

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating Fish Hoek, Clovelly and Sun Valley)

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FROM: FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

TO: MANAGER: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UNIT

SUBJECT: PROPOSED HARBOUR BY-LAW

1. SUMMARY

In terms of Section 17 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, we as interested and affected parties need to provide comment by 8 July 2017. We support the City of Cape Town's draft Harbour By-law which proposes to reverse the long-running, systemic mismanagement of the city's harbours under the National Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), and Public Works (DPW). These local harbours cannot continue to be neglected and mismanaged, falling ever further into disrepair. Their dilapidated and dysfunctional state has a serious impact on those who use them, in particular the workers and communities who depend on the harbours for their livelihood. Lack of professional management and maintenance has resulted in the serious degradation of these public assets, an increase in crime, and a failure to develop their economic potential. The DPW has failed to maintain these assets as required in terms of the Government Immovable Asset Management Act. In particular, the Kalk Bay Harbour under DAFF management has not assisted the local Commercial Fishing Industry and should not have survived the repeal of the Sea Fisheries Act.

2. DISCUSSION

The City of Cape Town manages the Fish Hoek beach. We hope it does a better job of managing harbours than it does our beach, which our members rely upon for their enjoyment and as a tourist attraction. Specifically, our members have complained to the City several times over many years. For example:

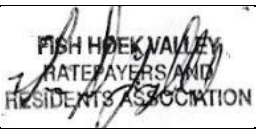
- Filling in of the lower entrance to Dolphin Park as the pump keeps failing;
- Stripping, sanding, undercoating and painting the dolphin statues;
- Repairing the "street" lights on the Sunnycove end of Jager Walk;
- Installing a handrail into sea-water and construction of steps using available rocks and cement at Skellies Pool; and
- Repairing of nine benches in different states of disrepair or missing.

The problem has been exacerbated by the new beach manager also not being available. We would not want to recommend that the City take on more work if it is already stretched. Perhaps the harbours should be put under the control of a different City director.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that, for the reasons set out in this report that:

- The City of Cape Town assume control of the harbours subject to adequate funds for the repair, maintenance and necessary asset replacement, staffing and appropriate reporting structure are in place to create a safe and functional social and economic development hub.

NAME & SURNAME	<i>Brian Youngblood, Chair: Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers and Residents Association (FHVRRA)</i>
SIGNATURE	
DATE	21 June 2017