



Development Planning, Environment & Management Unit Environmental Planning & Climate Protection Department

166 K. E Masinga Road, Durban, 4001
PO Box 680, Durban, 4000
Tel: 031 311 7875
Fax: 031 311 7134
Deputy Head: Dr D Roberts

Attention: Lloyd Ndlovu
Sivest

P. O. Box1899
Umhlanga Rocks
4320

Tel: 031 75811500
Fax: 031 5662371
Email: lloydnd@sivest.co.za

ENQUIRIES: MS SA. Makhwedzha
TEL: 031-311 7919
FAX: 031-311 7134
MAIL: shoni.makhwedzha@durban.gov.za
OUR REFERENCE: EIA/844
DAEA: DM/0039/2014

CONSOLIDATED CITY COMMENT: BID: PROPOSED EMANSOMINI PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER MBOKODWENI RIVER.

Herewith find the consolidated City comment on the **Background Information Document** for the proposed Emansomini pedestrian bridge.

1. **ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY:**

The Department has checked this application against its services and infrastructure and have no objections or comments to this application.

2. **COASTAL, STORMWATER AND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT:**

The bridge will need a flood report.

3. **FRAMEWORK PLANNING BRANCH:**

The Framework Planning Branch supports the construction of the pedestrian bridge as the need to allow easy access for the two communities was identified in the Nsimbini Rural Functional Area Plan (2013).

However Nsimbini Rural Functional Area Plan (2013) noted the need for a vehicular bridge over the Ezimbokodweni River linking areas of Nsimbini to Philani Valley and eMansomini.

4. **DISASTER MANAGEMENT:**

No concerns from this department.

5. FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT:

This department has no objection to the proposed pedestrian bridge subject to:

- Full compliance of dredging, excavation, removal of soil with petroleum product or flammable gas pipeline in close proximity.
- Full compliance with other relevant applicable Legislative requirements.

6. ETHEKWINI WATER AND SANITATION: WASTEWATER- TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

No objection.

7. GEOTECHNICAL BRANCH:

No geotechnical objection in principle to pedestrian bridge at that location. This is a substantial river that has moved some sizable river boulders just upstream at the shopping centre site; a geotechnical investigation must be done to confirm depth to competent, rock founding,

The geographical coordinates are confused.

8. ETHEKWINI TRANSPORT AUTHORITY (ETA):

No comment.

9. DURBAN SOLID WASTE:

DSW has no requirements for this proposal.

10. CITY HEALTH:

The Health Department has no objection to the proposed project; further comments will be made on the receipt of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR).

11. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & CLIMATE PROTECTION DEPARTMENT:

Following review of the Background Information Document, this Department has the following comment:

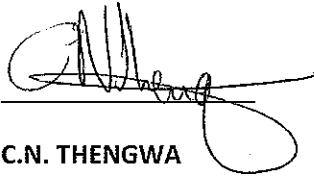
Alternatives:

Bridge alternative designs must be investigated. This Department recommends a suspension bridge since this option has the potential to limit the number of piles within watercourses and reduce habitat loss and degradation.

Site alternatives must be explored and a site which offers a more reduced length will be more preferable since it will reduce the distance across the river.

Alternative locations for the concrete structures outside the 1:100 year floodline must also be investigated to mitigate against the impacts of flooding on the bridge structures.

Yours sincerely,



C.N. THENGWA

Manager: Biodiversity Impact Assessment

Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department

Date: 08/07/2014