



Umhlanga Ratepayers' and Residents' Association
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UMHLANGA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

FORMAL MINUTES

Date: Monday, 8 September 2025

Venue: The Capital Pearls

Chairperson: Terri MacLarty

1. WELCOME AND CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING

The Chairperson, **Terri MacLarty**, welcomed all members and attendees to the Annual General Meeting of the Umhlanga Ratepayers and Residents Association ("URRA").

The Chairperson thanked members for their attendance and support and noted the importance of continued community participation in addressing matters affecting Umhlanga, its residents, ratepayers, businesses and property owners.

The meeting was duly constituted and proceeded with the business of the Annual General Meeting.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson presented a report on the activities and achievements of URRA during the preceding twelve months.

The Chairperson highlighted the significant number of matters on which URRA had engaged with eThekweni Municipality, elected representatives,

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Directors T A MacLarty, D Heafield, L Borland.*

government departments, law-enforcement agencies, developers and other stakeholders.

It was reiterated that URRRA remains an **apolitical organisation** and does not align itself with any political party. URRRA engages with all political representatives and stakeholders where such engagement is necessary to advance the interests of the community.

The Chairperson emphasised that URRRA's objective is to obtain practical results for residents and ratepayers.

2.1 MUNICIPAL TARIFF INCREASES

The meeting was advised that URRRA had continued to oppose excessive municipal tariff increases.

Concern was expressed that residents are being required to pay increasingly high rates and tariffs while, in many instances, the level of infrastructure, maintenance and service delivery does not adequately reflect the amounts being paid.

The impact of inadequate municipal services and infrastructure on property values and the attractiveness of Umhlanga was highlighted.

URRA will continue to scrutinise municipal budgets and tariff proposals and make representations where increases are considered excessive or unjustified.

2.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

2.2.1 Sewage Infrastructure and Beach Closures

The meeting was advised that the new **Umhlanga Ridge trunk sewer line** was underway.

The Chairperson reported that an **Oversight Committee** was to be established, with URRRA representation, to monitor the project and provide appropriate community oversight.

It was reported that sewage spillages had been traced, in part, to unconnected feeder pipes and that the new infrastructure was intended to address these deficiencies and prevent further effluent leaks.

The ongoing closure of beaches because of sewage contamination was discussed at length.

The meeting noted that beach closures have had a serious effect on tourism, local businesses and employment and that permanent, effective solutions are urgently required.

URRA will continue to engage with the relevant authorities to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is completed and properly maintained.

2.2.2 Flooding and Stormwater

The meeting discussed continuing concerns regarding flooding and stormwater management.

It was noted that some properties had become difficult or impossible to insure as a consequence of flooding risks.

The Mayor had instructed that urgent reports be prepared and that funding requirements be addressed.

URRA will continue to monitor this matter and seek accountability regarding implementation.

2.2.3 Development

The meeting expressed concern regarding the scale and pace of development in and around Umhlanga.

Concern was raised that significant developments are sometimes approved without sufficient consideration being given to existing infrastructure capacity, traffic, sewage, stormwater and the impact on surrounding residents.

URRA will continue to advocate for responsible development and meaningful consultation with affected communities.

2.3 SIGNAGE

The issue of redundant and illegal signage was discussed.

It was reported that enforcement action, including fines where appropriate, would be pursued.

URRA will continue to monitor this issue and raise concerns regarding non-compliant signage.

2.4 TRAFFIC, ROADS AND TRANSPORT

2.4.1 Oceans Precinct

The meeting was advised that the **Oceans Precinct had not yet been handed over to eThekweni Municipality.**

URRA will continue to monitor the development and its implications for infrastructure, traffic and municipal services.

2.4.2 Taxi Matters

URRA has engaged with **SANTACO and law-enforcement authorities** concerning taxi-related issues.

It was noted that the relevant forum had stalled. URRA will continue to seek engagement with the appropriate stakeholders in an effort to achieve a sustainable solution.

2.4.3 Proposed Taxi/Bus Depot

The meeting was advised that URRA's objection to the proposed taxi/bus depot had been successful.

An alternative location at **Cornubia** was under consideration.

2.5 HERRWOOD DRIVE AND LAGOON DRIVE

The meeting discussed ongoing concerns relating to speeding, excessive noise and dangerous driving on Herrwood Drive and Lagoon Drive.

The conditions in these areas were described as resembling a "race track", creating significant concern for residents and road users.

URRA will continue to advocate for appropriate traffic management measures, consultation and mitigation.

2.6. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

2.6.1 Metro Police

The meeting discussed the shortage of Metro Police resources in Umhlanga in relation to the substantial population growth and increased development and activity in the area.

The need for increased visibility and appropriate policing resources was emphasised.

2.6.2 Metro Police Satellite Office

The meeting was advised that an additional small satellite office had been secured in the former **UIP office**.

This was welcomed as a positive step towards increasing law-enforcement visibility in the area.

2.6.3 Prestondale Police Station

The Chairperson reported that repairs to the Prestondale Police Station had been undertaken following interventions by URRRA and Councillor Bradley Singh.

A permanent facility is planned.

2.6.4 Reporting of Incidents

Residents were encouraged to report incidents and complaints directly to Metro Police and the relevant authorities.

Members were also encouraged to retain photographs, videos, reference numbers and other evidence and to provide such information to URRRA where appropriate.

This will enable URRRA to identify recurring problems and provide evidence-based representations to the authorities.

2.6.5 Law Enforcement Task Team

The meeting was advised that **Mayor Cyril Xaba** had indicated his intention to establish a multi-stakeholder **Law Enforcement Task Team**, with URRRA involvement.

The proposed Task Team is intended to improve coordination between law-enforcement agencies, municipal departments and the community.

2.7 PROPOSED BINGO HALL – 4 LAGOON DRIVE

The proposed Bingo Hall at **4 Lagoon Drive** was discussed.

The meeting was advised that URRRA had lodged a formal objection and remains strongly opposed to the proposal.

The Chairperson confirmed that URRRA would continue to represent the interests of residents through the appropriate planning, administrative and legal processes.

2.8. TOURISM AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The meeting discussed the importance of tourism to Umhlanga and the wider local economy.

Particular concern was expressed regarding the ongoing closure of beaches due to sewage contamination.

The meeting noted that the loss of beach access threatens tourism, employment, businesses and the broader local economy.

URRA will continue to advocate for urgent and permanent solutions.

3 TREASURER'S REPORT

Brett Milton, Treasurer, presented the financial report.

The following matters were noted:

- Membership income had increased from approximately **R80,000 in 2024 to R200,000 in 2025**.
- The **URRA Festive Market** had made a significant contribution to the Association's income.
- URRA's operating expenses remained relatively low.
- Funds had been retained prudently and were earning interest.
- Some difficulties had been experienced with **PayFast payments**, and steps were being taken to resolve these issues.

The meeting noted the Treasurer's report and the Association's positive financial position.

4. RE-ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairperson advised the meeting that the existing Executive Committee was available for re-election.

The meeting was invited to consider the continuation of the existing Executive Committee for the ensuing term.

There being no objections or alternative nominations, the existing Executive Committee was **re-elected unanimously** by the members present.

RESOLUTION:

It was unanimously resolved that the existing URRRA Executive Committee be re-elected to serve for the ensuing term.

The re-election was recorded with the unanimous support of the meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the members for their confidence and support and confirmed that the Executive Committee would continue to work in the best interests of the Association and the wider Umhlanga community.

5. GUEST SPEAKERS

5.1 Cara Reilly – West Town

Cara Reilly addressed the meeting regarding the challenges associated with rapid development.

She highlighted the importance of balancing development with meaningful community consultation and the provision of inclusive community spaces.

5.2 Mark McCalgan – Snare Aware

Mark McCalgan addressed the meeting regarding snaring and the illegal bush-meat trade.

The threat posed to biodiversity and wildlife was highlighted, together with the importance of public awareness and reporting.

5.3 Duncan Heafield – Vice Chairperson

Duncan Heafield, Vice Chairperson, presented URRRA's **monkey-proof bin pilot project**.

The project is aimed at reducing waste-related problems, preventing monkeys from accessing refuse and improving cleanliness within the community.

The initiative was welcomed by the meeting.

6. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

A question-and-answer session followed the formal presentations.

Members raised matters of concern affecting the Umhlanga community.

Legal matters relating to the **Herrwood Drive case** were discussed and members were provided with an opportunity to raise questions.

Members were encouraged to submit any further questions, information or concerns to URRRA by email for consideration and follow-up.

7. MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The Chairperson appealed to residents, ratepayers and businesses to become members of URRRA and to encourage others to join.

It was emphasised that a strong membership base provides URRRA with greater credibility and a stronger collective voice when engaging with municipal, provincial and other authorities.

Members were encouraged to promote URRRA membership within residential complexes, businesses and the wider community.

The meeting noted that the continued success of URRRA depends on active community participation and support.

8. CLOSURE

The Chairperson thanked the members, Executive Committee, guest speakers and all those who had contributed to URRRA's work during the preceding year.

The Chairperson reiterated URRRA's commitment to protecting the interests of residents and ratepayers and to continuing its engagement with all relevant authorities and stakeholders.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the **2025 Annual General Meeting closed**.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes are submitted for confirmation as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the URRRA Annual General Meeting held on **8 September 2025**.

Terri MacLarty

Chairperson – URRRA

Date: _____

Confirmed at the following

AGM/Meeting: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

KEY RESOLUTION RECORDED

Resolution 1 – Re-election of Executive Committee

The existing URRRA Executive Committee was **unanimously re-elected** to serve for the ensuing term.

Status: APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY