

4 June 2014

Public Meeting to Present and Discuss the Draft Planning and Development Framework

The Msunduzi Municipality is inviting interested and affected parties to a public meeting to present and discuss the draft Planning and Development Framework prepared for the **South Eastern District Local Area Plan** project.

The public meeting will include a presentation by the project consultants with time after for discussion and engagement with officials and the project consultants has been scheduled for:

DATE:	Wednesday 4 June 2014
TIME:	17:30 to 19:30
VENUE:	Ashburton Community Hall

The purpose of the Public Meeting is to present the draft Planning and Development Framework to interested and affected parties and to share with them the draft proposals with respect to land use, transport, infrastructural and environmental planning for the area.

It is an opportunity for the public to provide input into the process to inform the finalisation of the Local Area Plan for the area.

Planning for Future Growth in the South Eastern District

The Integrated Planning and Development Unit of Royal HaskoningDHV are delighted to have been appointed by the Msunduzi Municipality to assist with the preparation of a **Local Area Plan for the South Eastern District** (hereinafter referred to as SEDis). The project presents a variety of challenges in responding to and addressing social, economic and environmental trends and needs within the area and key relationships such as the interaction with the central city areas, the N3 corridor and adjoining municipalities.

The N3 Corridor between Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Gauteng is a primary axis for growth in the country and as such a primary axis for growth in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). At the national level, the corridor is drawing significant attention and investment as an integral element in the national logistics platform that serves the north eastern parts of the country and the Southern African hinterland. Accordingly, most towns and cities along the corridor are preparing themselves for integration with the corridor so as to benefit from the myriad potential economic opportunities that it will generate. They will do so in order to be competitive in the regional and national spatial economic landscape.

The Msunduzi Municipality has indicated clearly that it recognises the significant pressure and change that is occurring in and around its South Eastern District, which straddles the N3 Corridor, and accordingly it needs to review and amend its planning for the SEDis so that this area can effectively benefit from, and respond to, the opportunities associated with the primary development and logistics Corridor of the country.

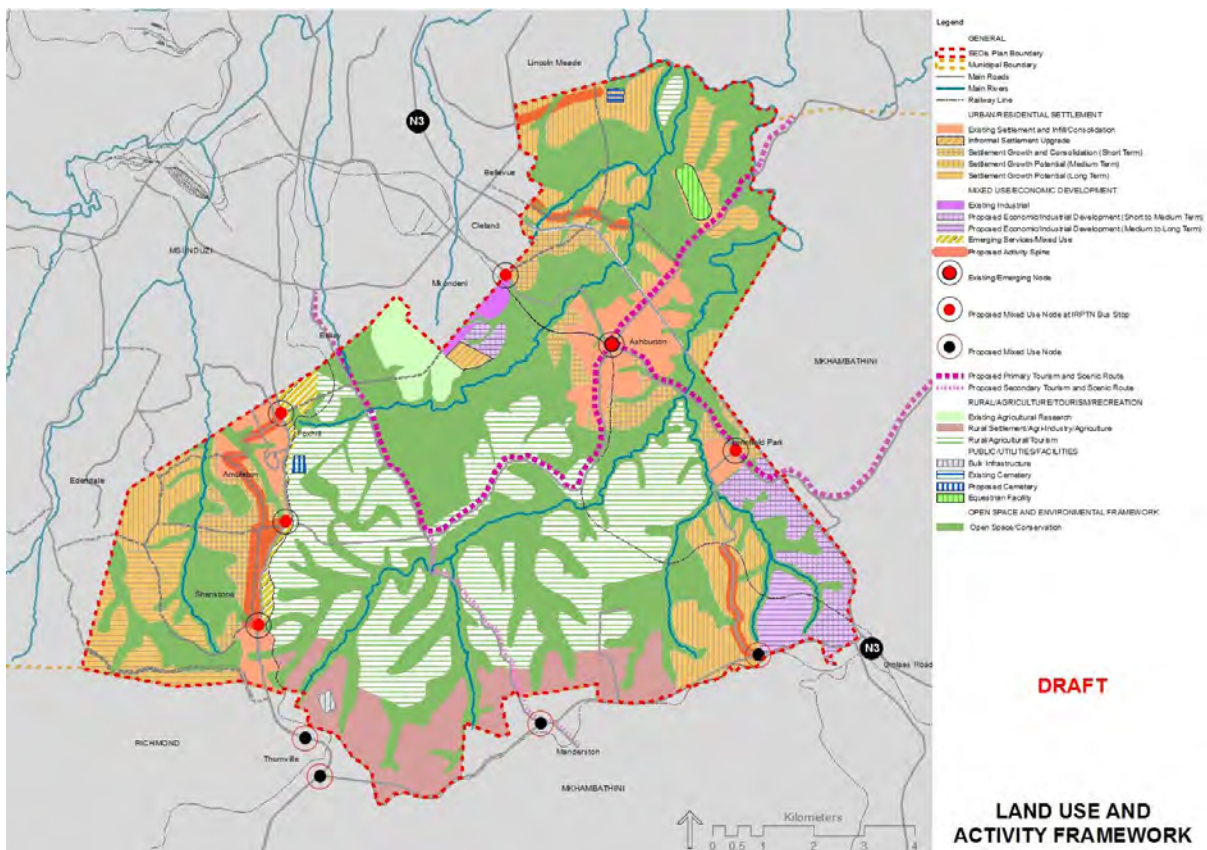
The project team at Royal HaskoningDHV also recognises the wider of development contributions inherent in this project and which are related to the potential the SEDis can make to the creation of a more resilient, sustainable and spatially integrated municipality. The location of the study area as well as its size permits the Msunduz Municipality to **break from a “business as usual”** approach to urban expansion and development and to realise many of its development goals.

The following are some of the key proposals emanating from the draft Planning and Development Framework prepared for SEDis:

- Move away from a “business as usual” approach to urban growth and management towards a greater focus on long term sustainability and urban resilience, with the municipality taking a lead role in guiding and directing the location, mix, intensity and form of development and protecting critical environmental, agricultural and tourism assets.

- Developing edge corridors along the major transport routes around the edges of the SEDis area that provide opportunities for a mix of different uses appropriate to each corridor and with nodes of more intensive activities at strategic locations along these corridors.
- Retaining and enhancing the role of the central area as an agricultural, environmental, tourism and recreational area and resource base for SEDis and Msunduzi municipality.
- Focusing on the critical importance of implementing the plan in order to deliver on the social, economic and environmental objectives in the LAP, including through the alignment of stakeholders, the leveraging of investment, the release of appropriately located lands and the delivery of catalytic projects.

The draft Planning and Development Framework includes spatial frameworks for land use, transport, infrastructure, environment and urban design (see examples below), together with guidance for sub-areas, or precincts, within SEDis and guidance in relation to implementation, monitoring and review.



Documents can be downloaded from <http://www.msunduzi.gov.za/site/spatial-dev-framework>

For further enquires, please contact Project Manager:

South Eastern District LAP: Iqbal Ballim on 033-392 2412, email iqbal.ballim@msunduzi.gov.za

South Eastern District LAP Comment Sheet

What elements within the draft Development Framework do you like/feel are positive and should be carried forward?

What elements do you dislike/feel should be removed or change?

General Comments