

Notes of a Meeting held with Mr G Mullins of eThekweni ECPDP

Date: Wednesday 6th June 2018

Time: 3pm

Venue: Room 226, Engineers Department, **

Attendance:

G Mullins – EPCPD

V King – Metamorphosis Environmental Consultants

Apologies:

A McKenzie – Acer (Africa) Pty Ltd

Ms King introduced the project and presented Mr Mullins with the Background Information Document. She explained the Basic Assessment process to date (Public Meetings etc) and gave a brief overview of the activities undertaken.

She explained that the specialist studies (noise, vegetation, heritage and wetlands) were being updated as they were originally undertaken in 2012.

Mr Mullins requested that the specialist studies are forwarded to him as they are available if that is possible.

Mr Mullins stated that there are many initiatives and role players in the area, with SIP2, the dry port and the Cato Ridge Logistics Hub. He stated that they have engaged at length with the Logistics Hub Developers, who have amended their proposal to accommodate the requirements of the City. He is also aware of the Mpumulanga Land use scheme, which may affect the N3 upgrade project.

The City has also recently developed the Functional Area Plan and Land use scheme which needs to be examined in terms of the project, but it has not taken into account the proposed interchange changes as it has to reflect the current situation.

Mr Mullins confirmed that he has received the Shape Files and the only area of potential biodiversity concern is the grassland which has been bought by the City for conservation (it is KZN Sandstone Sourveld Grassland). It lies to the east of the Freeway just prior to the BP before the Cato Ridge offramp. He provided a print out showing the area of concern (attached). He stated that he will overlay the shape files on their conservation mapping – 100m either side of the Freeway, and send us the results.

Mr Mullins would be interested to know who at Groundtruth undertook the vegetation study.

He stated that the mitigation and management recommendations presented in the Basic Assessment Reports need to be adequate as these will be the key for approvals from the City. These will be of particular concern within the riparian areas and wetlands.

It was agreed that the ECPDP would continue to be engaged through the process – both directly with Greg and through the eThekweni Planning up in terms of the Basic Assessment Process.

Ms King thanked Greg for his time and closed the meeting.