



## **SECOND NOTICE TO ALL THE RESIDENTS OF "DIE WILGERS" AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS.**

(This notice on the Land Claims issue is distributed by email as well as hardcopy to each house).

By this time you are surely aware of a land claim by the Bakgatla ba Lekhuleni community against the entire farms, "The Willows" and "Derdepoort", including all subdivisions and portions thereof, irrespective of which title deeds have been named in the Notice No 98 of the Government Gazette 38441 dated 6 February 2015. There are also similar claims against other areas in the east and north of Pretoria, and the following suburbs have been mentioned in a presentation by the Lands Claim Commissioner: Moot, Moregloed, East Lynne, Eersterust, Mamelodi, Mahube Valley, Koedoespoort, Silverton, Botanical Gardens, Meyerspark, Brummeria, CSIR, La Montagne, Die Wilgers, Lynnwood, Murrayfield, Wapadrand and Silverlakes. The land claim notice was also published in The Pretoria News of 27 February 2015 and all the affected parties have 60 working days after this last publication date to submit an objection.

### **Our advice:**

The management committee of DWRA would like to advise our residents to oppose the claim on "The Willows" because it affects us negatively. We appointed and paid an advisor to collect all the necessary information relevant to an objection of this nature, in order to draft an example of a letter to use when you wish to object. We have also received a proposal from a resident of another example of such a letter which we will also make available to you. You can use either letter, depending on which one you prefer. Please note that we are only advising you and do not accept any legal or other responsibilities that may arise from the use of these letters. You may also use any other letter of your choice to object.

We strongly advise you to object to make sure that no property in our area will be subjected to a claim. The more owners that object, the better chance of getting this claim dismissed. If you know of people living outside our area that are also affected by this land claim, please ask them to contact us. We will gladly send them an example of our letters to use if they want to use either if they wish to object.

### **Open spaces?**

We are aware that the claim is also against the streets and open spaces (parks) of our area, and have contacted the Municipality as the owner of these areas, to object. We trust that we can count on your support when we as a Residents Association take it upon ourselves to also object to the claims on the roads and open spaces on your behalf.

### **Request for your information:**

The first notice from us to you on this land claim issue was circulated on 27 February 2015 by email to all the residents on our database at that stage. Several of you that were not on our database, became aware of our initiative and contacted us. We added your information to our database. We will use this expanded database to send you the example of letters.

This time around we decided to try and reach more residents and we therefore also distribute this second notice also as hardcopy on Saturday 21 March 2015, to each house in our area. Please respond to our request to send us your contact details so that you may also take part in our objection campaign. If you have also received this hardcopy notice by email, this means that you are on our database and we will send you the examples of objection letters in due course. If you receive this hardcopy only by hand, this means that we do not have your contact details and we ask you to please contact us at [Chair@dwra.co.za](mailto:Chair@dwra.co.za) as soon as possible with your contact information. If you do not have access to email, please phone or SMS Hester (0813465011) at the DWRA office (Comsafe premises) to give your contact details to use when we send you the examples of the objection letters. Complexes may object as a complex or each individual owner may respond on his/her own..

### **What you should do:**

We plan to send you the two examples of objection letters by not later than 7 April 2015. Kindly ensure that your contact details by then. Please feel free to encourage your neighbours and friends to contact us if they also wish to object to this claim.

You will then have to complete the objection letter of your choice. We ask you to hand in the completed letter at our DWRA office at the Comsafe premises by 30 April 2015. We will then deliver all the objections thus received by hand to the offices of the Land Claims Commissioner before the new cutoff date of 27 May 2015. You may also do so yourselves, providing you supply us with a copy of your objection so that we can contact you in case your objection fails and we have to go to court as part of the Afriforum/Afrisake group. We are aware that some of our land owners have already given a mandate to Afriforum/Afrisake to object on their behalf. In this is the case, you do not have to object again via the initiative of DWRA.

### **Costs?**

The costs at this stage of the proceedings (collection of information and compiling a examples of letters of objection that you may use), are carried by our Association, as a service to our residents. We have managed to keep the costs down by cooperation with the land owners of Derdepoort and Equestria. We trust that the invalidity of the claim on "The Willows" will be as obvious to the Lands Claim Commissioner as it is to us and that he will reject the claim. However, should the claim be accepted, the matter will then progress to the Land Claims Court. This is a very expensive stage and far beyond our funding ability. We will then have to cooperate with other groups in a similar position to present our case in court. It may not be entirely free for an individual owner but will be much more realistic than if we go it alone. We have arranged that those of you who would like to object to the claim in court, may do so at that stage by giving Afriforum/Afrisake a mandate to act on your behalf. A small contribution towards defraying costs may be considered at this stage. We will again facilitate this process should it be required.

### **In the mean time?**

Make sure you attend our AGM planned for 7 May 2015, at 18:00 where we supply you with additional information on this claim as well as a status report on the issue. We will also invite Afriforum to share with us their plans to deal with the expected court case. The venue will be the Karoo Kafee in Lynnwood Road. Refreshments will be served. A cash bar will be available. A small contribution will be appreciated. There will be some vacant positions in our management committee due to our policy to rotate members. We therefore invite proposals to fill those vacancies. Please submit names and CV's to me two weeks before the AGM, for consideration at the AGM.

Also note that we were informed by the Land Claims Commissioner at a meeting held at the St. Georges Hotel, on 7th of March, 2015, that all new developments including the sale of properties, can go ahead after a 30 day notice to the Land Claims Commissioner without having to wait for his approval, before you proceed.

I would like to repeat my plea to make sure we have your contact details and that you object in time. Please note the proposed timeline I have given in this notice to you. There is too much at stake to ignore this issue.

Mooi loop,

Theuns Erasmus.

Chairperson: DWRA, 16 March 2015