

Dear MDB Stakeholder,

CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING (BATCH 2 CATEGORY) WARD DELIMITATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETINGS

- 1. Thank you for the continued support you have provided to the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) since the commencement of the ward delimitation process.
- 2. In Circular 4 of 2020, the MDB outlined options it has considered as part of the revised ward delimitation programme in response to the continued impact of national lockdown regulations on the ward delimitation process. Particularly, in respect of municipalities listed under Batch 2 Category (See attached for a list), MDB indicated that "*in case the circumstances regarding the management of the spread of Covid-19 virus do not improve and the level of lockdown or conditions thereof are not adjusted to a level that will allow for gatherings or public meetings by 31 May 2020, the MDB will consider all outstanding public meetings cancelled. However, the period for making written submissions for members of the public in Batch 2 municipalities will be extended to 31 July 2020".*
- 3. Following the announcement by the President on Sunday, 24 May 2020, that the country will be moving to level 3 lockdown from on 01 June 2020 and requisite regulations issued, public gatherings such as public meetings and hearings remain prohibited throughout the country except for a few specific types such as funerals and churches. In view of this, the MDB would like to confirm that all outstanding public meetings for Batch 2 municipalities have been cancelled.
- Notwithstanding the above, MDB has extended the due date for submission of written submissions to 31 July 2020 for municipalities listed under Batch 2 Category.
 Under these trying and unprecedented circumstances everyone including the MDB needs to adapt and adopt new ways of carrying out their responsibilities. In order to assist members of the public to participate better in the ward delimitation process, the

information, mainly from the MDB website (<u>www.demarcation.org.za</u>), our social media platforms (Facebook: Municipal Demarcation Board; Twitter Handle - @MunicipalBoard).

- The MDB, where possible, will be available to engage stakeholders through the utilisation of any virtual mechanisms including audio-visual meetings and platforms ie, Zoom, Microsoft Teams etc.
- 7. The MDB has also developed a web based ward delimitation submission form which is accessible on the MDB website, a WhatsApp line (0728198220) is also activated to, amongst others allow anyone to access the MDB and any ask questions on the ward delimitation process. A downloadable ward delimitation form is also available on the website which after it is completed can be emailed to registry@demarcation.org.za or faxed to 012 342 2481.
- 8. All MDB stakeholders, especially municipalities, are requested to (i) Assist communities in participating in this process by sharing with them ward delimitation information i.e. draft wards, ward delimitation submission form, contact information etc; (ii) Encourage local consultations in line with Covid 19 measures and; (iii) Assist communities in making submissions to the MDB before 31 July 2020.
- 9. For further enquiries please contact Mr Fazel Hoosen at Telephone, 012 342 2481 or email <u>fazel@demarcation.org.za</u>.

Yours sincerely,

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MR THABO MANYONI CHAIPERSON: MUNICIPAL DEMARCATION BOARD DATE: 01 JUNE 2020