The process is done in terms of Government Notice Regulations (GNR) No. 982, 983, 984 and 985 of the EIA Regulations of 2014. The EIA Regulations were promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act ('NEMA', Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended). A Water Use License will also be applied for in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998).

### **2. Purpose of this document**

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed upgrading of Road D620 & D621 in the Winterveld area.

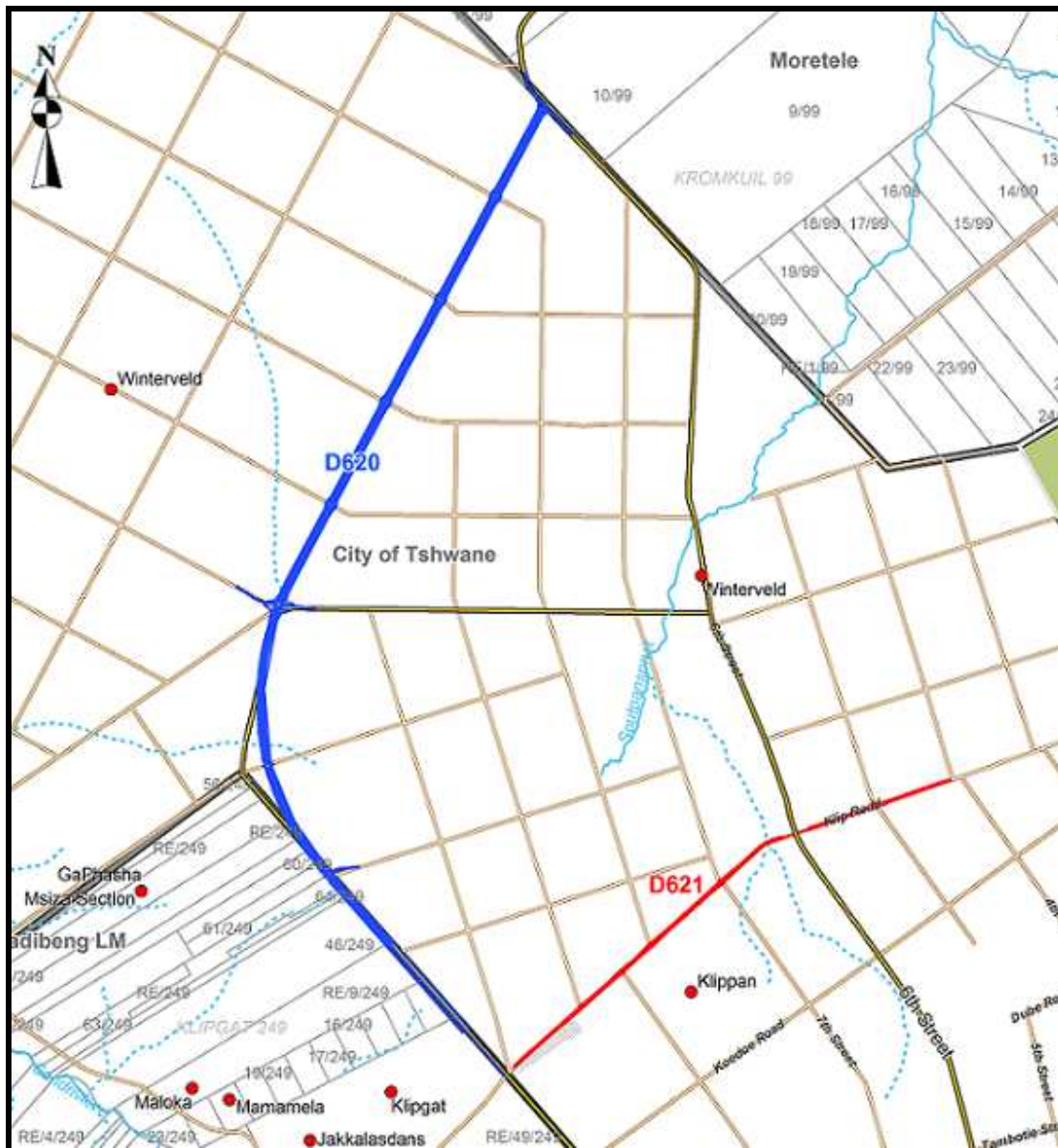
I&APs are invited to engage in the S&EIR process by submitting their viewpoint and constructive suggestions to the project team. I&AP participation will help in identifying potential environmental and social impacts to be assessed as part of the S&EIR process for this application.

### **3. Project Description**

The project entails the upgrading of Road D620 & Road D621 from gravel to surfaced roads. Road D620 will be upgraded to a dual carriageway, approximately 9.3 km in length, with a proposed road reserve of 62 metres. Road D621 will remain a single carriageway, approximately 4.4 km in length, with a proposed road reserve of 30 metres. Existing stormwater infrastructure will be replaced/upgraded and new stormwater infrastructure will be constructed.

#### 4. Locality

The project is located in the Winterveld area. Road D620 extends from Jakkalas Village in the south to the intersection with provincial road M39 at the North West Province boundary. Road D621 extends from Jakkalas Village in the west across the M39 to the intersection with the surfaced road to Soshanguve.



- Road D620
- Road D621

## **5. Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process**

The NEMA activities which are triggered by the proposed development require an application for an Environmental Authorisation in the form of a S&EIR process and a Scoping Report (SR) and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be submitted to GDARD. All activities under Notices GN R983 and GN R985 which require a Basic Assessment (BA) will be included as part of the full S&EIA process. The listed activities linked to these interventions are as follows:

### **Activities listed under GN R983:**

**Activity 12** – The development of– (xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs– (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.

**Activity 19** – The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from– (i) a watercourse.

### **Activity listed under GN R984:**

**Activity 27** – The development of– (i) a national road as defined in section 40 of the South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Act, 1998 (Act No.7 of 1998); (ii) a road administered by a provincial authority; (iii) a road with a reserve wider than 30 metres; or (iv) a road catering for more than one lane of traffic in both directions.

### **Activity listed under GN R985:**

**Activity 12** – The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. (i) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004; (ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; (iii) Within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from high water mark of the sea or an estuarine functional zone, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas; or (iv) On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning.

A Water Use License is also being applied for in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998). The following Water Uses are being applied for as part of the project:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks or characteristics of a watercourse (including stream crossings for services).

## **6. Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process**

### **Pre-application:**

- A pre-application consultation between the consultant and the client was held to determine the extent of the application.

### **Public Participation Process will include the following:**

- The proposed development will be advertised in a local newspaper and on site;
- The adjacent landowners, tenants and resident's associations are to be informed directly, in writing, of the application for environmental authorization for the proposed development;
- Interested and affected parties and Stakeholders is to be given a 30 day period within which to lodge any objections;
- After the 30 day period has expired a report is to be written on how any objections and/or comments raised by interested and affected parties together with an indication as to how the objections will be addressed, if at all.

### **Scoping Report:**

- The report provides a description of the activity, description of property and location and a description of environment, legislation, need and desirability, significant impacts and management as well as mitigation.
- A description is given of the public participation process.
- The report explains the methodology used in assessing impacts, which specialist studies and specialised processes were undertaken.
- A draft copy of the Scoping Report along with the plan of study for the environmental impact assessment (EIA) will be sent to all I&AP's for review. I&AP's will be given a 30 day period to comment on the report.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Report:**

- The report contains details as well as the expertise of the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP), a description of the activity, description of property and location,

description of environment, legislation, need and desirability, advantages and disadvantages, significant impacts and management as well as mitigation.

- A description is given of the public participation process.
- The methodology used to determine the significance of impacts is explained, comparative assessment alternatives are reviewed, there is a summary of findings & recommendations of specialist reports, environmental issues and the assessment of impacts is also discussed. The report also contains a description of assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge.
- A draft copy of the report and an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be sent to all I&AP's for their comments. I&AP's will be given a 30 day period to comment on the report.

## **7. Time schedule for the S&EIR**

The following allowances have been made for time in terms of the S&EIR process:

- Public participation process which includes providing Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) **30** days to register.
- Compile draft Scoping Report
- Submit the draft Scoping Report to I&APs and State Departments and provide **30** days for comment.
- Compile final Scoping Report after receipt of comments.
- Submit Application form to GDARD.
- Submit final Scoping Report with comments received to GDARD within **44** days of submission of Application form to GDARD.
- Within **43** days of receipt of Scoping Report, GDARD to accept or reject the report.
- Compile draft EIAR
- Submit the draft EIAR to I&APs and State Departments and provide **30** days for comment.
- Submit final EIAR with comments received to GDARD within **106** days of acceptance of Scoping Report.
- Within **107** days of receipt of S&EIR, GDARD to grant or refuse environmental authorisation.

## **8. Role of the Interested & Affected Parties (I&AP's)**

Registered I&AP's have the right to bring to the attention of the Environmental Authority any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application.

**The rights of the I& AP's are qualified by certain obligations, namely:**

- I & AP's must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved or set by the competent authority, or within any extension of a timeframe agreed to by the applicant or Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP);
- A copy of comments submitted directly to the competent authority must be served on the applicant or EAP; and
- Any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application must be disclosed.

**The roles of I&AP's in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:**

- Assist in the identification of issues that need to be investigated;
- Make suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing project benefits;
- Assist in/ or comment on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contribute information on public needs, values and expectations;
- Contribute local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verify that their issues have been considered.

**In order to participate effectively, I&AP's should:**

- Become involved in the process as early as possible;
- Register as I&AP's by responding to the relevant newspaper advertisements and/or BID;
- Provide your contact details.
- Advise the EAP of other I&AP's who should be consulted;
- Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- Provide timeous responses to correspondence;
- Be respectful and courteous towards other I&APS;
- Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements, and
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

**9. Name and contact details of the EAP**

For further information on this application, please contact: Ms Delia de Lange of TGM Environmental Services CC at P.O. Box 219, Groenkloof, 0027. **Tel:** 012 346 7655 **Fax:** 012 346 6074 **Email:** delia@tgmenviro.co.za.

In order to ensure that you are identified as an Interested and/or Affected Party and wish to receive future correspondence regarding the proposed development, please submit in writing the following:

- ❑ Contact name,
- ❑ Email address, Telephone and Fax Numbers & Postal Address,
- ❑ Your interest in the project, and
- ❑ Any comments you may have

to the contact person above within **30** days of publication of this advertisement.

**The Closing Date for registration as an Interested and/or Affected Party is 3 August 2015.**



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<b>NAME</b>	
<b>ORGANISATION</b>	
<b>TEL NUMBER</b>	
<b>FAX NUMBER</b>	
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	
<b>INTEREST IN THE PROJECT:</b>	
<b>COMMENTS:</b>	

**PLEASE FAX OR E-MAIL COMPLETED FORMS TO:  
DELIA DE LANGE FAX NR: 012 346 6074 E-MAIL: delia@tgmenviro.co.za**