



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 15993

Date: Monday March 01, 2021
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Bokamoso Landscape Architects and Environmental Consultants CC

Central Plaza Investments 28 (Pty) Ltd on behalf of the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport (GDRT) to construct and upgrade the K54/M31 11.5km in length in Tshwane.

Pelser, A. October 2020. A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment & Report For The Proposed K54/M31 Road Construction & Upgrade Project On Various Portions Of Rietfontein 375 JR, Rietvallei 377 JR, Garstfontein 374 JR, Doornkloof 391 JR And The Remainder Of Portion 499 Of Zwavelpoort 373 JR. Tshwane Metropolitan Area, Gauteng

Butler, E. October 2020. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment For The Proposed K54/M31 (Nellmapius Drive) Construction And Upgrade, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails road construction and upgrade covering a distance of approximately 11km will entail the upgrade of the M31/K54 (Nellmapius Drive) from the R21 freeway up to the R50 (Delmas Road), and the construction of the planned provincial route M31/K54 from the R50 (Delmas Road) eastwards crossing the M30 (Garsfontein Road) up to the M11 (Atterbury Road), consisting of one lane per direction. Intersections along the abovementioned route will also be upgraded.

In terms of archaeology, the assessment of the specific study area did not identify any sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance in the direct area of impact.

The palaeontological assessment notes that the development footprint is in the Transvaal Basin and is mainly underlain by the Hekpoort and Timeball Hill Formations (Pretoria Group, Transvaal Supergroup). A small portion of the development footprint falls in the Daspoort Formation in the west and the most westerly margin of the development falls in the Malmani Subgroup (Chuniespoort Group; Transvaal Supergroup). According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Malmani Subgroup is Very High, the Timeball Hill and Daspoort Formation is High and that of the Hekpoort Formation is Moderate and that of the Boshhoek Formation is Low. Diabase is igneous rocks and is considered to have no palaeontological significance. The K54/M31 (Nellmapius Drive) Construction and Upgrade will mostly be developed within the existing road reserve (having no effect on the palaeontological resources of the



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area) except for the last km in the west. Diabase is present in this part of the development and would have had a thermal metamorphic effect on the adjoining Timeball Hill Formation consequently decreasing the chance of fossil preservation in this area. The Malmani Subgroup is present on the most westerly tip of the development but falls in an existing road development. The author recommends that the proposed development is deemed appropriate and feasible and will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological heritage of the area.

Final Comment

In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and in addition, on the following conditions:

- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon

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Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/553401>
(GDARD, Ref:)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.