## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

# ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED AUTHORISATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED UPGRADES AT GOLDEN HARVEST PARK, GAUTENG PROVINCE



## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Johannesburg City Parks owns and manages the Golden Harvest Park in Johannesburg, Gauteng, which covers an area of approximately 55 ha. The Golden Harvest Park is an open space established for use by the public for recreational purposes. The Park was established in 1972 midst residential growth in the area and provides a green space within the urban development. Green spaces within urban development provides ecological, social and environmental benefits.

Johannesburg City Parks are planning several upgrades to the Park which required environmental related authorisations.

## PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Background information document (BID) provides potential stakeholders with information about the proposed project, the regulatory processes and how to become involved in this process.

Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants cc (AVDE) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner for this project to undertake the environmental related authorisations and associated public participation process.

You are invited to register as in Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for this project and to comment or raise any issue of concern. To register for the proposed project and receive additional notifications, please complete the enclosed registration form, and send to:

#### Suzanne van Rooy

Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants cc (AVDE)

Email: <a href="mailto:suzanne@avde.co.za">suzanne@avde.co.za</a>

Tel: 012 940 9457 Fax: 086 634 3967

Postal address: Private Bag X 1007, Lyttelton, 0140

# LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Golden Harvest Park is located in Randburg, Gauteng Province and falls within the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality. The Park is situated on several portions of the farms Northwold Ext 8, Hunters Hill AH, Golden Harvest AH and Brushwood Haugh AH. Refer to Figure 1 for the locality map.



Figure 1: Golden Harvest Park Locality Map

# **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The following upgrades are planned at the Golden Harvest Park:

- Construction of a sewer line;
- Building of ablutions;
- Upgrade of vehicle bridge;
- Upgrade of pedestrian bridge; and
- Construction of two attenuation structures (weirs).

The proposed project layout is shown in Figure 2.

The proposed upgrades at Golden Harvest Park are required in order to ensure that the park's river crossings are safe for local community members utilising the park and to provide adequate ablution facilities for community members when visiting the park.



# LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The environmental related authorisations required for the proposed upgrades at Golden Harvest Park are as follow:

- A Basic Assessment process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The competent authority for this process is the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD).
- A Water Use Licence Application (WULA) in terms of the National Water Act (NWA, Act 36 of 1998). The competent authority for this process is the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The stakeholder engagement process, undertaken as part of the environmental authorisation process, is conducted in terms of NEMA (as amended) which provides clear guidelines for stakeholder engagement during an environmental authorisation process. Chapter 1 of the NEMA outlines the principles of environmental management, several pertaining to stakeholder engagement. Chapter 6 (sections 39 - 44) of the NEMA Regulation GN R982 (promulgated in December 2014) specifies the minimum requirements for stakeholder engagement for an environmental authorisation process.

This process offers stakeholders the opportunity to be informed about the project, raise comments or queries and make suggestions for enhanced project benefits. The technical specialists and project team will evaluate relevant issues and suggestions during the Basic Assessment process.

The environmental related authorisation processes are running concurrently and require the involvement of stakeholders. Therefore, a single integrated stakeholder engagement process will be undertaken in compliance with all legislation. The environmental authorisation is illustrated in Figure 2.

During the Basic Assessment process, phase, potential impacts are identified, and management measures are proposed to mitigate negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. A Basic Assessment Report will be compiled and made available for public comment for a period of 30 days. Once the public comment period is concluded, the Basic Assessment Report will be updated with the comments received from stakeholders and will be submitted to GDARD for decision making.

#### YOUR COMMENT IS IMPORTANT

Your comments and suggestions on any aspect of the proposed project, including the technical and stakeholder engagement processes, will ultimately assist the authorities in their decision-making process. If you wish to receive further notifications and documentation regarding the proposed upgrades at Golden Harvest Park project, kindly complete the attached registration form, and send to Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants.

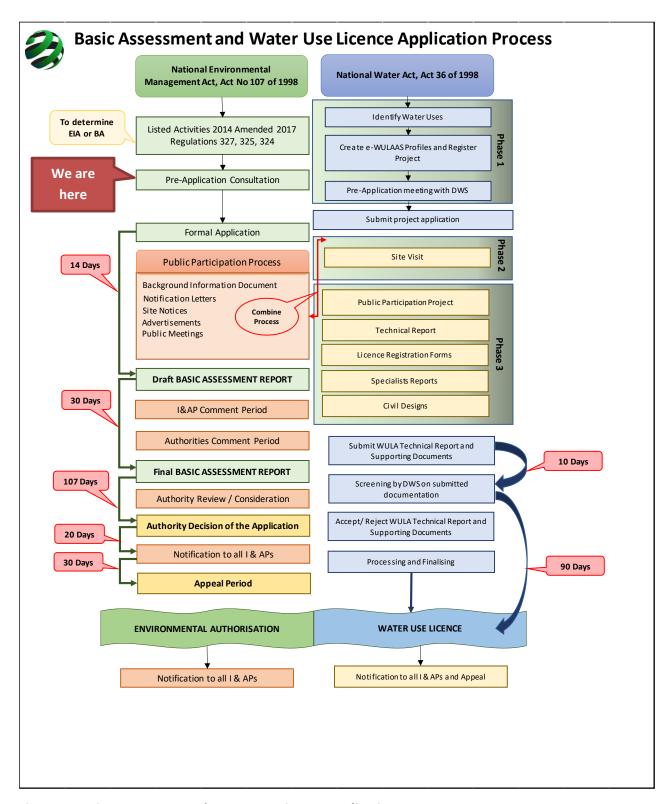


Figure 3: Basic Assessment and Water Use Licence Application Process