



Press Release – December 2012

The uMhlanga UIP supports the municipality with a massive beach clean-up after flooding

The heavy rains which fell for 24 hours on 10 & 11 December caused extensive flooding, bursting surrounding rivers, and depositing rubbish onto uMhlanga's beaches. Brian Wright the UIP project leader stated that the massive amounts of debris deposited on the beach posed a serious economic and health risk to the success of the Festive Season.

For this reason a joint cleaning operation by the municipality and UIP was launched on the morning of 12 December, the beaches were cleaned by the 13h00 of the same day. However the late afternoon high-tide and prevailing north east wind deposited a huge quantity of new debris on the beaches, a combination of vegetation including large trees and vast quantities of plastic. The beaches between Bronze Beach and the Lighthouse were particularly badly hit and this resulted in the municipality closing the beaches for safety reasons.

Once again the municipality and UIP launched a joint clean-up operation with increased mechanisation and manpower. For the next 10 days the operation ran from 6am to 6pm. In total over 150 tonnes of debris were removed from the beaches.

The UIP management team in partnership with municipal management co-ordinated the joint clean-up, with the UIP contributing over 1100 man hours of specially recruited staff to assist the municipality. Residual floating debris which continues to wash up is cleaned up on a daily basis.

As of 22 December the 4km of uMhlanga beaches are clean except for a small area of piled vegetation between Black Rock and Bronze Beach which will be cleared as the tides allow.

Brian concluded by thanking the municipality for their response to the crisis and reported that the beaches are full, the water is clean, the sun out, business is good and there have been no serious incidents reported from the commencement of the season on 20 November.

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Note On The uMhlanga UIP

The uMhlanga Urban Improvement Precincts (UIPs) were established by the uMhlanga property owners to retain existing investment in uMhlanga; stimulate new investment; create economic opportunity; improve safety and quality of life, and respond to the challenge of environmental sustainability.

In terms of structure, there are two UIPs or Special Ratings Areas (SRA) as they are officially termed by the municipality namely, The uMhlanga Promenade UIP established in March 2003 and the The Village

UIP, established in July 2008. These UIPs, collectively known as the uMhlanga UIP represent 29 large erven. In addition to the two UIPs, there are a further two Associate Managed Areas namely the Southern Promenade Properties (SPP) – established 2004 and the Northern Promenade Properties (NPP) – established 2010. These areas represent approximately 42 large erven.

The UIP partners with the eThekweni Municipality to ensure that this key node delivers an exceptional experience of public space. The UIP management team is constantly responding to the ever evolving needs of uMhlanga, whether it be service levels or special projects.

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