



NATURES
VALLEY
SRA

NEWS

Issue 2 - 4th April 2022

Step 1 - Urban perception survey has been completed.

We were pleased that 213 replies were received representing approximately 54% of all property owners in Natures Valley. The views expressed will greatly assist in the formulation of the Business Plan to be circulated to property owners as part of the public participation process. The following is a summary of the survey results. The Business Plan will contain more detail.

- **Respondents profile**

- 88% of respondents were older than 50 with 70% being older than 60 and 39% older than 70.
- 71% of respondents were occasional visitors to Natures Valley and 18% were permanent residents. 12% regularly rented out their houses. 75% of respondents have owned property in NV for more than 20 years.
- The predominant profile of respondents: seniors with second homes in Natures Valley who use their homes primarily for own family use during holiday periods.
- 70% of respondents consider municipal services to be good or very good.

- **Baboon Management Plan**

- All respondents were aware of the baboon management plan. 67% considered the management plan to have been successful, 22% thought it had been moderately successful.
- 53% of respondents considered the baboon monitors to be a long term requirement and 40% considered them to be a medium term requirement (up to 5 years).
- 73% would either definitely support, or would be highly likely to support, the baboon management plan in the future. A further 19% would possibly support the plan.
- The majority of respondents viewed the baboon management plan positively and were prepared to support the ongoing programme for 5 years or more

• Security

- 55% of respondents believe crime is becoming a problem while 34% believe there is no significant change in crime levels. 57% believe crime has increased over the last 12 months. 72% believe that crime prevention is a shared responsibility. All respondents considered opportunistic theft as the most problematic. 20% considered theft with forced entry moderately problematic.
- 44% of respondents considered illegal dumping of waste as the most serious bylaw infringement followed by dogs soiling streets (39%) and dogs not on leads (39%). Malicious damage to property and noise pollution were considered to be the least serious bylaw infringements.
- 78% of respondents have an internal alarm system installed in their houses. 8% have external beams and 5% have cameras. 18% have no security system. Consistent with this section of the survey, 78% of respondents use a security armed response provider.
- 38% of respondents have been the victim of petty theft. 21% have been the victim of theft with forced entry
- 42% of respondents believed that strategically placed CCTV cameras would be the most important security enhancement followed by holiday season patrolling of the lagoon carpark. Full time security foot-guards were considered to be of low importance as were a 2-way radio system, community street watch, and an additional 24-hour street patrol vehicle.

• Streets and Verges

- 96% of respondents considered maintenance of streets and verges as being either important or very important but respondents were split on the efficiency of removing waste vegetation with 38% believing the removal by the Municipality was efficient and 42% believing it to be inefficient. The accumulation of waste vegetation in Natures Valley was considered to be a low fire risk by 60% of respondents.
- Invasive alien vegetation was considered a problem or a serious problem by 79% of respondents. The most problematic invasive alien is considered to be Sword Fern followed by Eugenia. 72% of respondents believed the Municipality and the property owner shared responsibility to remove invasive aliens

SRA PROGRESS

- The perception survey is complete
- The draft business plan targeted completion is the 30th April
- The public participation process is scheduled for May
- The application submission is targeted for June/July
- Application approval is planned for August/September, and
- The SRA should be activated by October 2022

UPDATE ON INTERIM FUNDING FOR THE BABOON MONITORS

In August 2021 we issued a request for funding a pilot project for baboon monitoring. In February 2022 we sent out a further request for additional funding to extend the baboon monitoring project while applying for Natures Valley to be declared a Special Ratings Area (SRA). We currently expect that an SRA for Natures Valley may be activated by late October 2022.

Income

Total funds received since August 2021 to date is R 433 735 from 164 owners plus interest of R 2 262 giving a total of R 435 997.

Expenses

In total we have spent R 275 701 made up of R 139 270 on monitors wages, R 51 600 on transport, R 71 571 on equipment, R 7 365 on radio rental, R 5 383 on training and R 512 on bank charges.

We have R 160 296 cash on hand at 31 March 2022.

We have forecast expenses of R 30 762 for April based on paying for 6 monitors for 15 days each at the full rate. This is because 3 EPWP monitors are not being paid by Bitou in April. Their contracts have been extended but only from 1st May for six months.

This will leave us with R 125 749 of cash available for the following months which at R24 012 per month represents 5 months of expenses and should cover monitoring costs until end September 2022. This does not include any equipment that we may have to purchase in the 5 months to September or the likelihood of the SRA being activated for an additional month or two.

We extend our thanks to the property owners who have contributed so generously to date but would add that it is not too late for further contingency contributions given that the estimated SRA activation date of the 1st October 2022 is not guaranteed.

Banking details for contributions are;

Account: Standard Bank Market Linked Business Savings Account

Account No 10154030161

Branch no 0510001

Account name - Natures Valley Ratepayers Association

Please put your ERF No, Name and "B" on the transfer details so we can identify payment for the baboon management plan. Please send a confirmation email to office@nvra.co.za