



Van Dyk Prokureurs

**PROKUREURS / ATTORNEYS /
BABUELLI**



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Ons Verw:

Our Ref: C VAN DYK / 1067

U Verw:

Your Ref:

Datum/Date:

22 November 2021

Mangaung Metro Municipality

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Nelson Mandela Avenue
BLOEMFONTEIN

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The Presidency

The Union Building
Government Avenue
PRETORIA

president@presidency.gov.za

Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs

Cnr Markgraaff & St. Andrews Street
City Central
BLOEMFONTEIN

mec@fscogta.gov.za
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Free State Department: Provincial Treasury

OR Thambo House
Cnr Markgraaff & St. Andrews Street
City Central
BLOEMFONTEIN

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**In re: MANGAUNG RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION // MANGAUNG METRO
MUNICIPALITY**

I refer to the above.

**PROKUREUR / ATTORNEY:
CHRISTEL VAN DYK (LL.B)**

I confirm that I have been appointed by Mangaung Ratepayers Association, acting on behalf of business owners of East End Industrial area in Bloemfontein and more than 10 800 of the Association, to raise their concerns regarding the current sosio-economic rights violations piling up in the industrial area and the rest of the city.

The current situation in East End industrial area of Mangaung Metro is in a total state of disarray and decay of which is completely unacceptable to the current high tax paying business owners. This is resulting in these business owners being very hesitant to invite overseas guests and new investments are disappearing. Premises are being vacated by businesses due to the total neglect and many have indicated that they will be leaving Bloemfontein to relocate to other cities where the standard of services are kept to a high standard alternatively to close their businesses for good.

The reason for this complete neglect is questionable. Mangaung Metro Municipality has more than 4 900 employees with a yearly budget of more than R7,5 billion rand. No reason exists for the lack of resources, the poor service delivery, the total decay and disarray that Bloemfontein are currently experiencing.

Huge sums are being paid by the businesses of East End Industrial area in the forms of rates and taxes to the municipality of which also goes to the South African Government. Employment of thousands of workers are in grave danger should these business owners either relocate their businesses or decide to rather give up.

The following problems are stipulated and confirmed by the attached photo's:

- 1) Refuse are not being collected, creating health risks, attracting rats and creating an unpleasant sight and smell;
- 2) Pothole ridden roads are dangerous, vehicles are being damaged;
- 3) Weeds and vegetation on the pavements are overtaking the pavements, thus also creating criminals hiding in the bushes;
- 4) Streetlights are not working which creates criminal onslaughts on their businesses.

An invite is sent to all parties to whom this letter is sent to visit the East End Industrial Area to experience first hand the total disarray and decay of this area. You are then being asked to decide if these conditions are acceptable and if you are of the opinion that the local high tax paying business owners deserve such treatment.

Mangaung Ratepayers Association are not revolutionaries and will therefore not threaten the Mangaung Metro Municipality with violence or “shut down” actions but merely immediate and decisive action.

A decision was made by the business owners, to inform the Mangaung Metro Municipality that 30 (thirty) calendar days are being provided to Mangaung Metro Municipality to restore East End Industrial area to an acceptable standard which will include removing all rubbish, cutting weeds and vegetation, repairing the potholes and attending to fixing the streetlights.

Failure and/or ignorance to restore to an acceptable standard within 30 (thirty) calendar days will result in these business owners:

- 1) Declaring disputes and assisting the rest of the city with the filing of disputes;
- 2) Withholding rates and taxes of which will be used to repair East End area to an acceptable standard;
- 3) The High Court in Bloemfontein will be approached for a structural interdict;

As mentioned above, Mangaung Ratepayers Association is not revolutionaries, they are not violent. They only deserve a clean, healthy and acceptable business area in which they can conduct their business and ensure that they workers can work in a healthy and safe environment and where they can invite overseas investors.

I trust you find above in order and await your urgent feedback and/or response hereto.

Yours sincerely



MRS. C VAN DYK

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