

## HERMANUS CBD RELIEF ROAD BECOMES A REALITY

Improved mobility and safety levels main benefits

Construction of the Hermanus CBD Relief Road is expected to begin on Monday 17 August, and in 14 months' time the town's road system will boast improved mobility and safety. Eventually, the heart of the World's Whale Capital will be much more pedestrian friendly, which will revitalize the CBD and boost economic development.

At the time of going to press, the evaluation of tenders was still underway, but the construction cost of the project is expected to run to R20 million plus. Acquisition of property for the realignment of the road amounted to R8 million, but some of the houses will be retained and used as much needed office space by the municipality. In addition, R2 million has been spent on planning and design fees.

The project will be conducted in three phases to allow for the least disruption in

traffic flow, especially during the peak holiday period of December and the 2010 Soccer World Cup Tournament. See the maps underneath for more information in this regard.

This brings to fruition planning that already started in 1990, when it was realised that Hermanus functions as the primary civic, administrative and tourism centre of the region and that there was a steady growth in volumes of local and through traffic. Problems with regard to mobility, access to businesses and tourist attractions, pedestrian and traffic safety levels and limitations on business growth in the CBD had to be addressed.

A preliminary design was drawn up in 1994 and received public support at meetings held in December 1996 and May 1997.

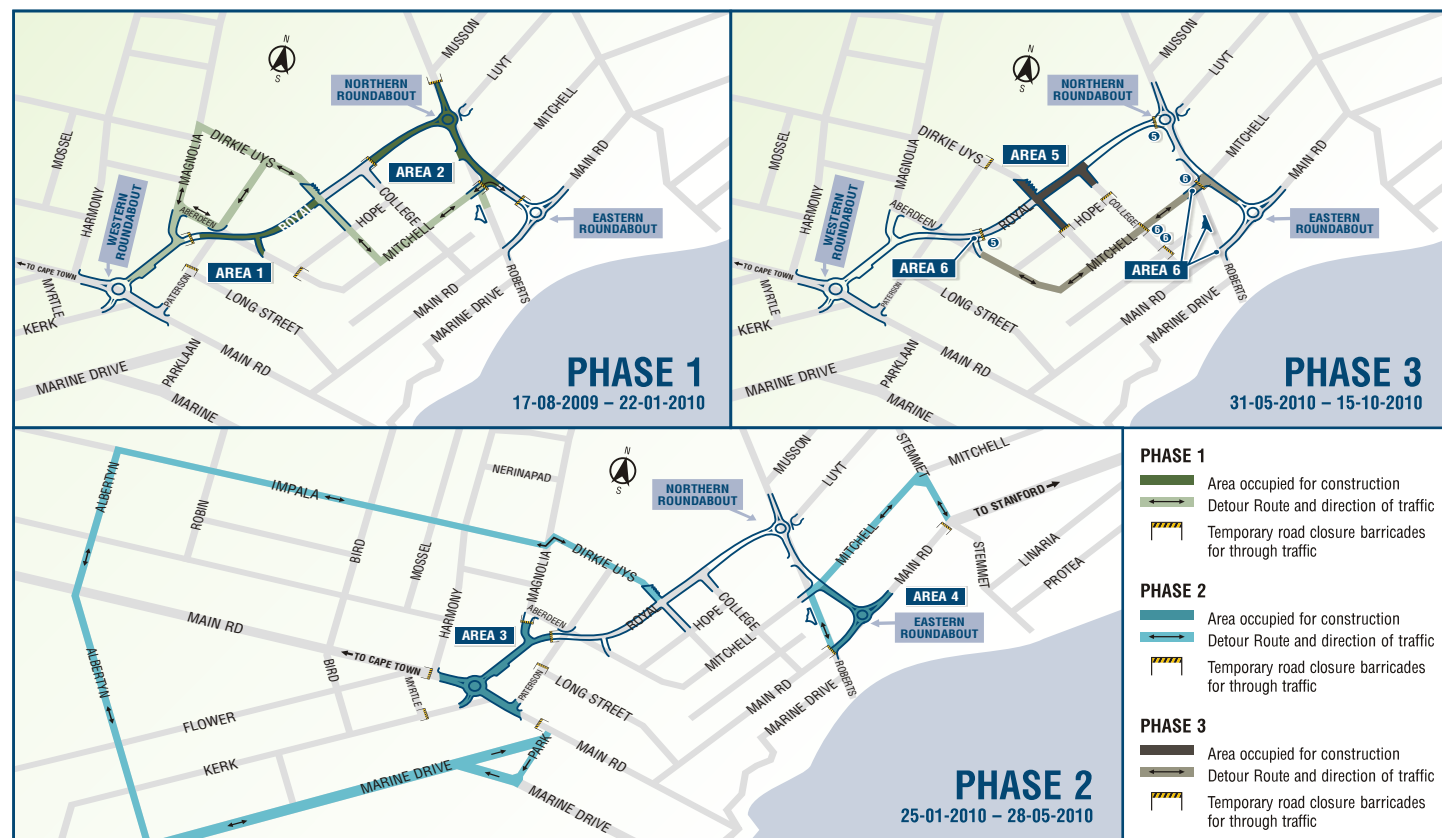
The Hermanus Transportation Plan, compiled in 1997, confirmed the need for a CBD relief road and evaluated four route alternatives. The original proposal, following an alignment along Spence Street, Royal Street and Lord Roberts, was found to be the one that would best meet the objectives of a relief road, including minimised costs to taxpayers.

This alignment was modified in order to reduce land consumption and allow for increased development potential of the station site, to reduce travel speeds on the relief road, making operational conditions safer for pedestrians and cyclists, and to improve sight distances at certain intersections.

An economic feasibility study commissioned by the municipality last year found that vehicle operation costs and the

likelihood of accidents on CBD roads will decrease as a result of the upgrade. The study calculated the net present value of the user benefits at R144 million over a 20 year period. The benefit cost ratio was calculated as 7,84, which is regarded as very good because a ratio of more than 1 is considered economically viable. It was, therefore, recommended that the project should be implemented as soon as possible.

In broad terms the project involves the reconstruction and widening of Spence, Royal and Lord Roberts Streets, realignment of sections of the route, construction of traffic circles as calming measures, access control by closing direct access from several streets and the upgrading of approaches from those that do intersect, giving relief road users priority.



## DRASTIC BABOON CONTROL MEASURES CONSIDERED

Although Overstrand Municipality is the leading municipality in the Western Cape with regard to the management of baboon problems, new avenues to try and find long-term solutions are currently being investigated. Executive Mayor Theo Beylvelde said these may include far reaching methods such as birth control and reduction of numbers in a humane way. The electric fence pilot project in the Voëlklip area proved itself and will be extended in this financial year. This followed on a workshop of baboon experts held early in July in Cape Town where the Overstrand Municipality was lauded for its efforts but also received scientific support for its viewpoint that baboons should be kept out of residential areas and stay in the mountains. Researchers told the conference that baboon troops living and foraging in residential areas have little ecological value and are experiencing unprecedented population growth. In nature, the bearing capacity relationship is one baboon to 1,5 square kilometres, and in an urban environment this shoots up to 14 baboons to 1,5 square kilometres. The average age of baboons in urban troops is also much higher than those in a natural environment

## REPORT BABOON INCIDENTS ON MUNICIPAL WEBSITE

Overstrand Municipality is investigating how its website can be used to gain information for baboon management in residential areas. Already available is a space on which baboon incidents can be reported and discussions can be conducted. A user-friendly form linked to a data base will soon be available. Those interested in participating can register as users of the Community Forum on [www.overstrand.gov.za](http://www.overstrand.gov.za). The Community Forum can be accessed via a link at the top of the main page or navigate via <http://forum.overstrand.gov.za>. The Community Forum can also be used for other general discussions regarding the municipality as well as the Overstrand community.

## BLOMPARK GETS ITS OWN COMMUNITY HALL

The Blompark Community Hall in Gansbaai was opened with great enthusiasm in June



and will in future fulfil an important role in the lives and development of people in the neighbourhood. The building, which was erected at a cost of R1,2 million, has been equipped with sound equipment, a stage, curtains and a projector that will be used to show films and conduct awareness campaigns for the audience. Any function or meeting can be hosted at very reasonable rentals. Construction commenced in the last week of January 2009, and at least 20 local artisans from Blompark and Masakhane worked on the project over a period of three months. This represents around 1 500 person days or 12 000 person hours. Nearly all material was procured locally. The project was managed departmentally by the area Manager and building Inspector of Gansbaai and completed within three months according to plan. The clinker-brick building is nearly 310 m² in size and the total cost to erect was estimated at R3 900/m², which is considerably lower than the standard building costs

currently experienced in the industry. The building can accommodate approximately 200 people, and offices were provided for the Blompark Residents' Association and the Ikhamva Youth Society, where the latter will also be responsible for supervising and cleaning the hall and site on a daily basis.

## OVERSTRANDER BEST STUDENT IN FIRE SCIENCE

Overstrand Municipality's fire fighter stationed in Kleinmond, Marlu Rust (second from left), recently received an award at the South African Emergency Services Institute (SAESI) Conference in Johannesburg for being the Best Student in Fire Science in 2008 in the Higher Diploma Course on Fire Technology. Marlu completed his Higher Diploma Course in 2008 and also received an award in 2007 for Best Student in Fire Technology.



## MORAL STANDARDS INITIATIVE N° 5

### FAIRNESS

The Greater Hermanus Moral Standards Initiative (MSI) aims to build a value-driven community around six core values or standards. Thus far, we have already focused on three of the six core values, namely:

- Trustworthiness:** A community where people act honestly and with integrity, honour their promises and do not mislead or deceive.
- Respect:** A community where people are recognised and appreciated as unique individuals who treat each other in a civilised manner and with tolerance.
- Responsibility:** A community where people have a sense of duty, think positively and are prepared to take and share responsibility and to become involved.

The fourth value we will be focusing on this month is **Fairness**. This will be followed on in September and October with the values of **Caring** and **Good Citizenship**.

**FAIRNESS** is a core value and basic sub-structure of a truly democratic community and the constitutional dispensation and judicial system of such a community. It is also deeply rooted in the various religious beliefs in every community.

The value of fairness is especially expressed when our conduct is guided by the principle to always treat others the way we expect them to treat us.

Fairness in our conduct compels us to always keep an open mind in all situations so that we can act as objectively and impartially as possible, based on all the relevant facts and considerations. It also requires us to always strive to respect the rights of others to fair treatment under all circumstances.

It is essential that all of us in this community, which we have the privilege of belonging to, always test ourselves by asking a couple of critical questions:

Are we as individuals, as authorities, as businesses, as churches doing enough to establish a culture of fairness in our community?  
Are we acting with fairness to those in our employ, be it in our businesses or in our homes?  
Are we always fair when we criticise or complain? Do we ensure that we have all the facts and that our criticism is fair?  
Do we always act with fairness towards those we render a service to?

Please feel free to direct any comments or questions on the Moral Standards Initiative by email to [ernstes@vodamail.co.za](mailto:ernstes@vodamail.co.za) or SMS to 082 412 4538/082 470 3975.

VERKIES U DIÉ NUUSBRIEF IN 'N ANDER AMPTELIKE TAAL?

SMS u rekeningnommer met A vir Afrikaans na

082 338 1631 of kontak u naaste klientediensbeampte

UNGATHANDA LENCWADI YESAZISO-NDABA IBHALWE NGOLUNYE ULWIMI?

Thumela i-SMS enenombolo ye-akhawunti yakho kunye no X omele isi Xhosa

kule nombolo 082 338 1631

## WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR N° 5

### NATIONAL ARBOUR WEEK

1-7 September 2009

National Arbour Day has been celebrated in South Africa since 1983. Trees play a vital role in our society as sources of building material, food and medicine as well as for their scenic beauty. In 1999, the national government called for the extension of National Arbour Day to an Arbour Week from 1 to 7 September of each year. Organisations, businesses and schools are encouraged in community "greening" during this week.

The tree of the year is the Monkey Thorn (*Acacia galpinii*) [Tshikwalo (Tshivenda), Apiesdoring (Afrikaans), Molopa (North Sotho)].

It is named after Ernest Galpin, a bank manager who collected plants in Barberton in the early 20th century. It is a deciduous tree and a fast grower which can reach heights of up to 30m. During the growing season, light yellow flowers appear which ripen to reddish pods during February-March. Monkeys like taking cover in its wide branches and may also eat the pods and seeds, hence the common name. Seeds are also dispersed by animals eating the pods. The pale brown, coarse-grained, heavy and fairly hard wood is exceptionally difficult to work but may be used in heavy construction, interior design and as firewood.

In South Africa, *Acacia galpinii* occurs naturally in Limpopo and the North-West Province. It is seen as an indicator of

sweet veld, which retains its nutritional value in winter. It is usually found near water and grows best in a deep and moist but well-drained loamy soil. Although the tree of the year doesn't grow in the Overstrand region, there are various indigenous trees that will grow well here. Possibilities, to name a few, include:

- Wild peach (*Kiggelaria africana*)
- Cape beech (*Rapanea melanophloeos*)
- Rooiels/ Butterspoons (*Cunonia capensis*)
- Wild plum (*Harpephyllum caffrum*) (not indigenous to the South Western Cape)
- Karee (*Rhus lancea*)

For more information, please contact Willemien Swanepoel at 028 313 8100.



**NATIONAL FRAUD HOTLINE**  
**0800 701 701**



## EXECUTIVE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE

In terms of Overstrand Municipality's Third Establishment Amendment Notice of 28 May 2003, Overstrand is a municipality with a mayoral executive system combined with a ward participatory system.

At its inaugural meeting, council elected an Executive Mayor and an Executive Deputy Mayor.

Legislation allows the Overstrand Executive Mayor to appoint a Mayoral Committee of three members, of which one is the Executive Deputy Mayor. Each of the members heads a Portfolio Committee, consisting of members of all political parties in Council. In Overstrand these committees are in line with the administrative directorates, namely Community and Protection Services; Infrastructure, Planning and Economic Development; and Finance and Management Services.

The Executive Mayor, members of the Mayoral Committee and the Speaker are full-time councillors.



**Executive Mayor**  
**Cllr Theo Beyleveldt**

At its inaugural meeting, Council resolved that all powers not reserved by law for full council and with the exception of those vested in officials must be delegated to the Executive Mayor. In the decision-taking process the Executive Mayor will normally receive reports from Council's committees and will consider them at a meeting of the Mayoral Committee, which is open to the public. He also plays a leading role in the compilation and implementation of the Integrated Development Plan, the Municipal Budget, the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan, performance management, community participation in council affairs and corporate communication services and performs ceremonial duties. He reports to Council.

## Executive Deputy Mayor and Mayoral Committee Member for Community and Protection Services



**Ald Verrell Herbert**

Apart from his duties as Deputy Mayor, this member sees to:

- Area management and operational services in Hermanus, Gansbaai, Stanford and Hangklip-Kleinmond;
- Housing;
- Corporate Projects; and
- Protection Services, consisting of: Fire and Disaster Management; Traffic Services and Vehicle Licensing; and Law Enforcement and Security

## Mayoral Committee Member for Infrastructure, Planning and Economic Development

**Cllr Pieter Scholtz**

This member's responsibilities include:

- Infrastructure, Planning and Electrotechnical Services, consisting of Water and Transport Services; Electrotechnical Services; Project Management and Development Control; Town Planning and Property Administration; Building Control; Environmental Management Services; Solid Waste Management; and Geographic Information Systems; and
- Local Economic Development, including the Destination Marketing Organisation (Whale Coast Marketing) and Overstrand Local Economic Development Agency (OLEDA).



## Mayoral Committee Member for Finance and Management Services

**Cllr Ben Solomon**

This member's responsibilities include:

- Finance, consisting of Expenditure and Assets Management; Income; Accounting Services and Budgeting Services; Supply Chain Management; and Systems and Data Control; and
- Management Services, consisting of Human Resources; Strategic Services; Information and Communication Technology; Legal Services; Corporate Communication Services; Council Support Services, Records and Archives; and Internal Audit Services.



# OVERSTRAND

# Know your Council

## THE COUNCIL

**SPEAKER**  
**Coetsee, Anton (DA)**



**WARD 1**  
**Tutu, Violet (NPP)**



**WARD 2**  
**Scholtz, Pieter (DA)**



**WARD 3**  
**Berry, Allan (DA)**



**WARD 4**  
**Marais, Francois (DA)**



**WARD 5**  
**Tshandu, Mvuyiseko (ANC)**



**WARD 6**  
**Khohlakala, Funeka (ANC)**



**WARD 7**  
**Solomon, Ben (DA)**



**WARD 8**  
**Gelderblom, Jan (ANC)**



**WARD 9**  
**Appelgrein, Phillipus (DA)**



**WARD 10**  
**Van Heerden, Louis (DA)**



**PR DA**  
**Beyleveldt, Theo**



**PR DA**  
**Herbert, Verrell (Ald)**



**PR DA**  
**Oosthuizen, Daan**



**PR DA**  
**Kriel, Johan**



**PR ANC**  
**Smuts, Willie (Ald)**



**PR ANC**  
**Ponoane, Makhaya Vuyisile**



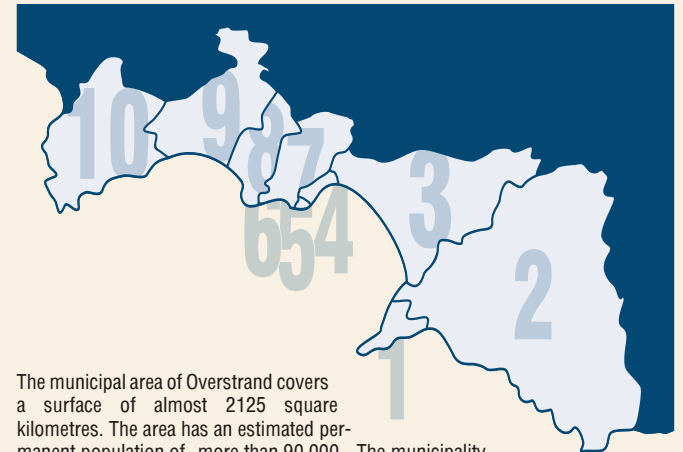
**PR ANC**  
**Stevens, Dawn**



**PR NPP**  
**Opperman, Moira**



## OVERSTRAND AND ITS WARDS



The municipal area of Overstrand covers a surface of almost 2125 square kilometres. The area has an estimated permanent population of more than 90 000. The municipality has its head office in Hermanus, but municipal services are delivered on a decentralised basis from offices in Gansbaai, Stanford, Hermanus, Zwelihle, Kleinmond and Betty's Bay. The area is divided into four administrations: Hangklip-Kleinmond, Greater Hermanus, Stanford and Gansbaai.

The area is further demarcated into 10 wards, each with a directly elected councillor. These councillors are assisted by a ward committee of 10 members. Ward committee members are elected democratically, but provision is made for the representation of organisations as well as individuals. Ward committees play an important role in the drafting and reviewing of the Integrated Development Plan and the identification of budget needs.

Overstrand's wards are as follows:

1. Kleinbaai, Franskraal, Blompark, Masekhane and a portion of Gansbaai;
2. The rest of Gansbaai, De Kelders, Pearly Beach, Baardskeerdersbos, Viljoenshof and Witthoogte;
3. Stanford and Voëlklip;
4. Hermanus and Mount Pleasant;
5. A portion of Zwelihle (Community Hall and Church of Christ);
6. The rest of Zwelihle (Lukhanyo Primary School and Hou Moed);
7. Sandbaai, Onrus, Vermont and Ertjiesvlei;
8. Hawton and Fisherhaven;
9. Kleinmond, Proteadorp, Overhills, Höningklip; and
10. Palmiet, Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay and Rooiels.

Nine of the 19 councillors represent political parties on a proportional basis. This means that residents of Overstrand can also use political channels to bring matters to Council's attention. Three political parties are represented: the Democratic Alliance, the African National Congress and the National People's Party.

## THE ADMINISTRATION



**Municipal Manager**  
**Mr Werner Zybrands**

A Municipal Manager is appointed by Council. He is the link between the council and the administration, of which he is the head, and also serves as accounting officer who has to account for the municipality's income and expenditure, assets and other obligations, such as proper adherence to the Municipal Finance Management Act. In terms of legislation, he should have the expertise and experience to discharge his duties. Subject to the municipality's policy guidelines, he ensures, amongst others, that

an economic, effective, efficient and accountable administration is established and developed, that the IDP comes to fruition, that municipal services are delivered in a sustainable and balanced fashion, that a personnel corps is appointed, managed, developed and disciplined and that sound labour relations are maintained. He should facilitate participation by the community and develop a system whereby the community's satisfaction with municipal services can be gauged.

In Overstrand's case, Mr Zybrands is supported in the above by a team of directors for the following:

- Finance: Mr Henk Kleinloog;
- Management Services: Mr Coenie Groenewald;
- Community Services: Mr Roderick Williams;
- Protection Services: Mr Neville Michaels;
- Infrastructure, Planning and Electrotechnical Services: Mr Stephen Muller; and
- Economic Development: Mr Solomzi Madikane.