



By 2030 eThekweni will be Africa's most caring and liveable city



LONG TERM PLANNING Vs EMERGENCY RESPONSE (IMPACT OF COVID-19) WEBINAR 21/07/2020



CONTENTS



- Introduction and background.
- Purpose of the presentation.
- Regulatory framework.
- Problem statement.
- Decades of service excellence.
- Short term planning.
- Medium term planning.
- Long term planning.
- Annual review and execution.



INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- “It always seems impossible until it is done”, Dr. N R Madiba.
- “After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb”, Dr. Mandela.
- eThekweni Municipality consists of 3 702 231 million population.
- Current mortality rate is 0.13% per week.
- Current Covid-19 fatalities 143 to date.
- We have 30 registered undertakers within the Municipality.
- There are 66 Cemeteries throughout the City with 55 000 gravesites.
- There are more than 1.5 million human remains interred in these gravesites.



PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION



- To get the message across the listeners about the theme of the Webinar.
- To initiate discussion on Long term planning Vs Emergency response (IMPACT OF COVID-19).
- “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then is not an act, but a habit”, Will Durant.



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK



- Section 155 (6) (a) of the Constitution of RSA, 96, Part B of Schedule 5.
- Section 156 of the Constitution of the RSA, 1996.
- 2013 Health Regulations relating to the Management of the Human Remains.
- National Environment Management: Protected areas Act (Act No. 57 of 2003).
- KwaZulu-Natal Cemeteries and Crematoria Act, No. 12 of 1996.
- eThekweni Municipality Cemeteries and Crematoria bylaw, 1996.
- National Disaster Management Act 2002, (Act No. 57 of 2002).
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993.
- National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998-IWULA Regulation Triggers.



PROBLEM STATEMENT

- In the early eighties the City of Durban was classified as the fastest growing City after the New York City of the USA.
- This growth was due to the massive urbanization that pulled people from all over KZN and beyond who came to look for job opportunities and better educational institutions consequently, informal settlements mushroomed.
- Political wars broke out in most townships of Durban, such was led to breaking and misplacement of families and escalation of mortality rate. It is estimated that the decade of the eighties saw close to ten thousand (10 000) deaths.
- It was also during this time that the HIV Aids incidents increased substantially. Thousands of young and old perished due to this disease. These social occurrences put an unprecedented strain on the available burial space in the City.



PROBLEM STATEMENT...



- Even though the HIV and Aids and political wars have been almost stopped, demand for burial space has not decreased.
- This is because among others the a foregoing responsible for the current status of our sixty six (66) Cemeteries in the City.
- Out of sixty six (66) Cemeteries within the City only eight (08) Cemeteries are still fully operational.
- Four (4) of the eight (08) will be full in capacity by the end of 2020.
- All fifty eight (58) Cemeteries have since been closed.
- A new social phenomenon of the ongoing arrival of and settlement of foreign Nationals in the City of Durban is observed.

- “Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now”, Alan Lakein.
- “Failing to plan is planning to fail”, Alan Lakein.
- Long term planning Vs Emergency response (Impact of Covid-19).
- Can we multitask to deal with the challenge at hand.
- Hazards of multitasking is that it increases the chances of making mistakes and missing information and cues.
- Multitasking is less likely to retain information in working memory, which can hinder problem solving and creativity.
- Multitasking can harm our brains. Therefore...
- Solution is to focus on Short, Medium and Long Terms Planning.
- The Covid-19 pandemic challenge falls in the Short to Medium Terms Planning.
- The City of Durban is aiming at a 30 years Strategic document as a new blueprint for Cemeteries and Crematoria that will speak to a Future State of Cemeteries and Crematoria within eThekweni Municipality.



SHORT TERM PLAN



- Strategy 1, to speed up submission of Cemeteries Land Acquisition Report to Committees, set timeline is 30 June 2020.
- Strategy 2, to identify lands within 66 cemeteries to be surveyed, timeline set is 31 July 2020.
- Strategy 3, to extend cemeteries existing boundaries to establish more gravesites, timeline set is 20 August 2020.
- Strategy 4, to reopen Loon Road Cemetery on 01 August 2020 with 5 000 capacity.
- Strategy 5, to open for reuse of family gravesites throughout 66 Cemeteries in the City with capacity of 55 000 to the public, timeline set is 01 August 2020.
- Strategy 6, to open for recycling of gravesites throughout the City in the 66 Cemeteries, timeline set is 01 August 2020.



SHORT TERM PLAN...



- 2020/21 Financial Year Themed: Back to Basics approach.
- Review of roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders.
- To identify 100 lands for burials, timeline set is 31 July 2020.
- To conduct both desktop and full investigation on lands with potential for the establishment of Cemeteries and Crematoria, timeline set is 30 August 2020.
- Land Acquisition strategy, to divide the City into four (4) regions and development of Cemeteries be prioritized accordingly.
- Priority 01, South of the City requires immediate intervention.
- Priority 02, Central of the City requires short term intervention.
- Priority 03, Inner and Outer West of the City requires short term intervention.
- Fatalities Management Strategy.



MEDIUM TERM PLAN



- Priority (04), requires intervention in the medium term.
- Municipal programmes of enforcement and support.
- To create awareness on regulatory framework to both internal and external customer.
- Staff empowerment by provision of relevant trainings.
- To review current City's bylaws to be relevant in nature.
- Social Cohesion Strategy.
- Eradication of alien plants strategy.



MEDIUM TERM PLAN



- To issue out an expression of interest focusing in specific regions where burial space has already run out or insufficient, to identify potential lands available that meets the requirements of the new Cemeteries and Crematoria establishment on annual bases as a recurrent plan to address shortage of burial space within eThekweni Municipality.
- To lobby for adequate budget on annual basis to deal with maintenance plan.
- To implement greening strategy and landscaping.



LONG TERM PLAN



- Continuous improvements on service delivery.
- Initiating new ways of disposing human remains.
- To ensure that a caring and liveable City's vision is being realized.
- Provision of service delivery that is impactful to the Citizens of the City.
- To improve on provision of electronic records management system.



LONG TERM PLAN



- Development of two (2) more Crematoriums.
- To improve on revenue collection management system.
- Annual review of strategic plan.
- Establishment of Service Delivery Charter.
- Continuous risks management assessment.
- “You have to believe in the long term plan you have but you need the short term goals to motivate and inspire you”, Roger Federer.



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THANK YOU!

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