

## Project Updates

### Boystown:

- » To date, 503 houses have been built.
- » No construction has taken place at Phase 2 since January as some community members are refusing to move to a temporary relocation area to create space for construction.
- » Sites at New Rest and Gqobasi are available for residents to move to when clearing of Phase 2 begins.

### Joe Slovo:

- » Construction of 62 units at Phase 3A is expected to be completed by November.
- » At Phase 3C, 222 units are currently being built.
- » Contracts for electrical work at Phase 3C are finalised and construction of the new electrical substation is 95% complete.

## Uhlaziyo lweProjekthi

### IBoystown:

- » Ukuza kuthi ga ngoku sekwakhiwe izindlu ezingama- 503.
- » Akukho kwakhiwa kuqhubekileyo kwiSigaba sesi-2 okokoko kwangoJanyuware nanjengoko amanye amalungu abahlali aye ala ukufudukela komnye ummandla wokuxhwakra wethutyana.
- » Iziza zokufudukela sezilungisiwe ukuba zibe khona eNew Rest naseQobasi ukuze abahlali bafudukele kuzo xa ukucocwa kweSigaba sesi-2 sekuqalile.

### IJoe Slovo:

- » Ukwakhiwa kwiSigaba sika-3A kulindeleke ukuba kugqitywe phakathi kuNovemba.
- » KwiSigaba sika-3C, ukwakhiwa kwezindlu ezingama-222 seziqalisiwe ukwakhiwa kutshanje.
- » Izivumelwano/iikhontrakthi ngomsebenzi wezombane kwiSigaba sika-3C ziyagqityezelwa yaye ukwakhiwa kwesikhululwana esitsha sombane sikumyinge weepesenti ezingama-95 (95%) ukuba sigqitywe.



## Easy living for disabled residents



Yoliswa Matyityi Boystown



Ethel Xhosa Boystown

### Just more than six months ago, the Matyityi and Xhosa families took ownership of their homes in Boystown Phase 1.

What makes their houses different is that they are built to make the lives of disabled residents easier. These houses have concrete ramps so that a wheelchair can easily move from the street to the front door. Special rails have been fitted at the bath and toilet, and window-openers, light switches and taps are placed at a height that someone in a wheelchair can reach.

Yoliswa Matyityi lives with her husband and three children; her youngest son Thembaletu is seven years old and wheelchair-bound. He was born prematurely and diagnosed with paralysis from the neck down.

The Matyityi's used to live in a shack in Open Space and the conditions there affected Thembaletu's disability and his sinuses.

"Since moving into our new home life has become easier for Thembaletu," said Yoliswa.

She said however that the last few months have not been without its challenges.

Ethel Xhosa, her husband, three children and grandchild moved in on the same day as the Matyityi's. She suffered a stroke in 2009 that left her in a wheelchair.

"We used to live in Phase 2. It was very difficult after my stroke because I had to wash using a bucket of water and needed help to use the toilet."

"I am so grateful for this home, especially when it rains. We don't hear the rain anymore! We have to open the door or look through the windows to see that it's raining."

Ethel says she is happy to have a roof over her head and appreciates that her disability is catered for.

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## MEC meets with Boystown residents

**Construction of houses at Boystown ground to a halt in January when residents of informal structures refused to relocate voluntarily from Phase 2.**

Between 250 and 300 Boystown residents attended a meeting with Western Cape Human Settlements MEC, Bonginkosi Madikizela, at the Mfesane Hall in Crossroads on 21 October.

Mr Madikizela called for the meeting to engage with the community and to discuss with them what will happen going forward. During the meeting, the MEC appealed to residents for their co-operation so that construction of remaining houses could continue, and explained that everyone in the community would benefit - including qualifiers and excess beneficiaries.



## Get to know your subsidy officer: Elizabeth Rathinasamy

Elizabeth has worked as a Subsidy Officer with the HDA since August 2009.

Her job involves getting subsidies approved, helping beneficiaries with any related queries and assisting with the issue of title deeds and the signing of deeds of sale.

"I love seeing the joy beneficiaries experience when their application is approved."

Residents who need help with subsidy-related matters can contact Elizabeth on (021) 481 2900.

Elizabeth Rathinasamy, Subsidy Officer.

## Useful contact numbers:

### Emergencies:

Fires:	107 from a landline OR 021 480 7700 from a cell phone
When a life or property is threatened:	112 from a cell phone/Fire
Department (General information):	021 590 1900
The Housing Development Agency Helpdesk:	021 481 2900
City of Cape Town matters:	0860 103 089
Eskom Customer Care:	0860 037 566
Western Cape (WC) Government (general enquiries):	0860 142 142
WC Social Development Hotline:	0800 22 0250
Department of Social Development Disability Programme:	021 483 4015
Master of the High Court (for deceased estates):	021 410 8300
Childline:	0800 55 555 or 021 762 8198
Stop Woman Abuse Hotline:	0800 150 150
Rental Housing Tribunal	0860 106 166
Waiting list database	021 444 0333



human settlements

Department:  
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## 16 Days of Activism:

Every year about 6000 sexual offences are reported in the Western Cape alone. According to the Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust, rape happens in all communities and in all race groups.

“25 November until 10 December marks the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women and Children. The campaign was started in 1991 by the Centre for Women’s Global Leadership in New Jersey in the United States.”

Rape Crisis spokesperson, Sarah Strydom, says there are a number of reasons why incidents of rape are not reported to the police. “Many survivors lack access to services, some fear that their attacker may intimidate them or hurt them again, or that they may be humiliated if their community learns that they are a survivor of rape. A barrier that we often come across in our work is that some survivors don’t have faith in our Criminal Justice System – and that it will protect and support them.”

Strydom says they can help. “At Rape Crisis we help rape survivors on their road to recovery and justice. We have offices in Athlone, Khayelitsha and Observatory. Our services include free confidential counseling to rape survivors and their families, a 24 hour advice and support helpline, court support at five regional courts in Cape Town, and pre-trial consultations.”



## Be a water-wise community

Chapter 3 of the City’s By-Law: Water 2010 encourages people to use water wisely and not to waste it.

When it comes to saving water we should not only think about how we use it for drinking; we must also be aware that we use it to cook and to clean.

The City of Cape Town has some useful tips on how your household can save water:

- » Close the tap while you brush your teeth, wash your hands or the dishes
- » Fix leaking taps as soon as possible
- » Use bath or dish water to water the garden
- » Fill two buckets with water to wash the car instead of using a hosepipe



## Airing your house is important

**Making sure enough fresh air passes through your home is important to your family’s health and comfort because it gets rid of moisture, smoke, cooking odours and mould.**

Practical and cost-effective ways to ventilate your home:

- » Open windows and doors often to allow in clean air from outside and to let stale air out.
- » Leave the window slightly opened after a bath or shower to let air flow into the bathroom and to allow moisture out; this will avoid damp conditions that will result in mould.
- » If a bedroom is stuffy in the morning; open a window to avoid condensation on the pane as the room heats up.

Safety tip: When you air your home, never leave windows or doors that do not have burglar bars or safety gates attached open while you are in another room.



## Boystown boundary wall: Building begins!

Construction of the boundary wall at Boystown started on 1 October when a section that is part of phase One was excavated and the foundation cast. The wall is being built to reduce the impact of noise from the N2 highway and the Cape Town International Airport on the residential area. It will be almost 1.2 kilometers long and stretch from the Triangle Site to the end of Phase 3.

To date, there have not been any disruptions and the City of Cape Town’s Law Enforcement Unit is on site to ensure that building takes place as planned. The contractor will continue to work on the section of the wall that runs along Phase 1 during November. However, heading into the festive season, construction will stop on 13 December and will resume on 20 January 20, 2014.



## Housing subsidies for the disabled

For people with disabilities the process of applying for a house is very similar to that of an able-bodied person. A disabled person must, however, present a medical report that has been completed by a doctor in order to verify their disability and to explain how serious it is. This will determine the subsidy they receive.

There are different kinds of disabilities that qualify a person to apply for this kind of subsidy:

- » If you use a walking aide
- » If you sometimes use a wheelchair
- » If you are wheelchair bound
- » If you are partially or totally deaf or blind
- » If you have partial or total loss of movement in the upper body limbs

For more information about this application process contact any of the following:

- » The Department of Human Settlements on 0800 1468 73
- » The City of Cape Town on 0860 103 089
- » The HDA on 021 481 2900



## Disability Awareness Month

Around the world, 3 November to 3 December is Disability Rights Awareness Month.

The aim is to create awareness and understanding of the problems disabled people face and to support them to ensure their wellbeing, that their rights are upheld, and that they live dignified lives. It is also a time to highlight the positive contributions that physically and mentally challenged people make to their communities.

## Electrical safety at home

**When it comes to electrical connections in the home, you shouldn’t be taking any chances doing this kind of work by yourself unless you have the necessary skills and knowledge.** If you don’t, call in a properly qualified electrician.

Basic electrical safety in the home:

- » A worn-looking electrical cord must be replaced immediately because it could lead to fire or shock someone.
- » Never touch electrical appliances or plugs with wet hands and don’t use water near leads or plugs.
- » Be sure that switches are in the ‘OFF’ position before unplugging appliances.
- » Keep cords away from the stove or any hot surfaces.
- » Try not to connect too many plugs into one electrical socket.
- » Do not run electrical cords under carpets.

Do not overload a wall plug with appliances because it can overheat and cause a fire.