



City meeting a 'turning point'

CABLE theft, theft of water meters, house invasions, burglaries, muggings on the street, illegal dumping and littering, vagrants, illegal advertising on poles. Residents were fed up and were calling for something to be done.

This is why ERA wrote to the mayor requesting an urgent meeting to discuss problems residents had identified. The meeting took place on March 30 with representatives from City Power, JRA, Pikitup, JMPD, City Parks.

The City has huge financial constraints (see box); each entity described how they not only have huge infrastructure backlogs but are also massively understaffed and under-resourced.

'Our meeting marked a turning point,' says outgoing ERA chair, Geraldine Connell. 'The joint commitment of residents and City office holders will ensure our suburb functions well.' Entities undertook to do the following:

- Pikitup will provide backup for any community clean-up
- ERA and concerned residents will work with JRA to target major roads that need urgent attention.
- City Power will supply us with a list of their contractors; try its best to replace the copper cables in areas most affected by cable theft.
- JMPD gave ERA a hot-line number for emergency assistance. If JMPD does not respond to your reporting, please contact ERA on info@emmarentia.co.za or refer the

State of the City of Joburg

- ◆ Infrastructure backlog—R170bn
- ◆ City Power: R68bn
- ◆ JRA: R13,8bn
- ◆ JRA: Human Resources Region B*—68% under staffed
- * = includes Emmarentia

matter to the councillor for Emmarentia, Nick Lorimer nicklorimer@outlook.com

As mandated by you at the ERA AGM in March, we will put these capital expenditure requests below to the IDP meeting on April 11 at Marks Park:

- Refurbish old electricity sub-stations and mini sub-stations in Emmarentia
- Fence Lower Geldenhuys below the dam wall up to Linden Road.
- Repair roads and kerbs/pavements especially on Louw Geldenhuys next to the dam.

How can you help?

- keep your verge clean and clear for pedestrians
- take part in community clean-ups
- know your neighbour—join your street whatsapp group
- be an active citizen: report all service delivery problems and by-law infringements (see over page for numbers) and escalate to our councillor if no progress.
- join ERA (www.emmarentia.co.za) and help us do more.

Security companies to work together

In the past month, representatives of ERA have met with CAP and ADT/Fidelity and secured commitment from them to:

- work in tandem with other security companies in the suburb
 - respond to calls from citizens when they come across cable theft/illegal dumping
 - share the patrolling of high-risk areas, particularly around the open spaces.
- A meeting is still to take place with CSS/Beagle Watch to ask them to make the same undertaking.

We've heard your complaints about car guards in Greenhill Road and the problems in the Checkers area. We will be working with concerned residents to see what we can do to resolve the problems. More in the next Emmarentia News.

Keeping Emmarentia clean an uphill battle

WE need your help. Illegal dumping just won't go away. Nor will illegal advertising.

In March, residents got rid of 30 tons of building rubble and household rubbish below the dam wall. It's slowly drifting back.

At a clean up in March, residents cleaned illegal adverts off electricity poles and boxes along Barry Hertzog from Ingalele to

Gleneagles. Two weeks later, new adverts plastered the poles. (see above) Illegal dumping, advertising = less income for the City, less money for service delivery.

JOIN THE NEXT CLEAN UP—MAY 13—9h00-11h00. More details e-mail emmarentia.hands@gmail.com



Proposed 2017/18 City of Joburg tariff increases	Rates	Electricity	Refuse	Water and Sanitation
e-mail objections if you have to: siphoMad@joburg.org.za or angeliquem@joburg.org.za	6,2%	2,28%	6,1%	12,2%

Building rules in Emmarentia

There is a lot of building and renovating going on in Emmarentia. Make sure that you don't fall foul of the law and incur huge costs because you haven't followed the steps below. (See also www.emmarentia.co.za/building)

Steps to follow if you want to alter your house/ make additions/demolish your house

1. Title Deeds: please check your title deeds before proceeding with building works. There are clauses that require you to get your plans scrutinised and signed off on (eg if you want to use corrugated iron or IBR roofing) by the Louw Geldenhuys Family before you get them approved by the City Council. The ERA acts on their behalf for residents' convenience. Contact Gemey Abrahams on info@emmarentia.co.za
2. Heritage requirements: Check when your house was built. If it is 60 years or older, any alteration, addition or demolition is subject to Section 34. (1) of the National Heritage Act. In Gauteng the Provincial Heritage Resources Agency – Gauteng (PHRAG) is responsible for vetting. ERA acts for them in Emmarentia. Contact Gemey Abrahams on info@emmarentia.co.za
3. Confirm the town planning rights, including the precinct plan for Emmarentia, to see whether your planned changes comply with these rights.



4. Consult with adjoining neighbours (if your alterations are increasing the height of the existing building, you must also consult diagonally, and over the street)
5. The dumping of building rubble on sidewalks is illegal. However you may store new building materials on your sidewalk for a limited period if you get permission (a wayleave from the municipality).
6. It is essential to obtain approved building plans before doing building alterations as this maintains the value of your property. If you don't you will find it difficult to sell your property if prospective purchasers require the building plans.

Costs of scrutiny fees payable to ERA for LGT and PHRAG approval:

Qualified built environment professionals that form part of ERA scrutinise building plans for LGT and PHRAG and charge a fee to do this. The funds are used to support LGT and ERA. Contact Gemey Abrahams on info@emmarentia.co.za

LGT (costs as at March 2017)	PHRAG costs
R1250 for works less than 49m ² R1500 for works 50m ² to 99m ² R2000 for works 150m ² and greater new build from R2 500	R750 (including site inspection)

BE AN ACTIVE CITIZEN

Ever wondered why water is running down the street next to where you live? It's because you never reported it. Report water leaks, power outages, streetlights out etc., to the numbers in the box on the right. MAKE SURE YOU GET A REFERENCE NUMBER and if nothing is done within a few days, send an e-mail with all the details to our councillor, Nick Lorimer nicklorimer@outlook.com for him to escalate the problem and get it resolved.

Upcoming events April-June 2017

April	What and where	Time
11	IDP meeting, Marks Park	18h00
May		
6	Jozi Beer Fest, Marks Park	
6	Linden Market, Jhb Bot Gardens	
5-6	Juma and Vuma, Marks Park	
June		
16	Life at the dam, Jhb Bot Gardens	

Numbers to keep:

Jhb Water
011 688 1400
SMS: 082 653 2143
[@joburgwater: Customer@jwater.co.za](mailto:joburgwater.Customer@jwater.co.za)

City Power
Outages [@citypowerjhb](http://citypowerjhb) or 0860-JOBURG (make sure you get a reference #)
Smart meters - 081 022 0540 or smartmetersupport@citypower.co.za
Meter readings - readings@citypower.co.za

Roads
0860-JOBURG or Hotline@jra.org.za or [@myjra](http://myjra)
Download their app on www.jra.org.za to report potholes etc.

Pikitup
0860-JOBURG or [@CleanerJoburg](http://CleanerJoburg)
Illegal dumping: 011 375 5918. If you see the culprits, call Cllr Michael Sun—082 779 1361

City Parks
0860-JOBURG or [@joburgparkszoo](http://joburgparkszoo)

JMPD (by-law infringement)
011 758 9650 or [@jmpdsafety](http://jmpdsafety)
24 hour Traffic hotline: 080 872 3342
Abusive car guards: 011 758 9620

Emergency—fire, ambulance, etc
011-375 5911 or 0860 10111

SAPS Parkview
Station Number: 011-067 6000
Victim support unit: 073 280 4453
Sector patrol vehicles: 071 675 6062
071 675 6063

Tell Jhb Botanical Gardens what you think and how they can improve. Fill in online survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TCVHBC>