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Newsletter - July 2026

Dear Residents and Stakeholders,

July 2026 has been a month of pivotal achievements and active civic engagement for URRA. From securing a major High Court order protecting Herrwood Drive residents to hosting town halls, engaging SAPS on public safety, and driving infrastructure improvements on Lagoon Drive, URRA continues to stand firm for our community. Below are the key developments from this past month.

1. Major Legal Victory: High Court Halts Herrwood Drive Excavations

On **27 July 2026**, the URRA, together with affected Herrwood Drive residents, secured an important legal victory in the High Court in its proceedings against eThekweni Municipality and Balwin Properties. The Court granted an Order providing immediate protection for the residents most directly affected by the proposed road expansion.

Key Outcomes of the Court Order:

- **Construction Halted:** Balwin Properties may not commence construction affecting the driveways of Houses 6 to 14B (as reflected on the Zutari Impact construction drawings) nor carry out construction between Sections 7 and 8 of the Traffic Road Layout before 1 November 2026, unless agreed in writing.
- **Independent Expert Evidence Secured:** URRA has until 15 August 2026 to appoint an independent traffic and roads engineering specialist, consult with affected residents, and submit expert reports with supporting affidavits.

“This is an important victory for the Herrwood community. The Court has recognised that there is sufficient merit to allow independent expert evidence to be presented before construction proceeds in the most sensitive areas.”

— Terri MacLarty, URRA Chairperson

2. Bingo Hall Appeal Update & Umhlanga Bay Donation Challenge

URRA hosted major Town Hall Meetings on **Monday, 13 July 2026** at St Michael's Church. The meetings provided a comprehensive status update on our legal appeal against the eThekwin Municipality's approval of the 4 Lagoon Drive gambling development.

R5,500

Pledged by Umhlanga Bay
(11 Units x R500/unit)

A massive thank you to Umhlanga Bay for stepping up! We challenge all Body Corporates, complexes, and business owners in uMhlanga to match this pledge to help fund our independent specialist reports.

Section 18A Tax Certificates will be issued for all corporate and individual donations.

Photo



[Community & Speakers gathered during the July Town Hall Objection Meeting at St Michael's Church]

3. Durban North SAPS Community Imbizo & By-Law Enforcement

URRA executive members, led by Chairperson Terri MacLarty, actively participated in the monthly Durban North SAPS Community Imbizo held in late July. SAPS leadership presented first-quarter crime statistics (April–June 2026), revealing a 5-year low in property-related crimes but a concerning shift toward **increased contact crimes (assaults and robberies) in the Village and Gateway precincts.**

In response to excessive weekend noise, gridlocked traffic, and public disturbances, URRA is working alongside Metro Police, SAPS, UIP, and the newly elected Durban North CPF Exco to demand joint operations and strict enforcement of municipal by-laws.

4. Advocacy for Lagoon Drive Infrastructure & Traffic Calming

Following persistent advocacy by URRRA regarding reckless driving and pedestrian risks, the eThekweni Transport Authority (ETA) has formally responded to our calls. Municipality plans are moving forward to install **raised intersections, speed humps, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure upgrades along Lagoon Drive.**

URRA is continually pushing municipal officials to expedite the implementation timeline to safeguard residents, hotel guests, and holidaymakers along this crucial beachfront corridor.

Stand With URRRA — Support Our Community Legal & Planning Funds

All contributions qualify for Section 18A Tax Certificates!

Individual, Corporate & Body Corporate Pledges Welcome

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