PUBLIC SECTOR — LOCAL AUTHORITIES — T.V. L.

1991

JANUARY — JUNE.
Civics group pledges to go on targeting councils

CIVICS Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday vowed to continue its "highly successful" campaign to force councillors to resign, because negotiations between the ANC and government had not had any effect on the day-to-day lives of South Africans.

Cast said in a statement yesterday the acid test of the success of talks between the ANC and government was the effect on the day-to-day lives of the majority of the people.

There was still a serious crisis of homelessness, housing and unemployment and the greater part of the land was still in the hands of a minority.

"Little or nothing has changed to improve the living conditions and standards of our people," Cast said.

Cast said local government was disrupted when government forced its "puppets" on to people. Cast believed it was beginning to normalise local government by pressurising councillors and management committee members to resign.

The organisation's campaign in this regard had been very successful and it would be intensified until all resigned.

The statement said Cast had no reason to have confidence in the police force, given its past record of atrocities and its collusion with state-related vigilantes.

It insisted that the 18 000 policemen to be deployed to combat crime be accountable to the people, and that all details related to their deployment be made available to local civic structures.
31 Councils collapse in Transvaal

By IKE MOTSAPI and Sapa

AT LEAST 31 of the 82 black local authorities in the Transvaal have collapsed through mass resignations of councillors, the Transvaal Provincial Administration said yesterday.

TPA official Mr Jan Loubser said most collapsed black local authorities had been replaced by administrators who will see to the day-to-day running of the affected areas. He did not name them.

However, in the past few months it is known that councillors have resigned in Daveyton, Mamelodi, Lekoa in the Vaal Triangle, Tokoza near Alberton, and KwaGugu near Witbank.

Some of the councillors in these areas headed the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal call to resign while others opted out after being frustrated because residents had refused to pay for services charges.

Black local authorities owe the TPA millions of rand.

Loubser attributed the resignation of councillors to what he termed “intimidation” by forces that wanted to see the country ungovernable.

He promised residents in affected areas that essential services would not collapse because the TPA had appointed administrators who had “similar powers to those of the local authorities”.

He said: “The TPA has appointed administrators to those affected local authorities and residents are assured that everything is running normally.”

Loubser’s announcement is a victory for Cast, which has vowed to step up its campaign to force all remaining councillors to resign from what it called “the apartheid structures”.

Cast, like the ANC and other black organisations, has declared 1991 a year of mass action against apartheid laws.

Meanwhile controversy surrounds the resignation of 10 members of the Mamelodi City Council last week.

The city council and the TPA claim they have not yet received the councillors’ letters of resignation.

The 10 claim to have handed in a single letter of resignation signed by all of them.
ANC hits at police... 

Vick's security breach

Firearm crackdown

ANC hits at police...
Why I quit and ended our nightmare

"We have nothing more than food and water," said a youth who had been living in a makeshift shelter for the past week. "Our only hope is to wait and see what happens."

The police have been patrolling the area, but so far they have not made any arrests. A group of local residents said they were tired of living in fear and decided to take matters into their own hands. "We can't just sit here and do nothing," one of them said. "We have to stand up for ourselves."

Meanwhile, the situation in the township continues to be tense. There have been reports of looting and vandalism, and tensions are high. "This is not the way to solve our problems," said a community leader. "We need to find a peaceful solution to this crisis."

The residents of the township are calling for the government to take action to address their concerns. "We want our voices to be heard," they said. "We want our rights to be respected."
Council police recruits start training

The first intake of recruits for the Johannesburg City Council's municipal police force have started their three-month training course.

Forty three recruits began the course yesterday. The next course starts in April.

Management committee member Paul Asherson said he was confident their target of 500 extra men on the streets would be reached within the next 30 months. "We're very excited about the prospect and can only promise that we as politicians will do everything within our power to make Johannesburg a safer place."

He said during the training of the recruits, emphasis would be placed on increased vigilance — "far and above the normal traffic duties which any officer is expected to perform."

Johannesburg traffic officers have the same powers of arrest as police. They are, however, not allowed to release a suspect on bail, obtain a search warrant, obtain a warrant of arrest from a magistrate or serve any subpoenas or summons.

"Our mission is to serve," traffic liaison officer Eric Hill said.

In October last year, the council accepted recommendations from a special committee that the Johannesburg Traffic Department be expanded by 500 members in the next 30 months to put officers back on regular street patrols.

In terms of the law, the new recruits would at first be employed to fill vacant positions within the traffic department.

A special council committee is considering the financial implication of the additional personnel and equipment. The annual running costs are expected to be about R40 million.
Appeal for clarity on talks to end boycott in Thokoza

The Alberton Industries Association (AIA) has called on parties engaged in talks to resolve Thokoza township's rent and service charges boycott to clear the confusion which marred the talks last week. (See p.204)

The AIA said it was concerned at the parties' inability to reach any accord that would normalise the situation in Thokoza. Statements by both parties confused and frustrated residents who had already been subjected to unacceptable living conditions, the association said.

"Such conditions must not be allowed to continue and the AIA urges all parties to negotiate in good faith, so as to reach agreement which places the best interests of the residents of Thokoza above all other considerations," the association said.

AIA spokesman Noel Kent said his organisation sought a stable workforce.

"We have found it difficult running our operations during this period," he said.

SAPA reported on Friday that the Thokoza council was approaching the TPA for bridging finance to cover its R1.8s3m debt in electricity arrears.

Thokoza Town Clerk Gert Muller said residents must pay between R200 and R209 a household a month to cover running services accounts for electricity, water, refuse removal and sewage treatment. Of this amount R107 would go towards the payment of electricity, he said.

SAPA said the East Rand Civic Associations warned of a full-scale East Rand consumer boycott if a settlement was not reached before the end of this week.

Muller stressed communication between the council and all residents' groups would continue.

THEO RAWANA
New order for local government dawning

By Louise Burgers  
Municipal Reporter

History will be made next week when a metropolitan chamber comprising provincial and Witwatersrand civic associations and town councils is constituted to negotiate a new order for local government.

Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) officials from extra-parliamentary groups, and council officials have been putting the finishing touches to the chamber's constitution.

The chamber, formed after the signing of the Soweto Accord in September, will act as a forum to investigate the setting up of regional, non-racial policy approaches for use at metropolitan level.

Progress

The final geographical delimitation has not yet been negotiated, and the structure and composition of the chamber have still to be finalised.

TPA official Vic Mibe said the joint technical committee formed to co-ordinate the formation of the chamber had made "quite good progress".

A chairman will be elected by a simple majority.

There will be a three-month interim period after the constitution is laid so the final boundaries of the chamber's area and membership can be decided.

A joint technical committee will be formed to appoint working groups made up of officials and other experts to study constitutional, economic, social, institutional and physical development.

Think-tanks

The working groups will in turn set up think-tanks to investigate affordable tariffs, improvement of infrastructure, transfer of rental housing stock, and a common fiscal base.

One of the biggest decisions the chamber will face is whether to allow political parties representation.

The chamber will eventually have about 60 members.
Coloured, Indian councils targeted

COLOURED and Indian management committees will be the next targets in the campaign to force the collapse of government-sponsored black local authorities.

Cass Coovadia, assistant general secretary of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cas), which spearheaded an intense campaign against local authorities, said more consumer boycotts and marches could also be expected.

"In Indian and coloured areas the management committee members are still in place," Coovadia said.

Cas is pushing for the resignation of all councillors ahead of a new deal for non-racial local governments, which central government has indicated it is willing to negotiate.

Coovadia said Cas would decide on action later this month.

"If we believe that pressure on the business community will bear fruit, we will look at limited consumer boycotts." Cas was willing to negotiate with provincial administrations but had not received a positive response to its approaches, he said.

Cas's activities had resulted in the virtual collapse of black local government in all provinces except Natal.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) said 240 local councillors had resigned since last February, leaving 302 council posts vacant.

The Transvaal still had 390 councillors serving out of a possible 682.

Throughout SA, 166 administrators were running local authorities.

In the Transvaal 47 councils were still operating while 31 were being run by administrators, in the Free State there were 38 administrators and 32 councils, in the Cape there were 35 administrators and 38 councils; and in Natal there were two administrators and 15 councils.

Coovadia said there was "no indication that central government was prepared to scrap local authorities.

"All the indications are that they will protect them," he said.

While 207 resigning Transvaal councillors had cited intimidation as the reason for their resignation, Coovadia denied Cas was using the tactic.

"We reserve the right to put pressure on local authorities by peaceful means," he said.
Pearce before inquiry over spy scandal

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's suspended public safety director John Pearce pleaded not guilty to charges of misconduct at his disciplinary inquiry which began yesterday.

Mr Pearce was suspended last year after the Reemtra Commission, which investigated the municipal spy scandal, found him to have been negligent.

Some witnesses who appeared before the Reemtra Commission are likely to be recalled to give evidence.

It is being presided over by independent senior counsel T Pleman.

Mr Pearce is represented by an official from the Johannesburg Municipal Employees' Association, Theo Crouse.
Boycott spreads after Klerksdorp cuts power

THE Klerksdorp town council yesterday carried out its threat to cut electricity and drastically reduce water supplies to the township of Jouberton.

Klerksdorp Town Clerk J L Muller said last week his council had resolved to suspend the supply of bulk electricity to Jouberton from yesterday, while the water supply would be reduced to certain hours a day.

He said Jouberton’s service charge payments were R626 000 in arrears.

Sewerage

“Bulk supply of electricity to Jouberton will be cut off until such time as the Jouberton Town Council will be able to meet its obligations towards the Klerksdorp Town Council.”

“Water supply to Jouberton will not be interrupted but will be drastically reduced, to such an extent that the load on the sewerage pump stations is relieved.” Muller said.

Jouberton residents started an indefinite consumer boycott of Klerksdorp businesses on Monday.

Jouberton Civic Association spokesman Howard Yawa said the boycott was prompted by supply cut-offs but residents were also demanding the release of four civic leaders and an end to an alleged police clampdown.

Sapa reports from Klerksdorp that about 2 500 more people from Kanana near Orkney reportedly joined the consumer boycott yesterday in solidarity with Jouberton residents.

Jouberton Consumer Coordinating Committee sources said the Kanana residents had started boycotting the tiny business district of Orkney yesterday, as well as Klerksdorp businesses.

Klerksdorp is where township residents usually do the bulk of their shopping.

In addition to demanding the release of local detainees, the township residents are also demanding the dismantling of Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging training centres in certain parts of the western Transvaal and the unconditional restoration of power supplies.

Klerksdorp Chamber of Commerce spokesman R A Brady said the business community was doing all in its power to “bring people together.”

Sapa also reports that the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) said yesterday it was paying special attention to threatened services cuts in the East Rand township of Vosloorus.

On Monday Vosloorus Town Clerk George Prinsloo raised the possibility of discontinuing or reducing essential services in the township if residents failed to pay their bills.

Cast general secretary Sam Ntuli said the township’s rent and service charges payment dilemma was receiving serious attention, and that a plan of action to address the matter was being formulated within Cast ranks.

Meters

The Vosloorus Town Council and the local civic association deadlocked on the matter of the rent boycott in November last year.

Prinsloo said yesterday Vosloorus residents owed R33m and should be paying something while the council was repairing the township’s meters.

He said the township owed Eskom a total of R6.3m.

Asked how much the council expected residents to pay since there was a deadlock, Prinsloo said the R104 a month they were paying before the breakdown in talks should apply
Louis Trichardt's council opposes free trade area

The CP-controlled Louis Trichardt council firmly opposed the conversion of the town's central business district to a free trade area at a public hearing in the town yesterday.

An application to convert the central area of the town into a free trade area, originally initiated by NP councillor Rainer Putse, was supported by the Indian management committee, the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, the Louis Trichardt Chamber of Commerce and the Venda Chamber of Commerce.

But council representatives yesterday argued that converting about 26 blocks in the centre of town would ultimately lead to the establishment of black residential areas there.

The public hearing, chaired by Group Areas committee member N Terreblanche, heard emotive speeches by CP councillors and town residents, the vast majority of whom were against the conversion.

A council spokesman said one of the municipality's chief complaints was that 145 of the 229 "burger erven" in question were currently residential properties.

In his summation of the argument, the spokesman said the Soutpansberg area had historically developed an ethos of negotiation and reconciliation.

The town therefore did not want to be forced in any particular direction by intervention from above or outside. It would deal with its own problems in its own way and in its own time, he said.

Opening the town was one of the main demands of the Consumer Boycott Committee (CBC), which launched a consumer boycott just before Christmas.

The boycott was initiated after 12 khaki-clad men allegedly whipped Venda residents and schoolchildren at a Louis Trichardt park. Twelve people are due to appear in Pietersburg Magistrate's Court today in connection with the incident.

The CBC has emphasised that the lifting of the boycott shortly after Christmas was to allow other parties to meet outstanding demands.
PEARCE’S COUNCIL HEARING BEGINS

EDYTH BULBRING

The Johannesburg City Council’s in-house “mini-trial” of its suspended public safety director, John Pearce, began behind closed doors yesterday.

Pearce, who was found by the Hiemstra Commission of Inquiry into the council’s spy network to have been “grossly negligent”, could face dismissal if found guilty by the council.

SAPA reports he has been charged with “disgraceful or unbecoming conduct, prejudicial to the good working of the council’s services.”

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson said yesterday the matter was being heard by an outside senior advocate to ensure neutrality.

The “prosecutors” were members of the council’s city secretariat. Defence would be by Johannesburg Municipal Employees’ Association officials.

Davidson said the hearing, which he described as a “mini-trial”, was closed to the public in terms of municipal rules governing all disciplinary inquiries. He said the charges against Pearce arose from evidence led before the Hiemstra Commission. However, the internal hearing had the right to call witnesses and hear fresh evidence.

Mr Justice Hiemstra found Pearce had been grossly negligent in his duties. As public safety director he was responsible for the security department’s monitoring section, which had spied illegally on organisations including the End Conscription Campaign; Black Sash; and Lawyers for Human Rights.

The inquiry is expected to last several weeks.
Boycott

Jouberton near Klerksdorp and Toekomsrus near Randfontein are still embroiled in disputes with bulk-suppliers and the TPA over rent and service charge debts.

Sapa reports a negotiated settlement seemed remote as the boycott of white business in Klerksdorp by residents of Jouberton and neighbouring villages entered its third day yesterday.

The boycott was in protest against power cuts and reduction of water supplies to Jouberton.

From Page 1

Klerksdorp town clerk A.J. Swanepoel said his council was not in a position to negotiate directly with the civic association, because that would be sidestepping the Jouberton Town Council.

But Jouberton Civic Association spokesman Henry Moelane said the civic association was not prepared to hold talks with the Jouberton council, because the latter was almost near collapse as three of its remaining five councillors had made public their intention to resign on January 31.
Result of council inquiry into official expected soon

THE outcome of the internal inquiry into suspended Johannesburg City Council public safety director John Pearce could be expected by the end of the week, city secretary Howard Veale said yesterday. Pearce is facing charges of gross negligence arising from last year's Riemstra Commission into the municipal spy scandal.

Evidence by the presenting officer, Rhett Gardner, was 'substantially completed' yesterday morning and the proceedings had been adjourned until today, Veale said.

A Johannesburg Municipal Employees' Association official, Theo Crouse, would begin presenting Pearce's defence today. Pearce was appearing before an independent senior counsel, Chris Plewman, Veale added.

The inquiry is behind closed doors and the media are excluded from the proceedings. Veale said this was in accordance with an industrial agreement between the City Council and the employers' association.

The inquiry was initially expected to last weeks, but Veale said the outcome could be expected within days.

The charges against Pearce followed "disgraceful and unbecoming conduct, prejudicial to the good working of the council's services".

Veale confirmed Pearce could face dismissal.

Last year the Riemstra Commission found the city council's security department had infiltrated and spied on a number of local anti-apartheid organisations.

— Sapa
The Mamelodi Civic Association will step up its campaign against the township's council following uncertainty over the resignation of nine councillors in December.

Addressing a Press conference yesterday, MCA chairman Mr Lazarus Muzwayeni said that in spite of a joint resignation letter, individual resignation letters of the nine councillors had not reached the council or the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Muzwayeni said the general council of the MCA, which met earlier this week, resolved to step up the campaign for the resignation of all councillors.

This is in line with the December resolution taken by the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal.

He said the campaign would include the isolation of families and businesses of the councillors, the dumping of refuse at the houses of the councillors and the consumer boycott of their businesses.

"We will also embark on marches and hand petitions to the Transvaal Provincial Administration and other relevant departments to force the councillors to resign."

"This is a non-violent protest action against the present system of local government and we hope that they will accordingly resign."

Both the town clerk, Mr JP Nel, and the TPA have confirmed that they had not yet received official resignation letters from the councillors.
providing decent accommodation are being stymied by stormwater drains that don’t function and flood new homes, or piles of rotting garbage next to brand new houses.

The Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has discussed the matter with the authorities but apparently to little avail. It has held several clean-ups of its own, the last early last year at a cost to the civic of R88 000, primarily for the hire of front-end loaders to remove the rubbish. However, Obed Bapela of the ACO says they lacked the time and funds to collect all the garbage

Bapela says garbage collection takes place once a week in Alexandra though not all areas are serviced because of rutted roads and trenches dug across some roads for the laying of electrical cables. Garbage bags are not distributed in the township and anything not placed in specific bins — which the ACO says are too few — is not collected. For the rest, a construction company comes into the township regularly and pushes all leftover garbage into huge, fly-buzzing piles on street corners.

On Thursday this week the ACO will meet the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the Rand Water Board and Eskom to find ways of ending the boycott. However, neither side has yet submitted proposals of what it consider would be a reasonable rate of payment.

Cas Coovadin of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) says more towns are now paying for services than those that are not. Civic associations are pressing for electricity to be supplied direct to township authorities because they are now channelled through adjoining municipalities, increasing the cost.

Eskom is in favour of a system whereby it will supply direct to towns; but the barrier to this appears to be the provincial authorities, who are reluctant to move away from the existing system.

Coovadin says residents also want to pay a flat rate for electricity until meters are repaired. He says residents who have been paying service charges have been discouraged by a lack of improvement in services and upgrading, with piles of garbage remaining and roads still un tarred and rutted.

Cast will hold a major meeting with the TPA and relevant authorities next month.

A date has yet to be fixed — to discuss the crisis “We will be discussing the issue of flat rates and affordable tariffs — and how an affordable tariff can be arrived at, among other issues,” Coovadin says.

“We want a situation where solutions arrived at can be applied to all towns; not the present situation where negotiations are continuing all the time at different levels with the various townships. There needs to be a quicker solution to problems,” Coovadin says.

The people of Alexandra do not presumably enjoy living in filth. It remains unclear how many of them would be willing to resume payment for services if this were not such a politically fraught issue.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DOWN THE DRAIN

Alexandria township — that sinkhole of liberal hopes — is once again floundering under the weight of garbage. Despite a R200m upgrading project, sewers spil their effluent into the streets, new stormwater drains don’t work and the roads remain passably the most rutted of any township in the country. [full]

The situation in Alexandra is echoed in countless townships across the Transvaal. Alex, however, is situated between Kew, Wynberg and Marlboro, surrounded by Sandton and Johannesburg, and its situation so close to affluent white areas is a constant reminder of the malaise of the townships.

The authorities blame extensive rent boycotts while residents blame apartheid policies — which either refused to recognise the existence of communities or left them under threat of removal and reluctant to improve their homes or streets.

After the 1976 Soweto uprising, the then West Rand Administration Board began curtailing services and it was only after intense lobbying that the Alexandra area was given a reprieve from the threat of forced removal. The population was then estimated at 45 000; today the same small area houses about 180 000-200 000 people with a rapidly growing squatter population.

Ian Berhardt, of the Alexandra Development Foundation — a private-sector initiative which has built 177 affordable houses in the past four years — says its efforts at
Klerksdorp talks nonracialism

A FORUM had been established in Klerksdorp to discuss the possibility of a single, nonracial local government, Mayor Steve Du Toit said yesterday.

Sapa reports that, referring to the consumer boycott of white businesses and the withdrawal of power and limited water supplies in the neighbouring black township of Jouberton, Du Toit said it was no use addressing only the latter problems.

"We have to start looking earnestly into the future of the town. People are keen to discuss issues such as a single tax base, education, housing and so forth. We are planning the new SA in our own small way," he said.

TANIA LEVY reports that Jouberton Civic Association (JCA) chairman Henry Moleme said he was surprised by Du Toit's announcement, as the Klerksdorp council had avoided this issue when it was placed on the agenda by the JCA during negotiations last October. The talks subsequently broke down and services to the township were cut.

Water and electricity supplies to Jouberton were cut again this week.

Moleme said his association had not been invited to take part in the forum mentioned by Du Toit.

The only overture had come last year when the civic association was asked to form part of a body consisting of the Jouberton Town Council (which has subsequently folded), Klerksdorp Town Council and a few other organisations which the JCA felt were unrepresentative.

We also felt we could not form part of a forum which included the Jouberton council, he said.

However, the JCA would now be willing to take part in discussions about a single local government structure for the area.
Councils agree on metropolitan body
Plan to act against councils

A TOP anti-apartheid activist yesterday said no immediate action was planned against white local authorities although they were regarded as illegitimate.

Mr Cas Coovadia, deputy secretary general of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal, said all racially-based local government structures were illegitimate.

He said discussions were in progress with white local authorities to explore interim measures to replace present systems.

"We do not want to create chaos and anarchy. But if they become intransigent or obstacles to reform, then we will take action," Coovadia said.

He also spoke out against Indian, coloured and black local authorities, whom he said were impeding "medium and long-term solutions in the townships."

"Our strategies are dictated by the situation in the townships."

Coovadia said the mass action campaign to force all Indian and coloured city and town councillors to resign would continue.

Letters, petitions, mass meetings, marches and boycotts would be used, he said.

Last week the South Western Management Committee laid charges of intimidation against seven members of the Eldorado Park Civic Association who called for committee members to resign.

- Sowetan Correspondent.
Regional chamber is taking shape

REPRESENTATIVES of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and 32 local government bodies and civic organisations in the central Witwatersrand met in Johannesburg yesterday to consider a draft constitution for the establishment of a regional Metropolitan Chamber.

TPA MEC Fanele Ferrera said in a statement the parties agreed to take the draft constitution back to their constituencies for approval. It was expected the chamber would be set up on March 6. A number of Joint Technical Committees were established at the signing of the Soweto Accord on September 26, were yesterday given the go-ahead to work on various local issues, a Johannesburg council source said.

Present at the meeting were all the region's civic associations, the Soweto People's Delegation, the town councils of greater Soweto, Johannesburg, Roodepoort, Emmerdale, Randburg, Sandton, and Ekonom and the Rand Water Board.

The source said the chamber's constitution provided for the inclusion, at a later stage, of other councils who were not represented at yesterday's meeting.
Cast slams crackdown on council campaign

THE Cynics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday slated the launch of a government crackdown on campaigns against racially defined councils.

Cast said its campaign could not be construed as being intimidatory.

Law and Order deputy minister Johan Scheepers this week launched a "top priority" crackdown to counter what he described as "vicious intimidation.

The intensified, orchestrated campaign of mass intimidation had reached intolerable levels for the police and the community, Scheepers said.

Cast assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said in Johannesburg a peaceful campaign for the collapse of racially based local authorities was disciplined and could not be construed as intimidation.

"A peaceful campaign, which has the participation of the majority of people who have borne the brunt of an undemocratic and unrepresentative structures, cannot be construed as intimidation," Coovadia said.

He said if government interpreted the campaign for the resignation of black, coloured and Indian councillors as intimidation, then it is saying that it is not prepared to heed the demands of the majority.

Scheepers said police saw mass action aimed at, among other things, the destruction of local government authorities, as nothing less than mass intimidation.

Coovadia said police should concentrate on curbing criminal and vigilante activities rather than curbing legitimate people's campaigns.

"We must reiterate that we believe our mass action campaign to be our democratic right and we know that it has been a disciplined one," Coovadia said.

Doornkop squatting sites

COUNCILS in the Greater Soweto area will select from scores of homeless people those who will be allocated squatting sites at Doornkop, west of Soweto.

The plan was decided upon at a meeting of the Soweto, Doornkop, Dobsonville and Dube Meadow councils on January 18.

Spokesman Simon Mkhize said yesterday that the councils would get names for the pool, from which the allocations would be made, from organisations in their areas. Selections would be made and successful applicants names forwarded to the TPA for a final decision. Squatters and families whose incomes are less than R200 a month qualify for sites.
Johannesburg councillors reject call to quit

By Susan Smuts

Johannesburg city councillors across the political spectrum have rejected calls by Actstop and CAST (Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal) to quit.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson (DP) said: "I will not resign. I was elected with a clear majority and mandate by voters who recognise the system in which I operate as legitimate.

"Until white communities feel the system is illegitimate, I will not be resigning."

Hendrik Claassen (CP) said the call was undemocratic and ridiculous. "I was lawfully elected. There will be no such thing as councillors resigning."

Jacques Theron (also CP) agreed, adding he had been elected by people in his ward and was answerable to them.

Cecil Long (independent) said: "If I resign, it won't be because of them. They did not elect me, and I am not subject to their whims."

Judith Briggs (DP) said chaos and anarchy would prevail if councillors resigned before any structure could replace the existing one.

"Obviously, I want to see a situation where councillors are voted in on a nonracial basis. As soon as we have a new local government model, new elections must be called."

Helm Kruger (NP) said: "We all agree something is lacking. The council is part of the apartheid system which we all want to get rid of, but to call for councillors to resign when there is nothing to replace them is ridiculous."

Les Dishy (DP) said one of the reasons he had served as a councillor was to fight for the rights of others.

"I do believe we need to get everyone into one municipality. I have not been called on to resign. People who have played an active part have got a lot of things done (for example, integrated transport)."

Criticisms of councils that hampered progress did not necessarily apply to the Johannesburg council, said Sasa Reyneke (DP).

"I don't see myself resigning as a result of the call. It is also not consistent to call for resignations while negotiating with the council through the Metropolitan Chamber."

Theuns Oosthuizen (NP) said: "We have a duty to all people in the country, especially at local level to keep the ball rolling while negotiations for a new regime at local level are still proceeding."

...
Fury in Sandton over Alex uplift

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A row is brewing in Sandton after the refusal by the management committee chairman and town clerk to assist in the rebuilding of adjoining Alexandra's administrative structure.

Instead, the Randburg Town Council offered to lend a hand when approached by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

Sandton councillors are furious they were not consulted over the issue.

"Poor" Alexandra in a nonracial municipality

He said the council claimed it could not afford to carry Alexandra's financial burdens.

Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs confirmed his council had offered help after being approached by CWRSC chairman John Griffiths and was probing the situation in the township.

He said the problems were mostly technical and administrative. He hoped Sandton would join Randburg in providing assistance.

Sandton management committee chairman Meyer van Niekerk said the council did not have the manpower or finances to take over Alexandra's administration.

"We are still discussing how we can help,"

Mr. Griffiths said he had approached Sandton informally to assist.

"Randburg indicated they may be able to assist in some ways. We must try to involve both Sandton and Randburg in this. There have been informal discussions but nothing is final yet."
Council spent R700 000 on overseas trips

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The Johannesburg City Council has spent more than R700 000 on overseas business trips for councillors and officials in the past year.

In reply to questions tabled by councillor Hans Strydom at last night's council meeting, it was revealed that the recent European trip by the chairman of the management committee, Ian Davidson and five officials cost R126 834.

Mr Davidson and his officials attended a financial conference and toured companies and British councils to investigate new financial management systems for the Johannesburg City Council.

The cost of a trip by health and housing chairman Marietta Marx and several officials to South America to attend a conference on housing cost R92 000.

A trip to study civil defence systems overseas by councillor Eddie Venter and officials cost R85 700.

Chairman of the transport and utilities committee, Paul Asherson will be flying to the Far East this week with three officials for 26 days to study various transport systems in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Bangkok, Singapore, Japan and South Korea at a cost of R80 000.

Mr Asherson said he and his entourage would be flying economy class and would share accommodation in hotels to cut down on costs.

In addition, 26 council officials visited Europe and the US last year to attend conferences and meetings at a total cost of more than R400 000.
In a new financial strategy, the Johannesburg City Council is to sell under-used assets and invest the money in a fund for the future development of the city.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson said that in the past, money had been put straight into pet projects on a political priority basis, without Johannesburg's needs being considered.

"Now the development of the city is going to be a priority. Money from the sale of assets, such as land, is going to be put in a consolidated loans fund and invested at market rates to boost reserves."

Money would then be borrowed from the fund to pay for capital projects, such as the Civic Theatre, he said.

— Johannesburg City Council — Pages 3 and 6
Johannesburg spent more, than R696 000 last year sending three councillors and more than 20 officials overseas.

At its monthly meeting last night, the city council was told that R280 000 had been spent on trips by management committee member Paul Asherson, with three officials, leaves on Saturday on a four-week trip to the Far East.

Trips overseas by 25 council officials — besides those who accompanied councillors, cost about R400 000.

The figures were provided in response to a question from independent councillor Hans Strydom, who has accused his former DP colleagues of jumping on the same "gravy train" they criticised when they were the official opposition.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz
The results of this forecast, if the economy continues on its current track, could be significant. With the unemployment rate remaining high and inflation still a concern, the Federal Reserve is expected to keep interest rates low in order to support economic growth. This could lead to increased spending and investment, which could boost GDP in the near term. However, it is important to note that the economy is facing a number of challenges, including the ongoing pandemic, supply chain disruptions, and the impact of climate change. As a result, it is crucial for policymakers to continue to monitor the situation closely and adjust their policies as needed to ensure a stable and sustainable recovery.
State aims to dissolve Vaal town council

By L3MAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

A BILL aimed at dissolving the Lekoa Town Council will come up for debate during the new session of Parliament starting on Friday.

The Bill, tabled during the last session, is among about 50 which propose a joint executive authority for a homeland and a province.

Because of the uniqueness of the Lekoa Council - half of it is in the Transvaal and the other half in the Free State - the Bill seeks to divide Lekoa into two or more councils, Swelun 31/11/91.

Provinces will administer

Each province would administer the councils in its area. The Free State would oversee Refongkgotso and Zemdeza and the Transvaal would manage Bopatong, Bopheleng, Sefokeng and Sharpeville.

The Bill notes that in the terms of the Black Local Authorities Act, the administrator of the province in which a local authority is situated exercises control over that local authority.

Because there are no legal provisions existing to divide a local authority and its assets, liabilities and rights, "legislation is therefore required to regulate the matter", the Bill says.
Pearce found guilty on all misconduct charges

Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's controversial public safety director John Pearce was yesterday found guilty of all misconduct charges brought against him by the city council after the Hemstra Commission found him grossly negligent.

No official statement was issued by the city council, but sources said Mr Pearce had been found guilty by Advocate Chris Piewman, SC, who would recommend on Tuesday what action should be taken.

Asked if he would comment after the hearing yesterday, Mr Pearce, who has been under suspension for the past four months, said "No — never."

Mr Pearce, a central figure in the Hemstra Commission of Inquiry which investigated the Johannesburg municipal spy scandal exposed by The Star, pleaded not guilty to charges of misconduct involving negligence and unauthorised activities.

He is believed to be the most senior official in the council's 104-year history to face an internal disciplinary enquiry.

Organisations infiltrated and spied on by the monitoring section all called for Mr Pearce's dismissal.

The End Conspiration Campaign chairman in Johannesburg, Chris de Villiers, said Mr Pearce had to be dismissed immediately to stop the public's money going to people like him who had abused their power.

Actstop spokesman Mohammed Dangoh said not only Mr Pearce, but all in authority during the operation of the spy network should be forced to resign.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EET SUM MORE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGGS</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERUJIES (VARS)</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISH PASTE</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOIL</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIKADHEL IN SOUS</td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FROZEN CHICKEN</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEMENDE GROOTEB</td>
<td>08.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEN BEANS</td>
<td>0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICING SUGAR</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDEAL MILK</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAM. APRICOT</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAM. APRICOT</td>
<td>1.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAM. PEACH</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JELLY</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOEFFIE KITS</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOEFFIE KITS</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOEFFIE MOER</td>
<td>6.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOEFFIE MOER</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOEFFIE MOER</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOELDRANK</td>
<td>4.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOELDRANK</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOELDRANK</td>
<td>0.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOELDRANK</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOELDRANK</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEMON CREAMS</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LENTILS</td>
<td>1.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUNCH WRAP</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACARONI</td>
<td>2.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HABIE BISCUITS</td>
<td>1.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARGARINE</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The future of Mamelodi's town council looks shaky after members failed to attend a meeting yesterday where a new mayor was to be elected.

A council spokesman claimed that councillors had been scared away by threats from the local civic association that it would intensify its action aimed at forcing them to resign. Late last year 10 councillors announced their resignation but only three have handed in letters of resignation. The rest had announced earlier that yesterday's meeting would be their last.

The spokesman said the meeting was likely to take place, but it would be behind closed doors. - Sapa
TCA Warns Against Attirringly Low Tariff Deal
On road to non-White rule

President de Klerk's announcement that reforms at local government level would be 'legalised' has placed the spotlight on the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber. Municipal Reporter LOUISE BURGERS looks at the chamber's pivotal role in negotiating democratic, non-racial structures.

"It will not be too long before we in the Johannesburg region will utilise that piece of legislation in order to establish a mixed city council for the Greater Johannesburg area. In my opinion, Government is looking to the JMC to pave the way and guide other councils."

"This is a positive piece of legislation which will encourage local initiatives. We are the only negotiating forum of its nature in South Africa and well ahead of any other region. Eventually, the chamber will be disbanded in its present form, but the concept of metropolitan government will survive."

Professor Lawrence Schlemmer of the Centre for Policy Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand said Mr de Klerk had effectively legalised the JMC. He said there would be objections from extra-parliamentary bodies to some of the proposed legislation because they would claim the component parts of new joint structures were racially defined structures.

"In a sense, what is a pragmatic step viewed from one angle, will be seen as an entrenched apartheid from another viewpoint. The negotiation of such structures will be the key towards resolving the differences."

The new legislation would entail:

- Joint provision of services and establishment of a single administration for various participating local authorities
- The possibility for participating local authorities to take decisions at joint meetings that would be binding on all of the participants
- The creation of a single body to which the powers and functions of the participating authorities would be assigned either in whole or in part.

The Government was also attending to the financial implications, once progress in development of structures for co-operation could not be impeded by financial limitations.

Patric Ferreira, who is chairing the meetings of the JMC at present, describes the formation of the Metropolitan Chamber as a breakthrough for consensus politics.

Mr Ferreira is a member of the executive committee of the Transvaal Provincial Administration.
President de Klerk's announcement that reforms at local government level would be 'legalised' has placed the spotlight on the Johannesburg Metropolitan Council. Municipal Reporter LOUISE BURGERS looked at the council's pivotal role in negotiations, democratic, non-racial structures.

Central Witwatersrand Regional Services chairman, John Griffiths, believes there should be a timetable for local authorities and communities to initiate negotiations for new forms of local government. Mr Griffiths believes Monday's meeting gave recognition and encouragement to local initiatives.

"That is an absolute milestone and a far greater challenge than we expected," said Mr Griffiths. "It is the first step in the process of local government reform."

Acting spokesman and Civic Association of Southern Transvaal representative in Johannesburg, Mohamed Dangor, said although the civic associations from the townships had committed themselves to the metropolitan chamber, a constitutional assembly at local government level was needed to determine the future of the city.

He said the civic associations would not accept black town councillors and Indian and coloured members on committees as legitimate members of the chamber, and urged them to demand.

Southern Transvaal Democratic Party vice-chairman, Sias Royse, said the chamber would not be representative unless parties such as the PAC, Inkatha and the Conservative Party were invited to participate.

Patrick Laphunya, a civic association negotiator, said the chamber's decisions should be binding, but not at the expense of national negotiations.

"The reason we want something to be binding is so that protection can be afforded to others," he said.

"The Government is emphasising local negotiations at the expense of smaller townships, but the Chamber of Democratic Party towns, for example." A chairman and a vice-chairman for the chamber will be elected by a simple majority.

There will have to be consensus on all important decisions. Each party will have one vote and a veto.

The Joint Technical Committee, established after the historic Soweto Accord to facilitate the formation of the metropolitan chamber, will appoint working groups made up of officials and other experts to study constitutional, economic, social, institutional and physical developments.

Task groups appointed in turn by the working groups will investigate affordable tariffs, the improvement of infrastructure, the transfer of rental housing stock and a common fiscal base.

Members of the chamber are the ANC, the Johannesburg City Council, Rand and Randburg and Beekpoort town councils, the three Greater Soweto councils, nine civic organisations and five management committees from the Indian and coloured communities.

Bodies with observer status are the Maboneng town council, Rand Water Board, Development Bank, Eskom and the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.
Townships of Pretoria head for new cut-offs

by Norman Chandler
Pretoria Bureau

A row has broken out in Pretoria over a Transvaal Provincial Administration refusal to accept a three-week-old agreement reached between the administrator of Atteridgeville and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) to write-off millions of rand in service charges.

And, in a new move, the TPA’s MEC in charge of Local Government, Olaus van Zyl, yesterday indicated that Pretoria City Council might again have to cut electricity supplies to Atteridgeville — and possibly also to Mamelodi township — because of non-payment of charges.

Power was cut to the two areas on September 26 last year and restored after negotiations involving the Regional Services Council took place.

The threat of a new cut was confirmed yesterday by a Council spokesman, who said that the management committee would discuss the matter at a meeting later today.

Pretoria is owed R15 million by the two councils — more than R3 million by Atteridgeville.

Asro said in a statement yesterday that it was “appalled” by the attitude of the TPA.

“As the agreement has been entered into with a senior official duly appointed by the TPA in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act, it is legally binding on both parties.”

“Our lawyers are studying the legal variables involved in this matter before we decide on our next moves.”

Dr Jacobson, who runs Atteridgeville in place of the council which resigned late last year, reached agreement with Asro in mid-January in a bid to end the impasse which has dogged relations with Pretoria City Council for several months.

The TPA, which yesterday declined further comment, said in its initial statement that it had not been party to the agreement nor participated in any discussions.

“After the conclusion of the agreement, Dr Jacobson held several discussions with TPA officials and myself.”

“The TPA wishes to state clearly that it is in favour of negotiations in order to address the various problems in residential areas and at local authorities,” Mr van Zyl said.

The TPA standpoint was that approval of tariffs and the write-off of bad debts was its responsibility.

- Mamelodi City Council last night urged residents to pay their water and electricity accounts to avoid a cut-off.

It said that a letter from the Pretoria City Council regarding sewerage, electricity and water accounts had been received. The total amount owing was R3,5 million.

“Following the announcement by the TPA that bridging finance would no longer be made available to the Council, it was agreed between the Council and the Mamelodi Peoples’ Delegation that arrears accumulated up to June 1990 would be frozen on the proviso that current accounts from July 1990 were paid promptly.

“As matters stand, the Council would be left with no choice but to take drastic steps against people who failed to honour that arrangement.”
Civic groups to act against white councils

CIVIC organizations of eight Transvaal townships hit by power and water cuts are to form a coordinated strategy to pressure white local authorities to address their problems.

This was confirmed yesterday by the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal assistant general secretary Mr Cas Coovadia.

He said a meeting would be held in Johannesburg tomorrow to formulate such a strategy, between Cast, the Toekomsrus Crisis Committee, the Atteridgeville Residents Association, and the civic associations of Tokoza, Vosloorus, Juibrerton, Soweto and Khuma.

Service cuts, as well as attitudes of white municipalities, would be discussed but he stressed that Cast was "definitely still prepared to talk to the local authorities and the Transvaal Provincial Administration."

He said negotiations between Cast and the TPA about the reconnection of services to townships were, in principle, still on track.

"The TPA said they would send us a few dates for meetings in February. We are waiting for these dates," Coovadia added.

According to Cast general secretary Mr Sam Nthlhe there was a strong possibility that residents of affected townships might withdraw their accounts from banks and embark on bond boycotts.

He said residents were currently discussing this option but a final decision in this regard would be taken at tomorrow's meeting.

Nthlhe's family members were injured late on Saturday night when assailants lobbed two hand grenades into his Tokoza home. - Sapa
Council threatens to cut electricity to townships

Pretoria Correspondent

The Pretoria City Council has announced it will cut the bulk supply of electricity to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi on Monday if satisfactory arrangements for payment of their arrear accounts are not made before that day.

This comes after the council had said contracts for bulk supplies would be cancelled if payment on arrear accounts was not made before January 25.

The council said in a statement yesterday that its arrangement with the two councils was clearly that the contracts could be terminated without any further notice in the event of non-payment.

Atteridgeville’s electricity and water accounts were now two months in arrears to the amount of R1.2 million and R821,200. The town’s sewerage account of R51,123 represented arrears of three months.

On January 25, Mamelodi paid R500,000 of its R21 million electricity account and on February 4 paid R488,493 of its water account of R945,981.

The council said the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation’s agreement to pay R50 per household, between R60 and R100 per business, and R15 per hostel resident a month to the Atteridgeville City Council in future, was “unsatisfactory”.

This would bring in capital of only R800,000 a month — too small to pay Atteridgeville’s expenditures, which did not include electricity costs of R697,382 a month.
Townships could lose power

THE Pretoria City Council yesterday said electricity supplies to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi would be cut off at 6am on Monday because the townships owed it about R3 million.

Management committee chairman Mr James Leach said in a statement yesterday that the townships' councils were supposed to pay their arrears by January 25.

He said that Atteridgeville is two months in arrears, owing R1.8 million. Mamelodi paid nearly R1 million on January 25, but owes almost another million rand.

Mamelodi town clerk Mr JP Nel said in a statement yesterday that drastic action was going to be taken against rent defaulters.

"I appeal to residents to come forward and pay their rent and avoid a possible power cut by the city council of Pretoria, which has already notified us that the amount we owe could lead to such an action at any time," Nel said.

Atteridgeville acting town clerk Mr Daan Mouton made a similar appeal and urged residents to start paying the mostly interim flat rate of R50 a house.

Electricity supplies to both townships were cut last September following a rent boycott in those areas.

After intensive negotiations between the local civic bodies and the authorities, the boycott was called off.
Talks on nonracial municipality

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has invited neighbouring white municipalities to a summit later this month to discuss setting up a nonracial municipality and nonracial services.

The summit would also deal with creating a single tax base, assistance towards restructuring and reconstructing Alexandra, and land availability, an ACO statement said.

The municipalities of Johannesburg, Sandton and Randburg, and three Sandton members of parliament are among those invited to the summit.
CONFRONTATION in Reigerpark is looming after the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Dame Hough, decided unilaterally to install a management committee in the township.

Mr Moses Mayekiso, president of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast), said, "The limited powers of these management committees and their inability to resolve crucial issues such as housing have for years frustrated the residents."

"They are therefore called upon to heed the community's demand for one town, one town council and withdraw from participating in this structure," he said.

Cast would support the Save Boksburg Committee and the Vosloorus Civic Association in their campaign to establish a fully representative and single town council in Boksburg, Mayekiso said.
Boycott Chao Ming

Talks falter and black township isights go out
Tembisa plans a mass protest

TEMBISA mayor Mr Solomon More has invited the ANC and PAC to a Press conference tomorrow as the township's residents prepare to demonstrate against the local council.

More called the conference to deal with issues relating to the four-year-old rent boycott in the township.

The residents instead resolved at a meeting to stage a placard demonstration outside the council offices to highlight their demand that all councillors in the township should resign.

Resign

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Tembisa Residents Association said they would spurn the conference and intensify their campaign to force councillors to resign.

"The invitation to the conference (by the mayor) was viewed as a sly and desperate ploy by the mayor and his council to avoid a strong call made by the community on them to resign," it said.

"Residents will demonstrate with placards around the township on the day of the Press conference," the statement added - Sapa.
Why the Civics Are Angry
TPA man walks out, 11 arrested

A MEETING of the Vosloorus branch of the ANC and the Transvaal Provincial Administration ended in a walk-out by a TPA representative, and the temporary arrest of 11 ANC members on Wednesday night.

The 11 were allegedly arrested after staging a sit-in in protest against a walk-out by Mr Tom Botha, a local representative of the TPA. Source: Sapa.

They were taken to a local police station in police vehicles where they were warned and released.

The ANC delegation had tabled a proposal that the TPA should reconnect the power supply in the township - Sapa.
Squatting no solution – TPA

By SOPHIE TEMBA

PEOPLE who spearhead campaigns to occupy unused land to accommodate the homeless have been strongly criticised by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) MEC for Housing and Community Development, John Mavuso, in a statement issued this week. "I deplore the irresponsible call by the Masakhane organisation for people to squat on any open land Masakhane is meaning black people for its own short-sighted political purposes. "The group is calling on homeless people to stay on bare, uncultivated land which will not be of use to anybody, but can only create health hazards and unnecessary harassments. "Orderly urbanisation requires suitable land to be identified for residential purposes, and properly laid-out townships with schools, shops and other basic facilities. "Therefore it is a priority of the TPA to identify land and provide serviced stands for informal housing, which is upgradable. "People squatting on open land should remember they will not settle there permanently."
A conference called by the Tembisa mayor to find a solution to the township’s R7 million electricity debt failed dismally on Saturday, with only 50 people attending.

Mayor Solomon More earlier this week invited political and community organisations to attend the conference in an effort to resolve the four-year-old services boycott.

He also planned to set up a special committee to represent Tembisa residents at the negotiating forum established by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The meeting’s failure follows a call by the Tembisa ANC branch for the boycott of the conference.

An urgent ANC meeting on Thursday, attended by the PAC, Cosatu, women and youth organisations, rejected Mr. More’s invitation and reiterated the communities’ rejection of black local authorities.

Residents will settle for nothing less than non-racial and democratic local government structures,” he said.

Motshokga said residents had seen through present manoeuvres by town councils backed by the TPA to amend or reform apartheid structures rather than dismantling them completely.

At the previous meeting between the mayor and the Tembisa Residents’ Organisation had ended in deadlock, More was clearly trying to undermine the residents’ organisation, he claimed.

The ANC believed the conference was the first step in the implementation of the Thornhill Commission of Inquiry report, which was endorsed by Parliament.

The commission was to investigate a uniform system of local government for a new South Africa.

Mr. Justice Chris Thornhill’s commission recommended the setting up of a local government negotiation forum comprised of the TPA, Eskom, Water Boards, town councils, political and community organisations.

The object of these negotiations would be to establish local authorities in various parts of the country.

“This approach is calculated to fragment the right of the people as a whole to decide future forms of local government and to endorse the government’s idea of “own” community life, which would entrench apartheid in new forms at local level,” said Motshokga.

“The government will use these forums for consultation with the community to lend credibility to its efforts to amend apartheid,” he said.

Sapa
Services rate proposal rejected

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration on Saturday rejected a proposed flat services rate for Atteridgeville.

In a statement released in Pretoria, the TPA said the proposal was neither workable nor in the interests of Atteridgeville residents.

It urged Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson and the Atteridgeville/Sealsville Residents Association to renegotiate, saying the suggested R50 monthly rate per household would not be enough to cover the costs of services rendered.

If this rate was paid, the council's income would only be R750 000 per month, whereas at least R2.8 million is needed each month to run the town, the TPA said.

A deficit of R1.3 million per month would therefore accumulate over water, electricity and sewerage services alone.

SABC radio news reports that the council currently owes R2.16 million to the Pretoria city council because of non-payment by consumers.

The TPA added that it had no say in the proposal, which also stipulated amnesty for arrears.

In addition, it argued that much confusion would result amongst residents if they paid the agreed rates under the impression that it was sufficient to pay for the costs of services - Sapa.
Local authorities urged to link up

WHITE local authorities have been urged to use their expertise to assist black townships in the period leading up to a new dispensation for local government.

Mr Dane Hough, Administrator of the Transvaal, said at a conference of representatives of white local management yesterday that it was already known that the system of local government was definitely going to change after negotiations.

He urged local authorities in the Transvaal to co-operate on a voluntary basis with their black counterparts.

The conference was held to address the country’s interests at local government level as well as those of the participating communities.

A request was made during the conference that methods be found to establish a system of joint administration for adjacent government local bodies.

It was the Transvaal Provincial Administration’s aim that the different adjacent local governments should assist and supplement each other in the interest of the wider community.

Hough said it was in everybody’s interest if the communities held discussions from now on and began co-operating on a voluntary basis.

“Because black local governments are experiencing problems, not only political problems but also institutional and financial one, it is essential that we look into the possibility of sharing experienced staff,”

White local authorities have the experience and expertise acquired over decades, and therefore it will be to everybody’s advantage if this expertise could be shared.

Efficiency may then improve, Hough said.
Black councils are in the red

LOCAL authorities around the country are in chaos. In his annual report to Parliament, the Auditor-General, Mr RP Wonsley, reports losses of hundreds of millions of rand in rent and services arrears as well as in financial planning and budgeting.

(266) Rates of revenue are not adjusted regularly.
Black councils are in the red

In his annual report to Parliament, the Auditor-General, Mr RP Wronsley, reports losses of hundreds of millions of rands in rent and services arrears as well as in financial planning and budgeting.

"Rates of revenue are not adjusted regularly. Many charges are too low and trading services are running at a loss," he said.

In some cases local authorities run services at losses, "which escalate alarmingly every year," Wronsley said.

He referred specifically to the Daveyton Council where the public bus service is being operated at a huge loss.

In 1988/87, the loss in Daveyton was R1,471,824. By 1988/89 it was R3,647,340.

Hundreds of millions of rands are outstanding in rent and service charges for black townships too.

Wronsley reports that in Soweto alone more than R2,554-million in rent and service charges had been outstanding for longer than 30 days by June 1989.

"There is a widespread refusal on the part of residents to pay for services whilst recovery actions, when attempted, fail.

"At 30 June 1989 millions of rands were overdue for long periods and the prospects of"
Tenants queue to pay as rent boycott ends

By MONK NKOMO

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents flocked in large numbers to the local municipal offices yesterday to pay rent for the first time since the rent boycott started last April.

Scores of people paid the interim basic service charge of R50 a month a house reflected on the February accounts which were delivered to residents on Wednesday.

Local town clerk, Mr Daan Mouton, said a large number of people reported at the offices in the morning to pay rent.

The positive response followed threats by the Pretoria City Council that power supplies would be cut unless the Atteridgeville Council paid the outstanding sum of R123 000 for electricity only - by today.

Administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, said he was optimistic they would raise the amount and avoid the power cuts.

Jacobson added that they owed the Pretoria City Council R1,2 million for bulk services supplied.

He appealed to residents to try and pay their arrears as from October last year.

The boycott ended last month after all Atteridgeville's councillors resigned.

The Administrator and the Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents Organisation signed an agreement in which residents were requested to pay an interim flat rate of R50 a month.

This agreement was, however, rejected by the Transvaal Provincial Administration which submitted that the rates were far too low to run the township.

Jacobson said yesterday he would hold a meeting with Aso officials next Tuesday to determine a long-term financial arrangement.

Meanwhile, Mouton said the municipal offices would be opened until 7pm during the week and until noon on Saturdays to allow consumers to pay their service charges.
By WALLY MBELE

ON Monday Jabulani Phembi from Klooftownship-
ning the East Rand. He missed Nelson Man-
on his release because his television
had become an ornament in his lounge.

Phembi, who lives in a posh four-
roomed house in the elite section of Rock-
ville, recently bought a hi-fi stereo system, but
it too is useless in the blackout. So is his
fridge that he used to stock up with meat for
the family for the month.

Phembi puts a brave face on the changes
in lifestyle that have been necessitated by
the shut-off. "It's worth it and is part of the
struggle," he says. "As long as the Trans-
vaal Provincial Administration (TPA) refuses
to negotiate in good faith with the civic
association, we would rather remain with-
oout electricity forever."

Talks between the Vosloorus Civic Asso-
ciation (VCA) and the TPA deadlocked last
year, with the civic offering to pay a flat rate
of R50 a month, while the TPA stuck to R60.

A VCA spokesman, Keith Mortiss, says
they do not regard talks as having col-
apsed and are prepared to continue nego-
tiations. He says a letter was written to the
Vosloorus council this week advising it to
negotiate or face united mass action. Several

Business in the township, where electricity
was cut off two weeks ago, has been
brought to a standstill. The most common
items on sale in the shops are candles and
paraffin. Residents used to the luxury of
modern stoves are back to pumping Primus
stoves for cooking and boiling water, taking
them back to the old days of "dark cities." All
Residents say they go to bed as early as
9.30 pm, waking early in the morning to boil
water for bathing.

There are still those who try to keep the
spirit of the boycott burning with slogans
such as "Forward with the Primus stove, Prima-
bus!" (Forward with the Primaus stove).

At Zandt's Tavern, which usually sparkles
with music, it's very quiet, says Poe, who is facing
a financial ruin. "Entertaining people is impor-
tant to me and to the people who spend
their free time here. Many must be
missing this place and I feel very sad when I
think of what this has done to them.

Many shopkeepers and businessmen had
electricity disconnected from their shops de-
spite the fact that they were paying for their
business services. Angry bottle store and sup-
emarket owner TH Thulwa is one of
these. "This thing is going to kill our busi-
ness," he said. "We have lost R0-3-000 in
food that went rotten in the fridges."

Thulwa says he can no longer make the
fish and chips which attracted pupils of the
nearby Dithomo and Ndhong schools.

When it became dark, it was difficult to
make notes so I had to leave the township.

Thumbe offered a candle and said: "With
this faint light, we are going to win at the
We won't quit, say defiant councillors

THE three Greater Soweto councils told the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) yesterday that they would not be intimidated into resigning.

During a press conference at Soweto City Council chambers, Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville councillors said they would stay in office until a new form of local government was introduced.

At the conference, chaired jointly by mayors Julius Khumalo (Diepmeadow), Oscar Maseko (Soweto) and MacFarlane Phenethi (Dobsonville), a statement bearing the slogan "Enough is enough — An injury to one councillor is an injury to all" was read.

Half the Transvaal's 600 black councillors have resigned since last February.

Khumalo said: "We are tired of threats and calls to resign by organisations which are not democratically elected."

"We call upon all councillors in SA to stand up and be made themselves heard," he said.

The councillors also announced the formation of a three-man Greater Soweto Council Committee (GSCC) to be made up by Khumalo, Maseko and Phenethi.

CAST general secretary Sam Ntuli said his organisation would meet today to discuss the councillors' statement.
Mayors will not bow to pressure to resign

By SOPHIE TEMSA

MAYORS of the three councils in Greater Soweto will not bow to pressure from liberation movements and relinquish their positions.

The three mayors of Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville this week said they had taken a firm stand against calls by the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) for them to resign.

The mayors — Oscar Maseko, Moses Khumalo and McFarlane Phuleni — met at the Soweto City Council chambers and called on all councillors to make their voices heard.

Amidst chants of “enough is enough” members of the three councils said they were elected representatives of their communities and were tired of threats and calls for them to resign by organisations which were not democratically elected.

In a joint statement the councillors said: “We have had enough. We, all representatives powerful civic parties with large followings, namely the Soweto Democratic Party, the Diepsloot and Meadowlands People’s Party and the Dobsonville People’s Party, say: “It is time people realised we are here to stay until the next democratic election and we owe this to our constituencies. We have made this stand quite clear on various occasions in the past.

“We are part of the oppressed but we have the guis to join a system to change it from within.”
Showdown looms over rent arrears

TRADERS and the three Greater Soweto councils are heading for a showdown.

The traders have vowed to put a list of grievances against the council at a report-back meeting to be held at the Jabulani Standard Bank Hall in Soweto on Wednesday.

The businessmen claim they have continued to receive bills amounting to thousands of rands for rent arrears from the council.

This is despite the Greater Soweto Accord in which all rent and services charges amounting to more than R516 million dating back to 1986 were written off.

**Claim**

They claim they have been harassed by the authorities, who cut off their electricity without notification, their refuse not collected regularly, street lighting is not maintained and meters are not read satisfactorily.

However, the three boycotts, they supported the protest action.

He contends that the civic associations have urged them to refrain from involving themselves into the private arrangements with the councils regarding payments of arrears.

All the letters of demand and summonses should be forwarded to them to take appropriate action.

The president of the Soweto Civic Association, Mr Isaac Mogase, says the businessmen are definitely included in the accord.

"There is no reason to exclude them. Churches, schools and charitable organisations are also included."

"There are some discrepancies brought about by the councillors, by demanding huge sums of money from certain individuals. This is definitely incorrect."

There is speculation that the traders will decide to send a delegation to meet the three councils.
More calls for mass action

THE Pinetown branch of the Soweto Civic Association at the weekend called for the intensification of mass action to force councillors to resign.

The call came after a 10-man Pinetown delegation was allegedly snubbed by Soweto town councillors on Saturday.

According to the deputy president of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal, Mr Kgabi Mothunthusa, the delegation had arranged to meet councillors at Pinelands council offices on Saturday morning.

They were to receive a response on their calls for the councillors to resign.

The councillors did not turn up and instead allegedly sent a junior council official and 20 policemen to present a statement to the delegation, warning them of their refusal to step down.

This official said councillors, including Soweto mayor Mr Oscar Maseko, were unable to attend the meeting.

SCA members later claimed to have seen Maseko slip out of the council offices shortly after the delegation had left.

Maseko could not be reached for comment - Sapa.
Local government groups join forces

SA's leading black local government organisations are to amalgamate to form a "formidable force" against intimidation headed by the UDF-aligned Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast).

United Municipalities of SA (Umisa) president Henock Ngakane said his organisation and the Urban Councils of SA (Ucasa) would have a stronger voice against Cast, which has been campaigning for the resignation of black councillors.

"The two organisations will meet on March 9 to decide on a date for amalgamation. Umisa wanted a mandate from its membership for an alliance with Ucasa, but instead received an urgent appeal for full amalgamation with them," Ngakane said.

"The amalgamation will be of benefit to both organisations because we will also have a stronger voice when talking to government and the TPA," he said.

Ucasa national organiser and Alexandra mayor Prince Mokoena said "With the new dispensation coming, we need to speak with one voice."

"When we go into the stage of one local government for all, we need to go as one.

"They don't have to contend with, and have never been asked to resign as we have," he said.

Cast vice-president Kgabisitso Mosimane said the amalgamation of the organisations was "of no importance to the liberation of our people."

"The only importance is that their grouping together will make it easier for us to remove them - we'll need to identify only one organisation."

"But what they are doing clearly points to a collusion between the government, the TPA and the councillors (Transvaal)Administrator, Dane Hough has already called on councillors to organise themselves," he said.
More pressure on councillors

A NATIONAL civic association will be formed soon to force black councillors countrywide to resign.

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) will play a key role in forming the body.

Cast has, so far, targeted councillors in the southern and western Transvaal.

Cast president Moses Mayekiso said the body would be formed in the "very near future". Plans for its formation were at an advanced stage.

"The fact that Cast will play a key role in that formation is an indication of how successful our campaign against black councillors in the western and southern Transvaal has been," he said.

About 41% of black councillors in these regions had resigned since Cast started campaigning for the disbanding of black local authorities last September.

"Out of 311 black councillors about 127 have resigned," Cast assistant general secretary Cas Coovada said.

Mayekiso expressed satisfaction with the resignations, saying "they show how successful our campaign has been, considering that Cast was launched only four months ago".

However, the resignations were not the only yardstick of the campaign's success.

"The realisation by both the government and white local authorities that Cast is existing and cannot be wished away, the sign of insecurity on the part of councillors who refuse to resign and the fact that Cast has been able to mobilise people regardless of their political affiliations are all indications of our campaign's success."

"But the campaign is not over yet. It will continue until all black local authorities collapse," Mayekiso said.

"The ultimate goal is to have non-racial local authorities. But until those structures are put into place, we demand that the appointment of administrators to collapsed councils should not be unilateral."

"The TPA should negotiate such appointments with the civic associations concerned," he added.
Council tells businesses to pay up

By ALI MPHAKI

THE Soweto Council would not back down on its insistence that local businessmen must pay their rent and services charges arrears, chairman of the executive committee, Mr Mbutana Tshabalala, said yesterday.

Tshabalala said as far as the Soweto Accord was concerned, only residents were exonerated from paying their arrears, which amounted to R516 million.

The arrears were subsequently written off.

Boycott

The Soweto Accord was signed on September 24 last year after arduous negotiations between the three Greater Soweto councils, the Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD) and the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The Accord brought to an end the three-year-old rent and services boycott in Soweto.

Tshabalala said the council was sympathetic towards people who suffered cash-flow problems. He said, however, that this was not an excuse for them not to pay their accounts.

Accord

“The Soweto Accord is a public document and is there for everyone to read. There is definitely no mention of businesses, churches, schools and charitable organisations,” Tshabalala said.

However, the president of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce, Mr Philemon Makhetha, was reported as saying that businesses were included in the accord.
Soweto businesses vow not to pay services 'backlog'

DEFIANT Soweto businessmen have vowed not to pay the millions the Soweto City Council alleges they owe in rent and service charges arrears.

A meeting of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce (GSCC) resolved yesterday that businessmen were part of the Greater Soweto Accord which last September wrote off R146m rent debt accumulated over a five-year boycott.

Soweto Civic Association (SCA) chairman Isaac Mogase yesterday told the meeting that businessmen should take all summonses received for non-payment to the civic's offices where lawyers would deal with them.

Mogase, a member of the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), was a signatory to the accord together with the mayors of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepkloof and the TFA.

The council this week called on businessmen to pay arrears dating back to 1986, alleging the accord did not cover businesses, churches, schools and charitable organisations.

Soweto City Council Exco chairman Payne Thabhalala said in a statement "Right from the beginning we communicated to all businesses that they have to pay their accounts."

Thabhalala invited businessmen who had problems to consult the Greater Soweto Council Committee, which comprises the mayors of the three townships.

A large number of the businessmen at yesterday's meeting brought forward summonses claiming amounts ranging between R1 000 and R2 000.

GSCC president Philimon Maketha said "Some summonses I have seen ask for as much as R10 000. This is a clear indication the councillors are overturning the accord."

Mogase urged businessmen "Bring all the summonses to the SCA offices. We have a technical committee, which includes lawyers. Do not be frightened into signing acknowledgements and undertakings."

"The councillors have shown dishonesty in that after the accord has been signed, they have a third agenda. Why did they not point out that it excluded business people?"

He urged the businessmen not to go to their own lawyers as such a move would weaken their case.
Residents will not pay councillors, govt pledges

BLACK councillors would not be paid by township residents. Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel told the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) this week.

After a two-hour meeting with Cast on Tuesday, Kriel said a specific account would be created for services such as water, sewage, refuse removal and electricity.

"The allowances of councillors will not be paid out of this account. Government will undertake to use the present bridging finance system to cover these costs," he said.

Cast president Moses Mayekiso welcomed the creation of the "specific" account.

In another development, the Alexandra Civic Organisation, the Transvaal

Jews ‘might p

TANIA

ISRAEL should not underrate paying for its so-called "admirable conflict," Soviet Jewry camp said in a statement released last week.

After the war, Israel might be in a position to negotiate with concessions that could lead to peace, the statement said.
DEFIANT Soweto businessmen have vowed not to pay the millions the Soweto City Council alleges they owe in rent and service charges arrears.

A meeting of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce (GSCC) resolved yesterday that businessmen were part of the Greater Soweto Accord which last September wrote off R1.8bn rent debt accumulated over five-year boycott.

Soweto Civic Association (SCA) chairman Isaac Mogase yesterday called the meeting that businessmen should take all summonses received for non-payment to the civic’s offices where lawyers would deal with them.

Mogase, as a member of the Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD), was a signatory to the accord together with the mayors of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmead and the TPA.

The council this week called on businessmen to pay arrears dating back to 1986, alleging the accord did not cover businesses, churches, schools and charitable organisations.

Soweto City Council chief executive officer Payne Tshabalala said in a statement: “Right from the beginning we communicated to all businesses that they have to pay their accounts.”

Tshabalala invited businessmen who had problems to consult the Greater Soweto Council Committee, which comprises the mayors of the three townships.

A large number of the businessmen at yesterday’s meeting brought forward summonses claiming amounts ranging between R1,000 and R2,000.

Mogase urged businessmen “Bring all the summonses to the SCA offices. We have a technical committee which includes lawyers. Do not be frightened into signing acknowledgements and undertakings.”

“The councillors have shown dishonesty in that after the accord has been signed, they have a third agenda. Why did they not point out that it excluded business people?”

He urged the businessmen not to go to their own lawyers as such a move would weaken their case.
Verkrampte dorp myth destroyed
Tourism needs a brush-up

TRAVEL and tourism businesses in the northern Transvaal will have to tailor their marketing activities to suit the recession-hit pockets of SA spenders.

Pretoria town secretary and Noordtouër chief Tom van der Hoven says a lack of experience and expertise in the industry needs to be addressed so the region can be effectively marketed.

To this end, Noordtouër — the region's official marketing organisation run as a joint project between the local authority and the private sector — has appointed a private consultancy firm to devise a strategy aimed at maximising the region's tourism and travel potential and raising the level of expertise in the industry.

Noordtouër was set up in the '80s and controlled initially by local authorities.

The '70s and '80s saw an increase in private sector members who wanted to promote the area's tourism assets, Van der Hoven says. "We needed the services of a consultant because most of the people running Noordtouër are from a local government background and do not have any experience in the commercial side of the tourism and travel industry."

"Hopefully, this strategy will help educate local people in the trade," he says.

Thus year, Noordtouër is taking part in the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism’s Indaba/Focus exposition in Cape Town and will also launch an awareness campaign throughout shopping centres in the PWV.
‘Toothless’
council a bone
of contention

L
AZY, a farce, a one-party state, a toothless chihuahua as how the Johannes-
burg City Council and its 51 councillors have been la-
belled by two fed-up city coun-
cillors who have resigned "in
disgust".
Former National Party coun-
cillor Cecil Long (Ward 45/Ro-
bertsham) labelled the city
council a farce and Hans Stry-
dom (Ward 2/Northcliff), who
left the Democratic Party last
year, repeated his submission
that councillors were nothing
but "toothless chihuahuas" with
no meaningful powers.
Johannesburg Metropolitan
Action Group (Jomag) secre-
tary Conrad Berge feels that the
alliance between the NP and
DP has resulted in Johan-
nesburg being run along the
lines of a one-party state.
Actstop spokesman Mo-
hammed Danger this week re-
peated the call for all white
councillors to resign.
"We question the legitimacy
of the Johannesburg City Coun-
cil as it was elected on the
basis of racially segregated
areas. As the Group Areas Act
is going to be repealed, there is
a legal question as to their con-
tinued existence."
Mr Danger said a constituent
assembly should be established
at local government level.
Johannesburg management
committee chairman Ian Da-
vidson accused Mr Long of
being a "bitter old man" who
resented the fact that he was no
longer part of the management
committee and said Mr Stry-
dom was still angry at not re-
ceiving the Midrand nomina-
tion for the 1989 general elec-
tion.
Mr Davidson believes that
now, more than ever, the city
council has a role.
"In terms of legislation the
Government is preparing to put
before Parliament, the role of
the council is enhanced.
"Councillors are going to be de-
fining the nature and role they
will play in future government
structures — this is what the
metropolitan chamber is going
to be all about. Local govern-
ment will dictate the pace."
Mr Long said. "The whole
thing has become farcical — a
complete shambles. If anyone
tells me this city is better-run
now than a year ago, I will
refer them to a psychologist."
"The management of the city
is non-existent, people are
there for themselves, not the
voters."

Survive

Mr Long said this was be-
cause councillors would not
have to face their electorate
again as there would not be an-
other whites-only municipal
election.
Johannesburg city secretary
Howard Veale yesterday
fused to give The Star details of
the attendance records of coun-
cillors at monthly city council
meetings and at section 60
committees that they were re-
quired to serve on.
Mr Long said some council-
ors had not the faintest idea,
even after 28 months in office,
of how the city was run.
Mr Strydom agreed. "Coun-
cillors today are just trying to
survive their term of office —
they don’t look to the future.
We have an ad hoc kind of ad-
ministration in Johannesburg.
"One of the reasons for the
formation of the Johannesburg
Village Council was for the or-
ganised removal of manure
from the streets. We are still
busy with it in a symbolic
sense.
Mr Strydom believes that in
terms of developments in South
Africa, city and town councils
have become irrelevant.
"Every single step has to be
approved by central Govern-
ment in some way or another."
Mr Davidson said one of the
reasons nothing much appeared
to get done in council was be-
cause work was now done in
committees.
"The nature of the council
has changed. There was great
interest in council meetings in
the past when there were slanging matches between
councillors.
"This is no longer a political
council — the magnet is no
longer there.
He said poor attendance by
some councillors at the monthly
meetings did not mean they
were not hard-working.
"I recognise that councillors,
if they are worth their salt, are
professionals. I don’t want
quantity representation, I want
quality representation."
He said the working relation-
ship between the DP and the
NP had introduced stable gov-
ernment into Johannesburg.
Mr Davidson acknowledged
that certain powers which the
Government and the province
had over the city were unac-
teptable. "Johannesburg should
be given back to its people."
It was wrong to opt out now
when the council was busy
making its mark — one had to
increase the pressure, especial-
ly when the Government was
disguisedly talking about a devolu-
tion of power, he added. □
about overseas trips by councillors. He was told the cost of Mr. Davidson’s trip to Europe, which he had undertaken with five other people, was R126 433. And R41 136 had been spent on a trip to South America by Marietta Marx and her entourage.

The cost of Paul Asherson’s trip to the Far East was provisionally estimated to be R80 000, he was told. Councillor Eddie Venter’s trip to Europe, which was related to civil-defence matters, cost ratepayers R83 700.

Mr. Strydom also asked, “Has Councillor (Cecil) Bass’s proposed trip to Moscow in 1991 been finally cancelled, or will it be reconsidered at some stage?”

The response was, “Neither the management committee nor the council has authorized Councillor Bass to proceed to Moscow at the council’s expense.”

**Backed off**

Mr. Long believes the DP-NP coalition “took fright” and backed off if we had not protested vigorously the trip to Moscow. This might have been taken place.

Mr. Strydom was also told that last year some 26 city officials had gone on overseas trips, which cost the council more than R400 000.

With the R332 670 spent on travel by councillors, it brings to R741 942 the amount spent by the Johannesburg City Council last year on overseas trips.

Defending the overseas travel. Mr. Long, says “there are things which have saved Johannesburg R5 million a year, which...”

Mr. Davidson retains his position.

“One agrees councillors do a lot of work and deserve the R2 000 a month they are receiving now, but Van Blerk’s pay has been backdated to April 1989. Apparently there is a move to buy his silence and hope that he will be involved in no more controversy. But why backdate his payment to April 1989?”

“That means he is carrying a cheque for R44 600 in his pocket for doing nothing. A chip like Van Blerk should be penalised, not rewarded.”

No pay

Mr. Davidson disagrees. “Jan. van Blerk is chairman of the town-planning tribunal and he’s a full-time job. He’s done it since 1986 for no pay, and the backdated pay is a small token of thanks for a man doing a great job.”

The council has agreed that he must now be paid a salary.

Mr. Strydom says there is still a place of honour in politics, but: “What credit is there for politicians in the eyes of the public if the DP does exactly the same things for which it took the Nationalists?”

Mr. Long feels the city has become “shabby and dilapidated” under the new management, and says unweeded pavements and hawking on city streets are a serious problem.

Mr. Davidson points out that the council’s policy on hawking was approved by the management committee on which Mr. Long served.

Mr. Strydom says councillors are “toothless chihuahuas” and Johannesburg councillors should be “going less to London and Europe and more to Cape Town to demand from the State President more powers for councillors.”
Non-racial local govt chamber delayed

Municipal Reporter

A Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman said a new date was still being sought after requests from civic associations that the March 6 ceremony be postponed.

He said the delay would not affect the progress of the chamber's task teams which were already investigating the transfer of housing stock and affordable tariffs for services.

Cas Coovadia, spokesman for the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal, said Johannesburg civics were not against such a chamber, but were not completely happy with the constitution.

The Soweto civics have already accepted the chamber in principle.

The chamber's main task will be to negotiate the formation of a new democratic, non-racial system of local government for South Africa.
Claims that the city of Johannesburg was mismanaged and that councillors had no real powers have been dismissed as "nonsense" by Johannesburg's longest-serving councillor, independent Eddy Magid. He was responding to claims by two councillors who recently announced their resignations from council, Hans Strydom and Cecil Long. The issue is expected to provoke heated debate during the council meeting tomorrow.

"Never before has there been a greater challenge to city councillors to prepare themselves for the devolution of power," he said.
Multiracial venture wins support

By Anna Louw
East Rand Bureau

There was widespread support in Germiston City Council last night for future joint administration and co-operation between the council and the council of Katlehong township.

A heated debate over the possibility of a merger between the two councils left 16 National Party councillors and two Independents voting in favour of an amendment that the future cooperation between the two councils be dealt with in an urgent report of the management committee.

Five Conservative Party councillors and an Independent voted against the amendment.

The debate was sparked off by a motion forwarded by John Oxley, an Independent, that a development fund be established to upgrade Katlehong and the Asiatic Bazaar.

Mr Oxley discussed various aspects of raising capital to uplift the two areas and said every effort should be made when drawing up the new budget to reduce and conserve cash resources. Savings should be channelled into the upgrading programme, he said.

Conservative party councillor and Volkstaat supporter Jackie Nel said the problem was that Germiston was a first world situation and Katlehong a third world. He said Germiston had higher standards and the difference between the two was the "level of civilization".

He said it was unacceptable to draw funds from the white pool. "Why don't they (the residents of Katlehong) sell off their assets? Why should we sell ours to help them, which will deprive whites who have dutifully paid their rates and taxes?"

"If residents of Katlehong refuse to pay for their services as well as their rent, why should the whites be held responsible?"

Mr Nel agreed that Katlehong was "a sore point" and that something should be done about the poor living conditions.

Ray Hofmeester (Independent), said "instead of holding out their hands, they must learn to help themselves."

Mario Velli (CP), said "look what happened in Rhodesia - the Lancaster agreement is not worth the paper it was written on. Do you think Mandela and company will be any different?"

The chairman of the management committee, Leon Louw (NP), proposed the amendment to the motion.
Council wants more contact with Katlehong

By Anna Louw
East Rand Bureau

There was widespread support in the Germiston City Council last night for joint administration and co-operation with the town council of neighbouring Katlehong.

A merger between the two councils was heatedly discussed and 14 National Party councillors and two Independents voted that future co-operation between the councils should be dealt with urgently.

Five Conservative Party councillors and an Independent opposed the amendment.

The debate was sparked by a motion by John Oxley (Independent) that a development fund be established to upgrade Katlehong and the Asiab-C-Bazaar.

Conservative party councillor and Volksraad supporter Jackie Nel, while agreeing Katlehong living conditions had to be addressed, said Germiston had higher standards than "third world" Katlehong, and it was unacceptable to draw funds from the white pool while township residents refused to pay rent.
Soweto civic steps up campaign

The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) is to intensify the campaign against black councillors, step up occupation of vacant land by homeless people and embark on an anti-privatisation drive.

Outlining the resolutions of a three-day conference held in Soweto at the weekend, SCA general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday the "crush apartheid structures" campaign would start with a march to the office of the Soweto City Council on March 23.

"Realising that the existing local authorities are designed on an apartheid racism structure and do not serve the needs of the whole people, the SCA has resolved to intensify the campaign by isolating councillors' businesses, educating the community on local structures and electing campaign committees in all branches," Lephunya said.

The SCA would step up occupation of unused land by homeless people to put pressure on government and "conglomerates to speed up their housing schemes.

The SCA realised that government was adamant on privatising hospitals, schools, municipal services, post offices, railways and electricity which would leave the economy in the hands of a few.

"The SCA will embark on an anti-privatisation drive which will start with a signature campaign.

"Branches will be mobilised to adopt and run their essential services," said Lephunya.

The SCA would convene an anti-crime conference within six weeks and defence committees would be established in all SCA areas to prevent vandalism of schools and other property.

Lephunya said the SCA endorsed the back-to-school campaign led by the Soweto Education Coordinating Committee (SECC) and would make this education organisation an associate member of the SCA.
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

27 FEBRUARY 1991

200

THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

1991

27 FEBRUARY 1991

200
GERMISTON City Council members voted overwhelmingly in favour of a joint administration and co-operation with its Katlehong township counterpart.

After a heated debate, 16 National Party councillors and two independents voted in favour of an amendment that future co-operation be dealt with in an urgent report of the management committee.

Five Conservative Party councillors and an independent voted against the amendment.

The debate was sparked off by a motion by Mr John Oxley, an independent, that a development fund be established to upgrade Katlehong and the Asiata Bazaar.

Oxley said every effort should be made when drawing up the new budget to reduce costs and conserve cash resources and that savings should be channelled into the upgrading programme.

CP councillor and Volkstaat supporter, Mr Jack Nel, said Germiston was a "First World" situation and Katlehong "Third world".

Germiston had higher standards and the difference between the two was the "level of civilisation", he said.

Nel said it was unacceptable to draw funds from whites.

"If residents of Katlehong refuse to pay for their services as well as their rent, why should the whites be held responsible?"

He agreed that Katlehong was "a sore point" and that something should be done about the poor living conditions.

Mr Henrie van Zyl (NP) said their biggest problem of all was the fact that the "blacks had not received an education" for which whites were to blame.

"Learn!

Mr Ray Hofmaster (Ind) said "instead of holding out their hands, they must learn to help themselves."

The chairman of the management committee, Leon Louw (NP), proposed the amendment to the motion.

After the meeting he said Germiston had the knowledge and expertise which it had been sharing with Katlehong people who are struggling.

In an earlier debate about a strategy for the future of the city, Nel said his "volk" would be overwhelmed by the greater Azania.

Louw said the crux of the issue was joint administration and joint co-operation for Germiston and Katlehong.

"It is a pity that some of the councillors on the right are jumping on the political bandwagon, which appears to be a real "donkieswag". "I wonder."
Laws planned to cover open local government

PRETORIA — Draft legislation to provide for multi-racial metropolitan authorities was expected to be tabled in Parliament before the Easter recess, a spokesman in the office of Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday. This would ensure the legalisation of bodies such as the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber (CWMC) even before a new constitution was negotiated.

At meetings of the chamber so far 23 bodies have participated, including city and town councils, civic associations and provincial officials. The chamber will be formally established next week.

Deputy Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister J P Delport told the President's Council recently government was ready to take the initiative in introducing legislation enabling local authorities to enter into agreements with each other. In this way new structures would be created on a basis of "one city, one tax base".

A framework had to be created to provide for a joint rendering of services and the establishment of one administration.

Delport said two practical consequences of the proposed framework were that communities could negotiate the dissolution of management committees and direct representation for those areas on the council, and a metropolitan council could be established.

THÉO RAWANA reports the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) held talks with the Sandton and Midrand town councils over the establishment of a non-racial municipal structure and a single tax base for the area.

The meeting, which was meant to have included the Johannesburg and Modderfontein councils, had been requested by the ACO. An ACO spokesman said Modderfontein did not attend and Johannesburg sent an apology.

MPs criticise housing fund

HOUSE of Representatives MPs were aggrieved at the lack of use of the R2bn Independent Development Trust housing fund administered by Jan Steyn, Les Abrahams (LP Diamant) said yesterday.

Speaking during Second Reading debate on the Part Appropriation Bill, he said it was time the House invited Steyn to clarify how he planned to spend the funds. As a direct result of the ANC's call for a rent boycott, the housing revolving fund had been reduced by R160m since 1988.

By calling for the rent boycott, the ANC and its followers in the civics had contributed to the chronic housing shortage in the country.

"These false prophets must be exposed for what they are," he said.

Minister of the Budget in the House, Miley Richards, also said it was important that the House get access to the trust.

He said they noted with sadness that nothing had been done with the R2bn in the trust.

He said the future was "too ghastly to contemplate" if access to these funds was not granted — Sapa
Widespread boycott threatened

By Abel Mushu

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has threatened to call for large-scale blanket consumer boycotts of white-owned businesses in East Rand and Witwatersrand towns, including Johannesburg and Pretoria, if their problems are not addressed.

CAST assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said yesterday his organisation would decide on March 8 and 10 what action to take after their meeting with the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs.

Hermus Kriel last week had failed to yield results.

The Minister had been asked to help settle a rent services dispute with the TPA.

Meanwhile, a boycott is continuing in Klerksdorp in the Western Transvaal and organisers are claiming successes in Alberton, Germiston and Kempton Park on the East Rand.

Westvaal Chamber of Commerce spokesman Bobby Brady said yesterday that NP-controlled Klerksdorp was still the target of a consumer boycott, while that in nearby CP-controlled Orkney and Sifontein have been suspended.

Spokesman for the ANC-affiliated consumer boycott committee in the area, Howard Yawa, said yesterday they were to hold a meeting with the Klerksdorp Town Council last night to discuss the boycott.

The Klerksdorp Town Council switched off electricity and had Jouberton township’s water supply rationed from January 15 after residents embarked on a rent and services boycott.

The chairman of the East Rand Civic Association, Ali Cleane, told The Star yesterday that on February 5 his organisation called for a consumer boycott of all East Rand towns after the Alberton, Vosloorus, and Kempton Park councils had failed to reconnect electricity to Tokoza, parts of Vosloorus and Tembisa townships.

Although they did not succeed in other East Rand towns, Mr Cleane said the boycott was about 90 percent effective in Alberton, and 60 and 50 percent effective in Kempton Park and Germiston respectively.

However, president of the Kempton Park Chamber of Commerce Gavin Peterson said he was not aware there was a boycott.
Councillor's apartheid apology

Johannesburg National Party councillor Hein Kruger last night apologised to residents for the mistakes of apartheid and called on all groups to work together towards a solution to the city's problems.

At the city council's monthly meeting, Mr. Kruger repeated the words of Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Leon Wessels, who last week said in Parliament that apartheid had been a terrible 'mistake and he was sorry.

"I would like to associate myself fully with these words and sentiments. They are also appropriate in Johannesburg," Mr. Kruger said.

He was speaking during a debate on the draft constitution of the Metropolitan Chamber for the central Witwatersrand.

"We say to our fellow residents of greater Johannesburg," he said, "'Take our hands' and let us together build the future of our metropolis and not make the mistakes of the past that have caused so much pain and suffering."

"Over the past 40 years, the National Party has learnt important lessons, and we have become aware not to repeat them.

"He called on all political parties and citizens to work together to find solutions."

But he slammed Conservative Party council leader Jacques Theron for his "archaic way of thinking.

"Mr. Theron had asked how the council could associate itself with the murderers and arsonists who had burnt out and intimidated black councillors."

He warned the council to consider the implications of the Metropolitan Chamber's serious "Otherwise one will get a government of the self-appointed over the elected."

Mr. Kruger said Mr. Theron had no notion of the process of negotiation. "You want to go to Orana, and already you people are complaining you can't take your black domestics with you."

He said Mr. Theron sounded like a man from another world.
Alex bid to have arrears written off

RESIDENTS of Alexandra Township may be reprieved over rent arrears if an agreement reached between three groups yesterday is approved by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The Alexandra Civic Organisation, TPA and the Alexandra Council agreed to recommend to the Transvaal Administrator that rent arrears be written off.

Negotiations between the three parties were almost disrupted when more than 100 protesters stormed the council chambers demanding the immediate resignation of Alexandra mayor Mr Prince Mokoena and the four remaining councilors.

However, two ACO delegates, Mr Zondile Mayekiso and Mr Thomas Mdakane, pleaded with the protesters not to disrupt the negotiations.

The parties agreed to recommend to the Administrator that:
* Residents pay for services;
* Arrears be written off;
* Rented houses be transferred to the people;
* Hostels be upgraded and converted into family units;
* The area known as the "Far East Bank" be transferred to a land trust administered by representatives of Alexandra residents.

The parties agreed that in the event of any disputes arising, every effort should be made to resolve such problems through negotiations.

A joint Press conference will be held within the next few days to announce the Administrator's reply. - Sowetan Correspondent.
Beseiged councillors find ally in Inkatha

DEFIANT township councillors who have resisted calls by the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal to resign have finally found their ally in the Inkatha Freedom Party.

At a rally attended by more than 35,000 Inkatha supporters at Jabulani Amphitheatre on Saturday, councillors and mayors received a standing ovation and a mock 21-gun-salute.

Introduced as guests of honour, KwaZulu chief minister Chief Gatsha Buthelezi joined them for photograph sessions.

Buthelezi assured them of IFP support - something they have been yearning for for sometime.

The councillors have been ostracised. Some have had their houses petrol-bombed. Others have had their businesses boycotted.

Last year Cast embarked on a concerted campaign to end the councillors' jobs.

While some resigned, others remained defiant, especially those in Soweto. Even mass action campaigns could not change their minds.

Those that resigned criticised the Transvaal Provincial Administration for "legitimising" Cast by overlooking them, particularly during negotiations over power cuts.

Buthelezi strongly lashed out at the campaign to oust councillors.

"It is shameful that campaigns against local authorities have cost us so many lives and nearly destroyed homes," he said.

"We respect the right of people to offer themselves for these council positions and we respect the right of people who want to vote for them to do so.

"We respect you for the positions that you hold," Buthelezi told the councillors.

The councillors have accused Cast of being undemocratic, pointing out that its leaders are not elected.

They have urged Cast and any other organisation that opposes them to contest their legitimacy through the ballot.

They argued that the reason for the low turnout in their elections is that people have been intimidated and told not to vote.

In a message of hope to councillors besieged by rent boycotts and power cuts, Buthelezi said that he expected that people would no longer be intimidated after his meeting with the ANC.
HUNDREDS of businessmen in Greater Soweto, who owe town councils millions of rand for rent and service charges for the past five years, are facing prospects of closure.

The three councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepkloof have written letters warning them to pay their arrears or face prosecution that may result in the termination of services such as electricity and water.

However, businessmen have vowed that they will not pay the arrears because they are covered by the Soweto Accord, an agreement between the Soweto Civic association, the TPA and the mayors of the councils, providing for the writing off of the R515 million in arrears on rental and services for all residents.

The Soweto Council's public affairs consultant, Dr Johan van der Westhuizen, this week said businessmen were not part of the delegation which signed the accord and as such were not affected by it.

He confirmed that the council had written to hundreds of traders warning them to pay arrears which amounted to hundreds of thousands of rand. The council has invited entrepreneurs to a meeting to be held on March 7 in Soweto.

"We are going to explain the situation to them. There is misunderstanding regarding the accord which involves the thousands of residents. We warned traders beforehand, and if they do not pay, the ball is in their court," he said.

The Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce members pledged to resist and to jointly fight their common enemy.

A TPA spokesman confirmed that the accord did not cover businessmen.

The traders and the three councils are heading for a showdown in the forthcoming meeting as failure to pay may lead to electricity and water cuts, culminating in the closure of their businesses - most of which have indicated that they did not have money to pay.

The president of the GSCCI, Mr Philemon Makhetha, said his chamber was a solid body that was cooperating with other chambers that emerged after the division of Soweto into administrative councils.

He emphasised the need for commitment from businessmen who must support chamber activities and to show solidarity during "the worst of times".

The PRO of the Soweto Independent Shopkeeper Association, Mr Lucas Nkoski, said they fully supported the move by the chamber and reiterated that "as Soweto residents we are part of the accord." His association had asked for a meeting with the the council, but their request had been rejected.

Most businessmen claim they have been harassed and intimidated by council officials who have threatened to close their businesses. They have also indicated that they might close their operations because of the financial squeeze and downturn in the economy.
A VICIOUS row has blown up in the Johannesburg City Council over Monday's mayoral elections.

The elections are normally considered a formality, in which previously negotiated choices for mayor and deputy mayor are merely rubber-stamped. But this time resentments have emerged over promises allegedly made and broken by the Democratic Party.

Under fire are Democratic Party members Ian Davidson, who currently heads the management committee, Paul Asherson and Cecil Bass.

All three have been accused by independent councillor Mike Levin of back-stabbing and deceit in their efforts to take control of the management committee after a no-confidence vote in April last year.

Flourishing a letter signed by Mr Davidson who promised Mr Levin the position of deputy mayor for the 1991/92 term, an embittered Mr Levin said: "They double-crossed me and at least two other independents, Professor Harold Rudolph and Howard Bloomberg.

CRUCIAL

"A handshake agreement, made with the three DP men before the no-confidence vote led to Professor Rudolph and Mr Bloomberg being promised seats on the management committee with Bass, Davidson and Asherson and independent Eddy Magid, in return for their support in the crucial vote," he said.

"But now that former DP management committee chairman Ian Burger is to be nominated as deputy mayor, Mr Levin has gone public.

BACKED BY PROFESSOR Rudolph, Mr Levin revealed details of a string of alleged deals during cloak-and-dagger meetings before the DP launched its campaign to take over the management committee last year.

The two men alleged the final deal-off had been overlooked as deputy mayor.

"At mutual discussions we indicated we were not seeking power for power's sake, but to implement a programme.

"A significant issue was the opening of residential areas throughout Johannesburg to all races.

"During our negotiations Mr Levin agreed to support such a resolution and it was as agreed we could structure the deal with the independents.

"But he subsequently voted against the resolution and my excuse was there was no way we could support an individual for deputy mayor who did not support open suburbs.

"Only Mr Levin, Cecil Long and the Conservative Party opposed the item.

"I have told Mr Levin we had struck up a deal within a context and one question was the opening of Johannesburg.

"In fact it is he who had reneged on the deal," said Mr Davidson.

Turning to Professor Rudolph's allegations, he said: "We took a decision on a more stable government for the future of Johannesburg after approaches from more liberal members of the National Party."

RED HERRING

But Mr Strydom has openly disputed Mr Davidson's claims which he labelled "a complete red herring."

"The DP caucus was fully aware that Mr Levin and Mr Bloomberg did not support the open city concept and it was suggested that they should be asked to indicate their opposition to segregated suburbs and their support for the DP on this issue in their letters of resignation to the Nats.

"We were told that if the negotiations, Davidson, Asherson and Bass, that the two men would never sign such an undertaking, but despite this, they decided to go for power," he said.

Elliot Kreutzer will be elected mayor of Johannesburg on Monday and Mr Burger is still expected to occupy the deputy mayor's chair.
Johannesburg —

A Johannesburg City Council's management committee has fired Mr. John Pearce in connection with the city's security department's 'spy ring.'

The management committee decided that Mr. Pearce should be given a month's notice and dismissed from his position at the end of April.

The decision follows an advocate's finding that Mr. Pearce was guilty of 15 counts of misconduct.
Cultural era dawning for Jo'burg, says new mayor

By Louise Burger
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg was last night declared into a new era as a 'Cultural city' with the election of the Democratic Party's Ethel Kretzmer as mayor.

Her public speech was supported by a well-organized march through the civic centre from the city hall to the Union Buildings, where she and her team were sworn in.

In England, the mayor proudly stated, 'We have been starved of appearances by the great international artists of our time and now the ice is melting. We must ensure that our city is in the forefront of the new age.'

'My theme was the promotion of the arts and advancement of the arts and cultural activities and at the promotion of the city as a cultural, educational, and entertainment centre.'

Africa's new cultural Mecca

— Page 13
I won't be sacrificed, says sacked Pearce as he promises to fight on

The Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, is hosting a lecture series on human rights and international law. The first lecture, titled "Human Rights in the Digital Age," will be presented by Professor Sarah Fox from the University of Oxford. The lecture will cover the evolving landscape of human rights in the digital world and the challenges faced by governments and international organizations in addressing these issues. The lecture is open to the public and will take place on Monday, March 5, at 7:00 PM in the Great Hall of the Faculty of Law.
Town planning laws 'need drastic change'

The Townships' Board should be scrapped and the Minister of Local Affairs and Budget Ann Venter must divest himself of the "vast authoritarian powers" he now has, Tony Leon (DP Houghton) said in Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during an Own Affairs interpellation debate, Mr Leon said town planning laws and procedures required fundamental, radical change.

"At the moment organised residents' associations and rate-payers' groups in the Transvaal are in a state of revolt over both the Removal of Restrictions Act and the Transvaal Town Planning Ordinance."

Viewed together, the use and abuse of the provisions of the Acts indicated that Johannesburg's planning destiny was controlled by Pretoria and that the decision-making process was secretive, undemocratic and even sinister.

Authorised

Each body should be compelled to publish reasons for decisions. If the Government was not prepared to follow this advice then its talk of devolution of power was hollow.

Mr Venter said the township boards had no power to make decisions but were there only in an advisory capacity to the administrator, whereas authorised local authorities could take decisions on town planning matters such as the amendment of town planning schemes.

The Removal of Restrictions Act was expected to be amended soon.

The leader of the Democratic Party Dr Zach de Beer (DP Parktown) said the issue at stake was the accountability of the Government to the people.

Instead, the Government was guilty of arbitrarily making decisions.

Dr de Beer said it was inevitable that suspicions of corruption were raised when decisions were made arbitrarily — Sapa
Pretoria looks at new local govt models

PRETORIA's NP-controlled city council is considering four possible models for the city's future government and its satellite townships, including a one man, one vote system. The council is still deciding which model to adopt and how or whether it should involve its neighbouring black councils. Pretoria management committee chairman Pieter Smith said last night a referendum among the city's white residents on whether to have talks with the township councils of Mamelodi, Atteridgeville, Eersterust and Laudium was a possible alternative.

This would not be necessary if the NP caucus used its majority position and pushed ahead with talks.

The first model involved maintaining the status quo with no change to the present municipal structures while the second proposed a simple majority vote on a one man, one vote basis.

The third model envisaged local councils deciding policy on "own affairs" while sending representatives to a central body to decide on issues such as water and electricity.

He said in the fourth model various community groups within an existing municipality would make their own decisions and send a representative to a central local council to take general decisions.
Councillors under attack by DP man

CAPE TOWN — Black ideal councillors around the Reef and Pretoria who joined Inkatha had "ensured their total alienation from, and rejection by, their communities", Jan van Eck (DP Claremont) told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during the debate on the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill, he said the degree to which councillors had become alienated from the communities they represented was "starkly illustrated" by the fact that about 30 black councillors from the Reef and Pretoria had attended an Inkatha rally last month.

This was in spite of the fact that they came from townships that overwhelmingly backed the ANC.

Van Eck said he was not making this point because he objected to the councillors supporting Inkatha, but allowing them to continue as councillors would further destabilise the townships.
Laundry apartheid won't wash

Apartheid regulations governing laundries are to be scrubbed from the Transvaal's provincial ordinances by proposed amendments before Parliament.

If changes to Ordinance 17 of 1959 are approved, municipalities in the province will no longer be able to force laundries to clean the clothing of blacks and whites separately.

The changes are listed in a revised version of the Local Government Ordinance Amendment Bill (Transvaal), tabled in the House of Assembly yesterday.

The original Bill scrapped only the powers of municipalities to enforce apartheid in graveyards and marketplaces, to demand different ambulance fees from different races, and to run "kaffir eating-houses".

The revised Bill will also scrap municipalities' powers to enforce laundry apartheid, set aside stands for the use of hawkers of a particular race, lay out housing land for "coloured persons as may be deemed desirable", regulate for separate toilets, prohibit the presence or employment of white females in non-European shops, prohibit or regulate non-European clubs outside Native locations and to prohibit whites from living in yards or premises occupied by Natives, Asiatics or coloured persons.

Sapa
Public was 'misled over council scheme to put bobbies on beat'

By Louise Burgers Municipal Reporter

The Johannesburg management committee has been accused of misleading the public by promising to put bobbies on the beat when legally it was not possible.

National Business Watch co-ordinator Gerald Heine and independent councillor Cecil Long have slammed the management committee for 'bluffing' the public.

At a November meeting, city councillors were told the council had no powers to establish a municipal police force. They agreed that, subject to funds being available, the traffic force be expanded by 500 men.

However, according to a report before the management committee in January, legal counsel warned it was not possible to create a municipal police force "through the back door under the guise of such a force being traffic officers."

If the traffic force was increased so substantially that it was out of proportion to the genuine needs of the traffic force, and if some officers' duties were directed towards the prevention of "ordinary crime" instead of traffic enforcement, then the establishment of an expanded force would exceed the legal authority of the city council.

However, provided the expansion of the traffic force could be justified, it would be lawful even when, in the course of their duties, officers used their peace officer powers to deal with criminal offences they encountered.

Mr Long said the management committee was bluffing the public into thinking a bobby-on-the-beat force would be in operation this year to fight crime in the city.

Paul Asherson, management committee transport and utilities chairman, said the matter was sensitive and the committee would shortly receive a motivation for the expansion of the traffic department.

He said the council had a responsibility to residents to do all it could to put more law enforcement officers on the streets, even if this meant taking a backdoor approach.
Big John refuses to accept sacking

By MARTIN WELZ

"BIG JOHN" Pearce, Johannesburg's former traffic and security boss whose appeal against the findings of a council disciplinary committee failed this week, is back in the ring — with a challenge to his opponents to try to get a full council vote in support of his dismissal.

"The management committee fired me, but I have reason to believe the majority of council members — of all parties — support me. The full council hired me, I reckon only the full council can fire me," he said in an exclusive interview with the Sunday Times.

"Last year they were unable to muster the necessary quorum for a meeting just to suspend me, let alone a majority to fire me," he said.

A judicial commission of inquiry, headed by Mr Justice V Fienstra, last year found that a spy network was beyond the scope of a city council's business and was therefore illegal.

Mr Pearce said he did not intend to "take the pain" for the network of R48 000 for two Johannesburg advocates to draft a charge sheet against me alleging various counts of misconduct," he said.

Mr Pearce insisted that he had not been guilty of any misconduct as department head in charge of a security department whose written brief from the council was to "monitor" people and organisations that were a potential security threat to the council.

Unfair

Johannesburg's former security chief intends fighting his dismissal "all the way to the Appeal Court, if necessary."

For a start that means an application to the Industrial Court for his reinstatement as, Mr Pearce claimed, he was unfairly dismissed by the management committee, "while the council official who was by law responsible — former town clerk Marnie Venter — was allowed to take paid leave and then early retirement."

He said he believed the case against him was being pressed by people who have for years held a political grudge because of his long and close friendship with various prominent Nationalist politicians.

Upset

"Because several of my best friends were top Nationalists — Garrie Bornman, Dane van Zyl and Pik Botha for instance — does not mean that I am a Nationalist," he said. "I have, as a matter of principle, never belonged to any political party."

"They didn't like me for organizing security assistance for Mr Botha's meeting in Pietersburg; they were upset about me taking Franz-Josef Strauss to a game farm when the government asked me to do it, they were unhappy about my business at the showgrounds — but there was nothing wrong with any of it."

"They were frustrated because I had, in fact, done nothing: immoral or illegal," he said.
State bid to ratify pacts by councils

Any agreements reached between civic associations and town or city councils are expected to be made legal through legislation which will be moved through Parliament soon.

"The draft Bill for such legislation has not been published yet, but it is expected within the next few weeks.

Miss Dene Smuts of the Democratic Party yesterday warned that the situation was still in flux and that it had to be approached carefully.

"All formations including the Democratic Party will be looking at the draft Bill very carefully," Smuts said.

Government’s attitude to local government can perhaps be measured by its decision to dissolve the controversial Lekoa Town Council.

A Bill to dissolve the LTC went through Parliament last week and is expected to be passed by a majority vote as law within days.

This dissolution of LTC will be the forerunner of other such Bills (to dissolve black local authorities) of an omnibus measure to address the problem of the non-representative nature and consequent unsuitability, in some places of the black councils as negotiating partners - which leaves the civic spaces.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration itself consulted the Vaal Triangle Civic on the deteriorating Lekoa situation.

"It is not possible to talk new deals and dispensions without these bodies."

There are already at least three townships in the country where agreements have been reached between civic and city councils - Middelburg, Klerksdorp and Kimberley.

The expected legislation is also in line with State President FW de Klerk’s remarks during his opening of Parliament speech on February 1 where he expressed Government’s desire to create a “one city one tax base” status quo with regard to local government.

He also alluded to the expected legislation in his speech.

“The Government does not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way. Therefore, without wishing to establish a final structure at the local level, the decision has been taken to initiate interim steps to accommodate the dynamics of co-operation which have developed in many communities in respect of co-operation, and to give legal sanction to agreed joint actions and joint structures,” De Klerk said.

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

Lekoa could be just the beginning according to Smuts.

Speaking during the debate on the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill, Smuts said "It is hard to escape the conclusion that the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill will have to be the forerunner of other such Bills (to dissolve black local authorities) of an omnibus measure to address the problem of the non-representative nature and consequent unsuitability, in some places of the black councils as negotiating partners - which leaves the civic spaces.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration itself consulted the Vaal Triangle Civic on the deteriorating Lekoa situation.

"It is not possible to talk new deals and dispensions without these bodies."

There are already at least three townships in the country where agreements have been reached between civic and city councils - Middelburg, Klerksdorp and Kimberley.

The expected legislation is also in line with State President FW de Klerk’s remarks during his opening of Parliament speech on February 1 where he expressed Government’s desire to create a “one city one tax base” status quo with regard to local government.

He also alluded to the expected legislation in his speech.

“The Government does not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way. Therefore, without wishing to establish a final structure at the local level, the decision has been taken to initiate interim steps to accommodate the dynamics of co-operation which have developed in many communities in respect of co-operation, and to give legal sanction to agreed joint actions and joint structures,” De Klerk said.

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

Lekoa could be just the beginning according to Smuts.

Speaking during the debate on the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill, Smuts said "It is hard to escape the conclusion that the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill will have to be the forerunner of other such Bills (to dissolve black local authorities) of an omnibus measure to address the problem of the non-representative nature and consequent unsuitability, in some places of the black councils as negotiating partners - which leaves the civic spaces.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration itself consulted the Vaal Triangle Civic on the deteriorating Lekoa situation.

"It is not possible to talk new deals and dispensions without these bodies."

There are already at least three townships in the country where agreements have been reached between civic and city councils - Middelburg, Klerksdorp and Kimberley.

The expected legislation is also in line with State President FW de Klerk’s remarks during his opening of Parliament speech on February 1 where he expressed Government’s desire to create a “one city one tax base” status quo with regard to local government.

He also alluded to the expected legislation in his speech.

“The Government does not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way. Therefore, without wishing to establish a final structure at the local level, the decision has been taken to initiate interim steps to accommodate the dynamics of co-operation which have developed in many communities in respect of co-operation, and to give legal sanction to agreed joint actions and joint structures,” De Klerk said.

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

Lekoa could be just the beginning according to Smuts.

Speaking during the debate on the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill, Smuts said "It is hard to escape the conclusion that the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill will have to be the forerunner of other such Bills (to dissolve black local authorities) of an omnibus measure to address the problem of the non-representative nature and consequent unsuitability, in some places of the black councils as negotiating partners - which leaves the civic spaces.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration itself consulted the Vaal Triangle Civic on the deteriorating Lekoa situation.

"It is not possible to talk new deals and dispensions without these bodies."

There are already at least three townships in the country where agreements have been reached between civic and city councils - Middelburg, Klerksdorp and Kimberley.

The expected legislation is also in line with State President FW de Klerk’s remarks during his opening of Parliament speech on February 1 where he expressed Government’s desire to create a “one city one tax base” status quo with regard to local government.

He also alluded to the expected legislation in his speech.

“The Government does not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way. Therefore, without wishing to establish a final structure at the local level, the decision has been taken to initiate interim steps to accommodate the dynamics of co-operation which have developed in many communities in respect of co-operation, and to give legal sanction to agreed joint actions and joint structures,” De Klerk said.

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

Lekoa could be just the beginning according to Smuts.

Speaking during the debate on the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill, Smuts said "It is hard to escape the conclusion that the Lekoa City Council Dissolution Bill will have to be the forerunner of other such Bills (to dissolve black local authorities) of an omnibus measure to address the problem of the non-representative nature and consequent unsuitability, in some places of the black councils as negotiating partners - which leaves the civic spaces.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration itself consulted the Vaal Triangle Civic on the deteriorating Lekoa situation.

"It is not possible to talk new deals and dispensions without these bodies."

There are already at least three townships in the country where agreements have been reached between civic and city councils - Middelburg, Klerksdorp and Kimberley.

The expected legislation is also in line with State President FW de Klerk’s remarks during his opening of Parliament speech on February 1 where he expressed Government’s desire to create a “one city one tax base” status quo with regard to local government.

He also alluded to the expected legislation in his speech.

“The Government does not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way. Therefore, without wishing to establish a final structure at the local level, the decision has been taken to initiate interim steps to accommodate the dynamics of co-operation which have developed in many communities in respect of co-operation, and to give legal sanction to agreed joint actions and joint structures,” De Klerk said.
Alexandra council to be dissolved

By IKE MOTSAPI

THE Alexandra Council is to be dissolved so that a single non-racial local authority for Randburg and Sandton districts can be created.

This emerged in a statement released after an historic meeting last week between the Government, Alexandra residents and officials of the Randburg and Sandton councils.

The parties — which also included officials of Eskom, Rand Water Board, the Development of Southern Africa and members of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council — established a forum to work out the details of the future council.

The forum promised to pay “attention to issues which are of importance” to Alexandra.

The establishment of the forum follows five months of intensive negotiations.

Members of the forum also hope to end the rent boycott in the township.

In a joint statement, the parties pledged to work for improvement in

arrears;
* Payment for services;
* Transfer of rented houses to the people;
* Upgrading and conversion of hostels into family dwellings;
* Upgrading of services;
* Transfer of the land known as the East Bank to a land trust administered by representatives of Alexandra;
* Implementation of low income housing;
* Provision of additional land, and
* Dissolution of the Alexandra Council and other local authorities.

Possible

“The fact that cooperation between the civic organisations and the authorities is indeed possible and that reasonableness can prevail is proved by the fact that the Alexandra Civic Association was most of the time represented by its chairman Mr Moses Mayekiso, who is also president of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal.”

Some of the important aspects of the agreement are

* The writing-off of
White Paper lauded, slated

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Reaction to the Government's land reform proposals took the pattern of sharp rebuke from organisations representing the homeless and the Right — and a warm welcome from most bodies speaking for those who own property.

Heading the critics were the African National Congress and the Conservative Party. Those adding their praise included the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU), the Democratic Party and the South African Chamber of Business (Sacob).

The ANC — stressing that the Government had not consulted it or any of the communities subjected to forced removal under apartheid —

Playing with fire... Andries Treurnicht

said the White Paper presented a view of land ownership that absolves the white population of all responsibility for the existing unequal land dispensation.

It added: "The Government abandons the geography of apartheid as its starting point and explicitly refuses to deal with the landlessness and dispossession that is the direct legacy of apartheid's policy of forced removal and bantustan consolidation."

The ANC condemned the Government's refusal to restore land to the victims of forced removal.

Dr Andries Treurnicht said the Government was "playing with fire".

He said the CF found it inexplicable that the Government was turning white South Africa into everyone's land before negotiations on a new constitution had begun.

What made these proposals even more drastic was that black people retained their land in the independent states and self-governing territories while whites did not have this right.

* To Page 2 *

Residents want their land back

By Helen Gragge

Residents of three rural communities plan to reoccupy land they were forcibly moved off — despite the Government's rejection of this proposal in its White Paper on Land Reform, published yesterday.

About 39,000 former residents of Roosboom, near Ladysmith, Charlestown near Volksrust and Cremmen near Elandslaagte were moved off their freehold land in the late 1970s.

A number of former Roosboom residents were prosecuted for attempting to return to the land last year.

Legal action was suspended pending negotiations with the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs.

People from Charlestown and Cremmen say they will begin reoccupying their land on April 30 and May 31.

Spokesmen from the three communities said there were rumours that the Government was considering selling the land. "This we totally reject," they said.

Councillors cheered by wider powers

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Extended powers for local authorities and residents in maintaining physical standards have been welcomed by local councils and residents' associations, especially since they signal further decentralisation of power.

Andre Jacobs, chairman of Randburg Town Council management committee, said it was for local authorities to ensure an orderly urbanisation process.

Randburg had promulgated housing nuisance by-laws to protect minimum standards.

Sandton town councillor and property expert Peter Gardiner said the new powers would be effective in protecting standards.

Johannesburg city councillor Claire Quail said the more powers local authorities had for planning, the better.

It was preferable to make decisions regarding living standards at grassroots level as opposed to involving someone who did not live in the area, she said.
Kempton Park council to help Tembisa counterpart

KEMPTON Park Town Council will sign a historic agreement tomorrow with its black neighbour Tembisa to provide the township administration with badly needed expertise.

The agreement on agency administration — allowing Kempton Park to oversee Tembisa’s operations — is the first of its kind in a metropolitan area and was welcomed yesterday by Tembisa mayor Solomon More.

The scheme will involve Kempton Park councillors advising and training their Tembisa counterparts, who are often “badly unqualified”, said More.

More said yesterday the scheme would benefit Tembisa far more than any cash donations by authorities Tembisa’s debts — more than R8m in electricity and water accounts alone — would be best dealt with by an upgrading of the current “low standards of senior people”.

The scheme would benefit all suburbs in the area, said Kempton Park manco chairman Arnie Korf.

“If Tembisa is denied the benefit of our expertise, then we are all weakened” he said.

Similar

Conservative Party and National Party councillors in Kempton Park voted for the scheme unanimously when it was proposed last month, indicating the level of agreement across the political spectrum that Tembisa, reported to be near bankruptcy, needed to be rescued.

Both sides stressed that the scheme would not make Tembisa’s administration subordinate to that of Kempton Park.

It was also disclosed yesterday that the Germiston City Council is considering a similar arrangement with KwaDukuza township.

A spokesman for the council said co-operation between the two towns had been going on for some time on a small scale.

He said “Discussions on joint administration have been seriously mooted, although no definite plans have been made.”

Klerksdorp and Kimberley signed agreements for agency administration with local township councils at the beginning of the year.
Kempton Park council to help Tembisa counterpart

KEMPTON Park Town Council will sign a historic agreement tomorrow with its black neighbour Tembisa to provide the township administration with badly needed expertise.

The agreement on agency administration—allowing Kempton Park to oversee Tembisa’s operations—is the first of its kind in a metropolitan area and was welcomed yesterday by Tembisa mayor Solomon More.

The scheme will involve Kempton Park councillors advising and training their Tembisa counterparts, who are often “badly underqualified”, said More.

More said yesterday the scheme would benefit Tembisa far more than any cash donations by authorities. Tembisa’s debts—more than R9m in bankruptcy, needed to be rescued.

Both sides stressed that the scheme would not make Tembisa’s administration subordinate to that of Kempton Park.

It was also disclosed yesterday that the Germiston City Council is considering a similar arrangement with Kriel townships.

A spokesman for the council said co-operation between the two towns had been going on for some time on a small scale.

He said “Discussions on joint administration have been seriously mooted, although no definite plans have been made.”

Klerksdorp and Kimberley signed agreements for agency administration with local township councils at the beginning of the year.
Ruling due today on CCB claims

A Pretoria Supreme Court judge will decide today if three former operatives of the now disbanded Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) can proceed on an urgent basis with a claim of more than R1.5 million.

The claim is in respect of pensions and other perks, against the Minister of Defence and the Defence Force.

The three men have instituted a claim under the code names of Derrick Farrell, Risan Boesl and Dean du Toit for the payment of substantial benefits stipulated in their CCB service contracts.

These contracts, they said, were about to be nullified by coming legislation.

Du Toit said about 80 per cent of CCB members were so intimidated by the threat of legislation that they accepted the retrenchment packages offered them.

Counsel for the three men, P. Hatunghe SC, said the CCB members' contracts specified a retirement package as if the member had reached retirement age should the CCB be disbanded.

S.W. Burger SC, for the respondents, argued that the matter was not urgent and the applicants were asking the court to interfere with the sovereignty of Parliament.

CP backs Tembisa expertise pact

By Anna Louw

A unanimous decision by the Kempton Park Town Council, with the full support of a six-man CP caucus, will be sealed today with the signing of an agreement with Tembisa to provide the black local authority with administration expertise.

The agreement will be executed on an agency administration basis in which the municipality will oversee operations in Tembisa, which amount to more than R6 million in electricity and water accounts alone, would be best dealt with by an upgrading of standards.

In Germiston, management committee chairman Leon Louw said negotiations had been under way for some time between Germiston, Bedfordview, Katlehong and Palm Ridge, regarding co-operation on a municipal level.

Walvis talks end in stalemate

CAPE TOWN — Negotiations between Pretoria and Windhoek over the control of Walvis Bay ended yesterday without a final agreement.

After several attempts to hammer out a joint press statement failed, the two Foreign Ministers, Pik Botha and Theo-Ben Gurirab, said they would have to report back to their governments on the day's progress.

Both were in a congenial mood as they spoke on the steps of the Westbrook residence after a hard day's bargaining.

The outcome was predictable after Mr Gurirab had uncompromised the talks earlier in the week by telling the Namibian National Assembly he would settle for nothing less than the unconditional surrender of Walvis Bay by South Africa.

"The way we organised and convened the meeting obviously raised high and unrealistic hopes," he said.

There was light at the end of the tunnel, although "it is too small to show the time frame" within which a solution may be found, he added.

The two Ministers led high-powered delegations, numbering 11 Cabinet Ministers, supported by administrative and legal teams.

They met to try to resolve the dispute over the historic sovereignty inherited by South Africa over the Walvis Bay enclave — Namibia's only deep-water port — and the southern offshore Penguin Island group.

In addition, Namibia wants the boundary of the old Cape Colony moved from the northern shore of the Orange River to the centre.

"We conveyed to each other our views on these issues and, as you can imagine, there was a difference of opinion," he said.

Mr Gurirab said the fact that South Africa had not handed over the disputed territory on independence day, March 21 last year, "will remain a monument of tragic betrayal, motivated by a legacy of colonial conquest" — Sapa and Star Africa Service.
Local govt to have teeth to stop decay

RESIDENTS, ratepayers and housing associations will be given teeth to enforce by-laws and keep neighbourhoods in good nick when the Residential Environment Bill is passed by Parliament, town council spokesman said this week.

The Bill aims to prevent the possible downgrading of neighbourhoods with the scrapping of the Group Areas Act. It also confers additional power on local authorities to pass and enforce by-laws in order to maintain neighbourhoods. But the Bill stipulates that racially discriminatory by-laws will not be allowed.

The Bill provides for the setting up of an Urban Environment Board to help local authorities to maintain standards and set up urban renewal projects. The board will play an advisory role and consist of experts in urban renewal.

**Standard**

Apart from providing for the maintenance of norms such as tidy and hygienic premises, the Bill provides for ways to settle disputes and for the orderly and civilised use of public facilities, noise control and urban decay.

"This national provision sets minimum standards which go further than previous legislation," said Midrand Management Committee chairman Ian Beiker.

He said Midrand had already amended existing by-laws, mainly to ensure ghettos don’t develop.

Asked about the effect the Bill would have on Sandton town councillor Peter Gardiner said: "Neighbourhood standards could be protected and most municipalities could now decide on what standard of service they want in their area."

"Presumably we are now allowed to set our own standards. For example, Sandton neighbourhoods want high security standards and environmental standards. We could even provide our own security force."

"Our council could now pass a by-law to set up residents' associations more formally. This would put teeth into the system and residents would be encouraged to pay for upgrading their neighbourhoods."

He said another example would be to formalise homeowners' associations, which in Sandton already raise money to control architectural standards and maintain landscaping.

The Bill also means local authorities will have more control over spending and it provides for financial assistance to local authorities to undertake projects out of appropriated funds, according to Mr Gardiner.

Johannesburg City spokesman Professor H Hurwitz said he believed local authorities may have more power to enforce legislation because penalties would now be more realistic. Offenders could be fined up to R10 000 and there is an additional R100 fine a day for an ongoing offence.

The Randburg Town Council has promulgated housing nuisance by-laws aimed at ensuring minimum standards, according to council spokesman Andre Jacobs.

But he admitted that it may be difficult to enforce legislation while the country was going through a transition.

Federation of Western Johannesburg Ratepayers' Associations spokesman Frank Salmon said residents were already contributing to maintaining standards in their suburbs but the new legislation would give local authorities more power to prevent urban decay.
Alex council sit-in a ‘coup’

A SIT-IN at the office of the Alexandra mayor and the town clerk will continue until mayor Prince Mokoena resigns, says the Alexandra Civic Organisation.

Now in its third week, the 24-hour-a-day sit-in has crippled the running of the council and is regarded as a “coup” against Mokoena and his council.

Since the sit-in started on February 27 Mokoena has not been in his office and town clerk Willie Khumalo said he had been working under “extreme” pressure.

“I have no secretary because they are also occupying her office,” he said.

ACO general secretary Richard Makane said the sit-in was part of an ongoing struggle by residents against the role played by the council.

“We are putting pressure on the councillors to resign because they are not serving the needs of the community,” he said.

Khumalo said there were no plans to try and evict the strikers by force.
Pay up, warns Soweto council

By Stan Hlophe

The Soweto City Council has warned residents to pay for service charges and electricity in terms of the Soweto Accord signed last September – or else it will cut the power supply.

In a statement, acting town clerk Johan Oosthuizen said that from April 1 the council would no longer receive financial assistance from the regional services council and, therefore, the council would be unable to provide electricity unless all residents honour the accord.

Agreement

Mr Oosthuizen reminded residents that in terms of the accord, signed by the Greater Soweto councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), the following agreement was reached:

- Writing off R450 million arrears (residential units only)
- Ending the four-year rent boycott as well as the immediate resumption of R23 monthly payments for service charges and for metered electricity consumption on a sliding scale.
- Establishment of a Metropolitan Chamber to serve as a forum whose primary purpose would be to investigate and formulate the setting of regional, nonracial, and democratic structures.

Meanwhile a meeting between the council and representatives of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce resolved to form a working committee to reach an amicable settlement on whether the traders were part of the accord.

It was also agreed that the businessmen should continue paying their monthly accounts while negotiations are on course.

This follows a war of words between the council and the chamber over the interpretation of the Soweto Accord.

Breaching

The chamber maintains that as Soweto residents they are included in the accord, but the council is adamant that they are not.

SPD spokesman Pat Lephunya said that if the council could carry out its threat, it would be breaching the accord, which stipulated that if either side should encounter a problem, a solution had to be found before any action could be taken.
Outrage at city council spy ring

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

JO'BURG's longest serving councillor, independent Eddy Magid, could be ousted from the management committee after admitting he used the municipal spy network to investigate prominent business and political leaders.

Councillors yesterday expressed shock and amazement that Magid had asked the council's security department to collect information on the trustees of Africa Cultural Trust.

Those investigated were Sowetan editor Aggrey Klaaste, Premier Molobi, Group chairman and Liberty Life director Peter Wrighton, DP Southern Transvaal executive member Irene Metell, Anglo American Corporation director Bobby Godsell, theatre director Benry Finch and Mary Stack, daughter of Harry Oppenheimer and wife of another Anglo American director, Hank Stack.

"I am totally astonished by this ridiculous turn of events. We thought this Mr Eddy Magid was an ordinary councillor trying to help us secure land for the trust. To have this intrigue is all ridiculous," Klaaste said.

The result of the investigation was an "unfavorable" report which advised Magid against involvement with such people.

Magid said in a statement that there was a major difference between information gathering and spying.

The spy probe also targeted five other trustees. Their involvement with the trust led to the council probe.
HISTORIC COUNCIL PACT

HISTORIC COUNCIL PACT

HISTORY: was made on Friday when the Kempton Park Town Council agreed to provide the Tembisa Town Council with administrative expertise.

The agreement is the first of its kind in a metropolitan area.

The arrangement will not put an extra financial burden on Kempton Park residents.

The initial proposal advocating joint administration was amended so that the assistance would be conducted on an agency basis to prevent financial implications for the ratepayers.

Kempton Park's management committee chairman, Mr. Kofi said Tembisa was not being incorporated into the white municipality.

"We have taken these measures in order to save a nearly bankrupt Tembisa from total disaster and help it to get back on its feet," he said.

Tembisa Mayor Solomon Mole has welcomed the move. He said Tembisa's debt, which amounted to more than R8 million in electricity and water accounts alone, would be best dealt with by an upgrading of standards.
Do not resign - Kriel

BLACK councillors should not allow themselves to be intimidated to resign and should instead stand up and say "no further," a senior Government official said.

The Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr. Mervin Kriel, said councillors were there to serve as well as attend to the needs of their communities.

Kriel was addressing guests during his visit to "Doduza" township on the East Rand, where he presented the council with a new tractor and trailer to remove dirt.

The Minister said residents should not allow themselves to be intimidated into not paying for services.
DP: what about prejudice victims?

The Democratic Party yesterday proposed an amendment to the "essentially passive" Local Government Ordinance Amendment Bill (Transvaal).

Speaking in second-reading debate on the Bill in the House of Assembly, Tony Leon (DP Houghton) said that while it removed the lawful right to discriminate, it did not provide an enabling right not to be discriminated against.

The proposed amendment, entitled "Prohibition of Discrimination on the Grounds of Racial Class etc", specifies that a council shall not exercise any power or perform any duty conferred upon it "in a manner which results in discrimination against persons on the grounds of race or class."

"The failure of this Parliament to enact this clause in the Separate Amenities legislation last year, and our failure to do so in an ordinance of today's kind, means that we are not giving individuals the positive right not to be discriminated against.

"Today's ordinance does not oblige municipalities to integrate facilities. We leave it to the common law."

The DP supported the Bill, however, as it removed "highly repugnant" expressions from the statute book.

After the enactment of the Bill, Transvaal municipalities would be deprived of their power to enforce graveyard apartheid, the separate cleaning of the clothing of whites and blacks in laundries, and the enforced separate use and provision of elevators.

"The Bill we are dealing with today vividly illustrates the kind of alienation, rejection and arrogance which the measures over the years, enforced by our provincial councils and city councils, have caused to millions of fellow South Africans," Mr Leon said.

Headrick Bekker (NP Jeppe) said Mr Leon's approach to the subject was "overkill."

The National Party was against discrimination in any form and was committed to ridding the system of legal impediments "smelling of discrimination."

Mr Bekker recommended that the DP take the proposal to the negotiating table where a draft constitution would be discussed.

The common law was able to handle cases of "stubborn municipalities."

Derek Christopkhs (NP Germiston) said "We want to kill apartheid but we don't want to antagonise everyone in sight."

He was referring to the possibility of a negative reaction from the Conservative Party to the proposed amendment.

Proof

The Bill was a good thing as it was repugnant that people be buried separately purely on the basis of colour.

"Finally in death we will be united," Mr Christophers said.

The CP was against certain clauses in the Bill. Pikke Coetsee (CP Middelburg) said:

The party did not want to be part of an integration and would not support it.

The CP was also against the burial of separate races together.

Minister of the Budget and Local Government Amre Vester said in reply to debate that the Bill was proof of the Government's desire to do away with racial discrimination.

The Government was busy with dynamic reform and any discriminatory measures in legislation would be done away with.

The Bill was referred back to the joint standing committee — Sapa
CP boycott delays mayoral election

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

The election of a new mayor for Vanderbijlpark had to be postponed last night because of the lack of a quorum after the entire CP caucus failed to turn up at a town council meeting.

Lashing out afterwards at the CP contingent, including management committee chairman Gerhard Smith and the present mayor Hennie Pretorius, the leader of the NP caucus, Johan Kilian, described their behaviour as shocking.

"We regret and deplore the bad behaviour displayed by those who are responsible for the running of the town.

"We also find it amazing that people who claim they are prepared to fight for a cause are too cowardly to turn up at such an important meeting," said Mr Kilian.

Insulting

According to Mr Kilian, Mr Smith and Mr Pretorius were spotted "speeding away" from the municipal complex about five minutes before the meeting was scheduled to start.

He added that all the department heads and other senior council officials had arrived for the meeting and that the "boorish behaviour" of the CP caucus was an insult to members of the town council and local ratepayers.

He also said the NP caucus had already decided, in terms of standing orders, to hold the election meeting later this week. Further action concerning last night's incident was being planned.

Mr Smith was not available for comment last night.

According to Mr Kilian, the CP caucus decided at a special meeting last week to change the council's quorum to an attendance of 50 percent plus one.

This decision was apparently pushed through without any reason and with the casting vote of the mayor.
Conference: local government affairs

Mr Y M MAKDA asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing (26b) whether the Administrator and/or Executive Committee of the Transvaal hosted a conference on local government affairs in Pretoria on or about 12 February 1991, if so, what are the relevant details.

whether representatives of Black local authorities were invited, if not, why not,

whether representatives of Indian and Coloured management committees were invited, if not, why not in each case,

whether he will make a statement on the matter? (26b)

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING (26b)

The Administrator invited all White local governments to a meeting which took place at the CSIR on 12 February 1991. The primary objective of the meeting was to request White local governments to render assistance to Black local governments, and where possible to establish joint administrations between neighbouring local governments.

The purpose of the discussion was to request specifically White local governments to assist. Discussions are already taking place on a local level between neighbouring local governments.

No Indian and Coloured Management Committees were not invited because the meeting was held with the specific aim to effect arrangements between White and Black local governments.

The Administrator released a press statement after the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! I would just like to inform hon members that the time for questions is about to run out. If hon

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

691 TUESDAY, 19

Mr Y M MAKDA Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, as the hon the Deputy Minster has said that members of Indian and Coloured management committees were not invited and in view of the possibility of agreements between Black and White local authorities, will the hon the Deputy Minister concede that the areas administered by White local authorities affect Indian and Coloured people, because they also contribute to the tax base? (26b)

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS There is no doubt about their contribution to the tax base, but the hon member will realise and know, because he is involved, that we are in the process of looking at new third-tier government structures. In the interim, however, we have to function within the existing structures.
Black boycotts: RSCs levied

UNISA regional regional services

councils (RSCs) have been asked to hand
over 15% of their budgets to compensate
for rent and service payment boycotts in
black townships.

The move by the TPA will drain much
needed funds from development projects
and put added pressure on RSCs to in-
crease levies on businesses in their areas.

The request was made in a letter to the
RSCs last month which said the Great-
er Soweto area and Alexandra township
alone would receive grants of up to
R131.3m from central government through
the TPA this year.

Between September last year and the
end of this month, the Central Witswater-
rand RSC passed on R176m of its approx-
imately R406m budget as bridging finance
to crippled black local authorities.

The TPA said it would consider the
matter further after a meeting with prov-
cinial officials and Finance Minister Bar-
don du Plessis.

Chairman Leon Ferreira said the TPA wanted
R22.36m for bridging finance, but that
there was no link between the levy hike
and the amount paid as bridging finance.

In terms of an earlier agreement with
the TPA, the Central Wits RSC was to have
paid bridging finance only until the end of
this month. "Such funds were intended to
compensate for the non-viability of black
towns," the TPA said in its letter.

It cited government's previous policy of
not accepting the permanence of urban
blacks, limited income from rent and ser-
vice fees, rapid urbanisation, low incomes,
unemployment and intimidation as rea-
sons for the councils' non-viability.

The TPA said the minimum contribution
of 15% was "unavoidable."

The Central Wits RSC will consider
the matter further.
Councils are down by R23-m

BRIDGING finance for the Greater Soweto, Diepmeadow and Alexandra councils has been slashed by R23 million this year.

The councils will this year receive R131.8 million, down from R155.6 million last year.

This emerged at the monthly meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council this week.

The Alexandra Council will receive R10.1 million, up from last year's R9.4 million, Diepmeadow R25 million, down from last year's R32 million, Dobsonville

By DON SEOKANE

R6.6 million, almost the same as last year, and Soweto R90 million, down from last year's R107 million.

Chairman of the CWRSC Mr John Griffith said yesterday insufficient funds from the Government meant that people who did not pay their bills would not receive services.

The bridging finance, provided by the TPA, is necessary to keep the council alive following crippling rent boycotts that hit Reef councils for about seven years.

Regional Services

Anger over TPA man's statements

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal and the ANC have condemned a Transvaal Provincial Administration official for warning activists campaigning for the removal of local councillors.

The official, TPA executive council member for housing Mr John Mavuso, had said people who did not identify with the ANC should consider joining the IFP and organise resistance against the councillors.

In separate statements, both organisations said Mavuso's comments were inflammatory, irresponsible and tantamount to the creation of a war psychosis.

Mavuso had also said that the councillors had the backing of the Inkatha Freedom Party, implying a connection between the IFP and potential resistance.

By DON SEOKANE

The ANC called on the IFP to distance itself from Mavuso's comments.

"At a time when leaders of the IFP and ANC are trying to bring peace to our troubled townships, Mavuso's statements are regrettable rather than add to this momentum," Mr Ronnie Manelepa of the ANC's PWV regional office said.

Attack

Mr Sun Nuile of Cast said Mavuso's statements were irresponsible in the present political climate.

He said Cast could not understand why any organisation outside the Government should show support for an unrepresentative and corrupt system that is impeding progress towards resolving problems in the townships.
Black councils still owe Eskom R120-million

By Sven Lansche

Black town councils owe Eskom R120 million in outstanding electricity payments, Eskom chief executive Ian McRae said yesterday.

Presenting the group's 1990 annual report, he said the supply of electricity to the townships had become almost completely politicised over the past year.

Many township residents had refused to pay their electricity rates to the city councils, who pay bulk rates to Eskom. In response, Eskom had cut off electricity supplies to many of the councils.

Eskom general manager of finance Mick Davies yesterday said Eskom sold about R250 million worth of electricity to black townships last year.

Total arrears this month were recorded at about R120 million and Eskom listed R58 million of this as an abnormal item in its latest balance sheet.

Although Mr Davies stressed this was not a write-off, listing the amount separately on the balance sheet is an indication that repayment will be difficult.

Despite these financial problems, Mr McRae said Eskom was committed to the electrification programmes in black townships.

"Roughly two-thirds of South Africa's population still have no electricity at home," he said.

Mr McRae said the availability of electricity was essential for the country's stable economic growth.

- Eskom annual report

— Page 15
Councillors warn after bomb attack

SOWETO'S three councils "have power behind them", the Greater Soweto Council Committee warned yesterday.

The committee was reacting to the recent petrol bombing of the home of a Diepmeadow councillor.

In a statement released yesterday, the committee said it took a serious view of the incident.

Statement

It repeated its statement made last month that "an injury to one councillor is an injury to all".

"We also would like to point out that people must follow the example of our leaders. Mr Nelson Mandela does not throw petrol bombs at President FW de Klerk, or vice versa," Signo.

Councillor at Diepmeadow, 28-1-91
The housing crisis: who will solve it?

In the next few weeks, we want to look more closely at the civic struggle around rent, service charges, squatting and hostels. We will look at why they have erupted again, why they have been concentrated mainly in the Transvaal and what demands the masses are making around housing. We also want to look at why the state builds houses for the working class, how this benefits the bosses and why the bosses themselves will not build houses for the working class. In other words, we will show that it is capitalism that creates the housing crisis. But this raises the question: can capitalism solve the housing crisis? We will look at the 'solutions' of the state and the bosses to see if they will satisfy the needs of the working class. At the same time, we will need to look at some of the solutions that have come from the democratic movement itself.

These demands have been:
- removal of the Black Local Authorities and councillors
- reduction of rent and service charges to an affordable level
- writing off of arrears owed by residents
- upgrading of services
- transfer of the houses to the residents
- more land for development
- one tax base
- a single non-racial municipality

The demands for the removal and resignation of the councilors, for one tax base and for single non-racial municipalities have all given the rent strikers a strong political undertone.

The fourth feature is the very militant action that residents have engaged in around the rent struggles. From the time of the Defiance Campaign, some of the militant actions have included marches on and the burning down of community councilors houses. The forced resignation and scrapping of the community councils has been a big feature of the present campaign. It is also the first time this issue has been taken up again since the 1984-1986 period.

Other actions have included consumer boycotts, not only of councillors but also of white businessmen in the adjoining white municipalities. Perhaps the most militant action has been the single-township stayaways that have been called, such as on east rand, Alex and places even like Middelburg.

When workers from single-townships like Alex stayaway, it is easier for the bosses to dismantle them or vicariously them. Workers living in Alex work in many different areas, so they are not the majorities in many of the features where they work. They are therefore in a relatively weak position when they stay away. In spite of this, all the single-townships stayaways have been very successful. This shows the militancy of the rent strikers.

The fifth feature has been the renewed building of civic organisations in the township, together with street, area, block and zone committees. The state of emergency definitely broke many of the civic organisations that were then part of the UDF. The latest wave of rent struggles has been accompanied by a strong emphasis on rebuilding township organisations.

Throughout 1990 we read about the launching or re-launching of the civic organisations. But must be said that the level of organisational re-building has been very uneven. In some townships, strong street, block and area committees have been built. These function regularly to discuss the on-going housing struggle and give mandates and directions to the civic leadership.

In other cases, the grass-root structures are not so strong. There the leadership depends more on mass rallies to involve the residents more directly and to get mandates form the. In yet other cases, no structures exist at all, and it is only a small activist layer that is actually involved in the struggle, although most residents might actually be boycotting rent and service charge payment.

The sixth feature is related to the problem of uneven levels of organisation. This is the problem of always co-ordination of the various rent struggles. This has been the single biggest weakness of the rent struggles in the recent period. How many times have we seen one township engage in a march and a stayaway one week, only to be followed by a similar march and stayaway the following week by the township right next door. KwaThema and Vosloorus are just one example of this kind of problem. The result of this lack of co-ordination has been to weaken all the different rent struggles.

We have seen that weakening of the rent struggles by the way in which the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) has responded to the rents boycott crisis. The TPA has taken full advantage of the lack of a co-ordinated housing campaign and has tried to divide the townships even further. In some cases like Soweto, the TPA has agreed to write off all arrears payments. In other cases like the Eastern Transvaal, the TPA has agreed merely to freeze the payment of arrears. This means that at some point, the residents would still have to pay the money that is outstanding. The TPA has also used the frame of the state in this divisive way. In some cases it agreed to a flat rate of 600, in other cases it insists on a flat rate of 800.

This TPA strategy has really weakened the civic struggles. The formation of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (C Existing) was a big step forward for the working class. The various rent struggles should now be more possible.

But it is alarming that individual civic struggles still negotiate separately with the TPA. In other words, individual civic struggles are still trying to solve a problem that is really a very big one, and can only be solved on a much higher political and organisational level.

These have been the main features of the rent and service charge struggles that we have seen over the last 18 months. Next we will look at the source of the housing crisis and how it has become so serious again.
Taking action on Resources

Resources

available for people to use.

These books and resources are

available in the Learning

Resources centre. You have a

complete set of articles, which

provide a unique insight into

the world of books. The

Learning Resources centre

hosts a rich collection of

books, including fiction, non-

fiction, and reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

serves as a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works. The

Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works. The

Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works. The

Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works. The

Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,

and reference works. The

Learning Resources centre

provides a comprehensive

selection of books, including

fiction, non-fiction, and

reference works.

The Learning Resources centre

is a valuable resource for

students and educators.

There is a wide range of books,

including fiction, non-fiction,
community resource
is a group of people who use a specific
interest or concern. For example, a
neighborhood association is a community
resource formed around the
interest of neighborhood improvement.

If you are interested in finding out more about
these different resources, here are some
ways you can connect with the
people who are interested in learning about
a topic or issue:

- Attend community meetings or forums
- Join a local organization that focuses on
  the topic of interest
- Connect with people online through
  social media or local interest groups

There are a number of different ways of
getting involved in community resources:

1. Join a community resource center:
   - Many community resource centers offer
     workshops, classes, and other
     educational opportunities.

2. Use the library:
   - Libraries often have community
     resource centers where you can
     find information about various
     topics.

3. Contact your local government:
   - Many local governments have
     community resource centers
     that can provide information
     and assistance on a variety of
     topics.

4. Use social media:
   - Join local Facebook or
     Twitter groups that focus on
     community resources.

How to Use These Resources

1. Find the resources in your area:
   - Look online to find local community
     resource centers.

2. Attend a community resource center:
   - Attend workshops or classes that
     focus on the topic of interest.

3. Use the library:
   - Use the library to find books and
     other materials about the topic.

4. Contact your local government:
   - Contact local government offices
     to find out about community
     resource centers.

5. Use social media:
   - Join local Facebook or
     Twitter groups that focus on
     community resources.

The resources available in your area
may vary depending on the specific
interest or concern. It may be helpful to
explore different resources to find
the one that best meets your needs.

In conclusion, community resources
are a valuable tool for learning and
engaging with others who share similar
interests. By connecting with these
resources, you can gain knowledge,
build relationships, and contribute to
your community in meaningful ways.
COUNCILS OWE ESKOM R120-M

BLACK town councils owe Eskom R120 million in outstanding electricity payments, says Eskom chief executive Ian McRae.

Presenting the group's 1990 annual report McRae said that the supply of electricity to the townships had become almost completely politicised over the last year.

Many township residents have refused to pay their electricity rates to the city councils, who pay bulk rates to Eskom. In response Eskom has cut off electricity supplies to many of the councils.

GIANT

Eskom's general manager, finance, Mick Davies said that the utility giant had sold about R250-m worth of electricity to black townships last year.

Total arrears this month were recorded at about R120-m and Eskom listed R95-m of this as an abnormal item in its latest balance sheet.

Although Davies stresses that this is not a write-off.

Despite these financial problems McRae said Eskom was committed to the electrification programmes in black townships. - Sapa
Funds for township bulk services run out

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Bulk services such as water, refuse removal and sewerage may no longer be provided to most East Rand townships next month because of a lack of funds.

The East Rand Regional Services Council has been providing funds for bulk services, but at its monthly meeting last week it said it no longer had the money to do so.

The funds given to the local authorities for bulk services were originally intended to be used for capital development, but were diverted by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Tokeza Administrator Gert Muller said the TPA had made R4.5 million available to his council for the next financial year. This amount was not even enough to pay for the salaries of his staff.

Mr Muller said his council was negotiating with the TPA to review the matter.
TPA tables R4,9bn budget

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration's R4,9bn budget, which was tabled yesterday, provides for R400m in non-repayable grants to impoverished black townships.

Almost half the R4,9bn will be spent on health services, while the allocation for roads has been cut by 4%.

Presenting the budget to the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs in Pretoria, Administrator Dane Hough said from April 1 the province would stop providing townships with bridging loans to finance essential services.

Instead, it would implement a system of intergovernmental (interprovincial) grants aimed at ensuring a more fair distribution of assistance to all communities.

He said the funds would not be granted to finance boycotts but rather to help communities where personal income was so low that people were unable to pay economic rates.

TPA budget

The roads budget, however, had been cut by about 4%, from R561m to R532m.

Hough said that while an effective roads network remained a priority, limited funds meant the province had had to cut back on road construction and maintenance.

He said government would have to rely increasingly on the co-operation of the private sector in this regard.

Other budgetary items are R30,6m for nature and conservation (R27,1m last year), R249,6m (R204,2m) for works, R25,7m (R30,4m) for library and museum services and R227m (R189,6m) for general administration.

Hough said the R4,9bn requested was 13,45% more than last year's R4,3bn vote but once the R183m for the improvement of staff conditions of service was excluded, the increase was 9,26% — an amount much lower than the inflation rate.
R5-bn TPA budget stresses upliftment

Political Staff

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday asked approval for a record R5 billion budget — according the major slice towards uplifting disadvantaged communities.

Priorities will be community development, black local authorities and bridging finance, and the emphasis will be on the maintenance of existing infrastructure rather than the creation of new infrastructure.

Hospital services and primary health care also feature high on the list of planned expenditure.

Transvaal Administrator Dane Hough yesterday tabled the budget before the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs for the Transvaal.

The committee, comprising all the Transvaal MPs, is sitting in the old Raadsaal for the budget debate.

Mr Hough presented a budget totalling R4.97 billion — 13.45 percent up on last year’s budget. Better service conditions for TPA employees account for R183 million of the increase.

Estimated revenue from provincial sources will be R779.5 million — an increase of 15.08 percent. The rest of the budget will be paid from central Government coffers.

Mr Hough said a “fierce attack” on the local government system and health services in Transvaal had adversely affected the quality of the TPA’s services.

As a result, funds that could have been used for maintenance and community development had had to be used to maintain essential services.

“Further expansion and development was more or less brought to a standstill by this,” he said.

Apart from the onslaught against local government structures, the greatest problem facing the TPA was the housing shortage leading to illegal squatting on unsuitable land.

Mr Hough said the Government’s White Paper on Land Reform had placed the emphasis on the provision of suitable land for informal housing which may subsequently be upgraded.

Acquiring land for this purpose was “top of the list.”

The TPA’s community development branch had made excellent progress in the past year in the establishment of informal towns. Mr Hough added.

Mr Hough warned that limited funds had forced a cutback on the construction of new roads. And the maintenance of existing roads in the Transvaal, with an estimated replacement value of R21.2 billion, had deteriorated at an alarming rate.

He said the present form of provincial government was not representative, not elected, did not have its own legislative body, its functions were limited and it had only limited revenue sources.
Mavuso should resign - DP

THE Democratic Party suggested Transvaal ANC MP Mr John Mavuso should consider resigning.

The call was made by Mr Dave Dalling DP MP for Sandton, who said members of the Transvaal Executive Committee should be impartial.

Dalling said Mavuso was reported to have told a crowd of 50 000 that if the ANC carried on with intimidation to force local councillors to resign, organised resistance would follow.

He asked whether these were the words of the person dignified to be appointed MEC, or those of a "captain of an Inkatha Impi" - Own Correspondent.
Transvaal's poor get big slice ofBudget

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration this week asked approval for a record R5 billion Budget - with the major slice going to the upliftment of disadvantaged communities.

Priorities in this year's budget will be community development, black local authorities and bridging finance, while the emphasis will be on the maintenance of existing infrastructure rather than the creation of new infrastructure.

Hospital services and primary health-care also feature high on the list of expenditure.

Transvaal Administrator Mr Danie Hough yesterday tabled the budget before the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs for the Transvaal.

The committee, comprising all the Transvaal Members of Parliament, is sitting in the Ou Randsaal for the Budget debate.

Increase

Hough presented a Budget totalling R4 966 billion - 13.45 percent up on last year's Budget.

Better service conditions for TPA employees account for R183-million of the increase.

Estimated revenue from provincial sources will be R778,553-million - an increase of 15.06 percent on last year's revenues. The rest of the budget will be paid from central government coffers.

Hough said a "fierce attack" on the local government system and health services in Transvaal had "adversely affected" the quality of the TPA's services.

As a result of this, funds that could have been used for maintenance and community development had had to be used to maintain essential services.

"Further expansion and development was more or less brought to a standstill by this," the administrator said.

Apart from the onslaught against local government structures, the greatest problem facing the TPA was the housing shortage, leading to illegal squatting on unsuitable land.

Land

Hough said the Government's White Paper on land reform had placed the emphasis on the provision of suitable land for informal housing which may subsequently be upgraded.

The acquisition of land for this purpose had been put "at the top of the list."

The TPA's community development branch had made "excellent" progress in the past year in the establishment of informal towns, Hough added.

Regarding bridging finance to black local authorities, Hough said from April 1 the TPA would change over to the existing system of bridging loans to a system of intergovernmental grants.

"I wish to emphasise that these funds are not granted to finance boycotts, but that they are grants to those comm.
Bridging finance of R1.3bn ‘given away’

TRANZVAAL black local authorities have repaid just 0.1% or R1.3m of the R1.3bn in bridging finance provided to them by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) over the past five years.

MEC for Local Government Olaus van Zyl said in Pretoria yesterday the TPA had not intended the bridging loans to be repaid because they had been given to non-viable communities that could not afford to run essential services.

The TPA has budgeted R410.9m for bridging finance this year.

Last year R428m was paid out.

In an information document, he said since last August, payment of bridging finance had been limited to R10.5m a month after the province had paid out R126m more than estimated between April and July.

Van Zyl said the boycotts had lasted longer than expected, forcing the TPA to cut bridging finance.

The comprehensive payments boycotts which started last March resulted in the amount of levies, rents and service charges unpaid jumping by 132% by last December compared with the previous year.

He said from July between 53 and 60 black towns experienced payments boycotts.

In January 1990 about 55% of amounts levied were collected but by December this declined to about 32% a month.

In 1989 an average 54% of rents and service charges had been collected compared with 70% in 1988.

He said bridging finance was not aimed at financing boycotts but at maintaining essential services in economically non-viable black local governments.

For better control and co-ordination of funds, the TPA had decided that from April 1 it would hand over to regional services councils the amounts it had allocated in bridging finance.
THE COMMUNITY DISPUTE RESOLUTION RESOURCE CENTRE

Beyond Boycotts: The Tale of Two Cities

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Find the missing components of a good forward John Prima looks at social and political
**R410-m grant for black local authorities**

Pretoria Correspondent

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has appropriated more than R410 million as bridging finance to non-viable black local authorities in the next financial year.

However, financial assistance will not be given in the form of bridging loans as in the past, but as inter-governmental grants, MEC for local government and regional services councils Olaus van Zyl has told the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs.

Decline

In an information document tabled before the committee, Mr van Zyl said “comprehensive payment boycotts” had resulted in a sharp decline in collection of rates and a sharp increase in arrears.

In the Transvaal, an average of only 55.5 percent of rates and service charges had been collected, and the accumulated arrears now stood at more than R960 million.

Apart from the non-payment of municipal accounts because of “intimidation”, the reasons for the weak financial position of black councils were:

- The “tremendous” backlog in the development of black townships stemming from the past Government policy that blacks were not permanent residents of their towns.
- The lack of industries and businesses in the black townships, depriving them in a large measure from site and service-charge revenue.
- Rapid urbanisation and over-population which placed great pressure on the upgrading of services.

In an information document tabled before the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs in Pretoria, Ms van Zyl said 224 seats in black local councils — almost 47 percent — were currently vacant.

About 224 of the vacancies had resulted from intimidation, Mr van Zyl said.

In terms of the Black Local Authorities Act, administrators had to be appointed for 39 black councils which could no longer function as councils because they could not reach a quorum.

He said the intimidation campaign had recently been extended to coloured and Indian management committees, but at present only two coloured and one Indian management committee could not function because they lacked a quorum.

“While the Government agrees that a negotiated system of local government should be created, it is a pity that the attacks and attempts to destroy the present system are still being pursued and that intimidation should be the chief means of persuasion,” Mr van Zyl said.

“IT raises the question whether the intimidators and even those who so consciously continue intimidation really desire a democratic system for South Africa.”

Interim measures to eliminate shortcomings in the present system should be negotiated, and the Government was considering passing legislation during this session of Parliament to provide for such negotiated structures.

**Poor pay ‘impeding conservation’**

Pretoria Correspondent

The “extremely unfavourable” salaries of nature conservation officials was “seriously impeding” nature conservation in the Transvaal, MEC for nature conservation Fanie Ferreira said yesterday.

In a document tabled before the extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs, Mr Ferreira said while 15 percent of posts in the nature conservation branch were vacant, the main cause for concern was the numerous vacant senior posts.

“This must receive urgent attention, in view of the ever-increasing environmental degradation and the serious consequences this has for the envisaged economic and social development programmes.”

The goal of the TPA’s nature conservation policies was to put 1.5 percent of the province’s land under formal protection within five years. This meant about 85 000 ha of land had to be bought each year.

**‘Heavy pressure on councillors’**

Pretoria Correspondent

Black councillors in the Transvaal are being pressured to resign because of “tremendous opposition” to the system of black local government as well as for the promotion of private political aims, according to MEC for local government and regional services councils Olaus van Zyl.

In an information document tabled before the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs in Pretoria, Ms van Zyl said 224 seats in black local councils — almost 47 percent — were currently vacant.

“While the Government agrees that a negotiated system of local government should be created, it is a pity that the attempts to destroy the present system are still being pursued and that intimidation should be the chief means of persuasion,” Mr van Zyl said.

“It raises the question whether the intimidators and even those who so consciously continue intimidation really desire a democratic system for South Africa.”

Interim measures to eliminate shortcomings in the present system should be negotiated, and the Government was considering passing legislation during this session of Parliament to provide for such negotiated structures.

**Hospitals can’t open to all races overnight – MEC**

Pretoria Correspondent

Guidelines have been formulated for the opening of provincial hospitals to all races, but “practical arrangements” have prevented full implementation of the new policy, says MEC for health services Fanie Ferreira.

Replying to a question from Jac Rabie, United Democratic Party MP for Reiger Park, during the provincial budget debate in Pretoria, Mr Ferreira said “culture, language and eating habits of patients” had prevented the opening of hospitals “overnight.”

He said the process of implementation of the new policy guidelines was an advanced, but transitional stage.
Van Zyl stars in TPA shake-up

MEC for local government and regional services councils Olaus van Zyl has been given the task of negotiating a new regional and local government dispensation for the Transvaal.

This was one of the changes in the Transvaal Executive Committee announced by Administrator Dame Hough at the close of the provincial budget debate in Pretoria yesterday.

Mr van Zyl's new portfolio — institutional development and planning — will include the formulation of policy and implementation of new systems of regional and local government, negotiations with self-governing territories, and the establishment of interim structures between the TPA and the self-governing territories.

He will also head the TPA team to negotiate with local authorities.

MEC for roads and horseracing Tjol Lategan retains the horse-racing portfolio and takes over local government and regional services councils.

John Mavuso loses community development, and gets physical planning and development.

Willie Hoods, currently in charge of physical planning, land use and library and museum services, takes over community development and nature conservation and retains library and museum services.

Achmed Arbee, currently MEC for general provincial services, gets the added portfolio of roads. The current MEC for health services and nature conservation, Fumé Perreira, gets the additional portfolio of works.
Sandton and Alexandra councils in merger move

THE town council of Sandton, just outside Johannesburg, is preparing to merge with the town council of the nearby township, Alexandra.

To assist in the integration of the two town councils, the Government has agreed to write off the massive arrears owed by Alexandra residents when the merger takes place.

In addition, the Government of Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) will assist Sandton to carry the financial burden of rebuilding impoverished Alexandra's ailing administrative structures and to uplift vital township areas.

In a statement, the newly elected chairman of the Sandton Town Council management committee, Mr. Bruce Stewart, said "It's only a matter of time before black and white town councils merge."

"Sandton Town Council is prepared to address issues concerning Alexandra in anticipation of the inevitable changes in the new South Africa."

Mr. Stewart said a key area he will concentrate on is finance. "We must ensure proper financial control of the area, particularly when Sandton and Alexandra councils merge."
Changes made after exposure of corruption by councillors

By DERRICK LUTHAYI

The housing scandal at Doornkop, near Dobsonville, took a dramatic turn this week when three Greater Soweto councils introduced new measures to allocate land and to the homeless.

The measures, described by the Diepmeadow, Soweto and Dobsonville councils as unique in the history of land allocation in the country, follow the exposure by City Press last Sunday that the scheme was riddled with corruption and massive bribery.

Dobsonville Civic Association (DCA) and the Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhile) had petitioned the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), which is responsible for Doornkop, to intervene immediately to stop any involvement of councillors in the allocation of Doornkop sites.

Council lawyers say individual councils will invite interested people and organisations in their municipalities to submit representations for names to be included in the pool from which allocations will be made. The successful applicants' names will be handed over to the TPA for a final decision.

A statement from Dobsonville Council, whose councillors were alleged as asking for bribes, have denied their councillors have been involved and challenged any organisation or individual who has made these allegations to lay charges against them.

It adds that in the event of any councillor being found guilty the council will dismiss him immediately.

However, it warns that should these allegations continue against an individual councillor or the council they will sue for defamation of character.

It further stated that any applicant applying for land at Doornkop must have been on the council's housing waiting list and no councillor could make applications for anyone.

A lawyer for Dobsonville residents said 10 people had claimed in sworn affidavits to have paid bribes of up to R200 to councillor Leleti Mohajane. He had advised them to lay charges and to fill in forms at the Small Claims Court demanding their money back.
Link-up of Sandton, Alex councils is likely

THE Sandton Town Council was prepared to merge with the council of neighbouring but impoverished Alexandra Township, Mr Bruce Stewart, chairman of the Sandton council's management committee, said this week.

Stewart said the Government had also agreed to write-off rent arrears owed by Alexandra residents.

"The Government or the Transvaal Provincial Administration will assist us in carrying the financial burden of rebuilding the township's aging administrative structures, and uplifting vital areas."

By DON SEOKANE

"We must ensure proper financial control, particularly when the Sandton and Alexandra councils integrate," he said.

Stewart, who was elected chairman of the management committee on March 14, said it was only a matter of time before black and white town councils merged.

He said the merger would be a welcome step in anticipation of the inevitable changes in the new South Africa.
TPA: Townships R1bn in red

Transvaal township residents had built up a R1bn rent and service bill since boycotts started last year, a Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) spokesman said yesterday.

On the East Rand, Katlehong's electricity was cut on Tuesday, bringing to 110 the number of Transvaal towns without power and/or water yesterday. The Tembisa Town Council has threatened to cut power next Monday unless residents begin paying for services.

More than 50 of the province's 83 black towns have had their services cut at some stage during the boycotts which began last March.

Before then, only the three Soweto councils were subjected to boycotts.

Towns still affected yesterday included Thokoza near Alberton, where electricity has been off since December, and Hartbeesfontein's Tigane township where power was switched off last week.

Carolina in the eastern Transvaal was still refusing to supply water, electricity, sewerage services or refuse removal to the Solobela township.

Siyathuka near Belfast and Piet Retief's eTandakukanya were also without electricity yesterday.

It was disclosed last week that black local authorities affected by boycotts had repaid only 10% of the R1.3bn in bridging finance provided to them by the TPA over the past five years.
Grant for local authorities 'ludicrous'...

Pretoria — The R410.9m allocated for bridging finance, or "interim grants," to black local authorities in the Transvaal for the 1982 financial year has been condemned by civic associations as ludicrous in light of black communities' financial backlogs.

Ceci Coovada of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) said in an interview the need for finance had grown tremendously.

The R410.9m grant is almost R18m less than the previous financial year.

"Bridging finance should have been increased and communities should have been consulted before a figure was reached," said Coovada.

Van Zyl, Transvaal MEC in charge of Local Government and Regional Services, said Van Zyl maintains there was no reduction in the funds as the Regional Services Councils in the Transvaal had formally agreed to assist the Transvaal Provincial Administration by donating a minimum of 15% of their budgets.

The shortage of bridging finance had forced the TPA to approach the RSCs with a view to freezing capital projects of certain towns, where rent and services payment boycotts had been experienced, and to reschedule such funds for the maintenance of essential services.

The money was not meant to finance payment boycotts, he said.

From this month the, RSCs will receive the amounts made available for financial assistance by the TPA as inter-governmental grants.

Van Zyl said the grants now would be based on a formula which took into account services provided and the number of people to whom the services would be provided.

"The previous formula to bridging finance subsidised unproductivity. The worse a local community did, the more funds they received."

Coovada rejected the new formula, saying the amount of money provided to a local authority now depended on the money brought in by the community.

"Communities boycotting rents and services payments would thus suffer."

"The boycotts are a result of apartheid and are held in opposition to it. It is now up to government to now finance the process of addressing the problem."

Bridging finance was effectively financing the negotiation process and should continue, he said. — Sapa
Time to review sanctions,
Tutu urges black leaders

By BRENDAN BOYLE Cape Town

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu yesterday urged anti-apartheid leaders to review the need for sanctions against Pretoria.

"Is there now cause for us to be looking at when we should be the ones to take the initiative to determine whether (sanctions) should be lifted or not?" said Tutu, long a vocal supporter of sanctions.

He also appealed for greater efforts to defuse the country's "culture of violence" and said foreign business would not invest in South Africa while blacks continued to kill each other.

Tutu said anti-apartheid leaders and clergymen should discuss whether to ask the world to begin lifting curbs imposed since 1975 on trade and investment as well as sports, academic and cultural links.

South African blacks, not foreign governments, should decide when sanctions should be lifted, Tutu said.

The European Community has started to relax some investment restrictions and the United States is expected to review its sanctions this year in response to the gradual repeal of apartheid.

Tutu said President FW de Klerk's promise to repeal bantustan apartheid laws by June and his agreement to free political prisoners and allow exiles home went a long way towards meeting his own conditions for ending sanctions.

Referring to township violence that has claimed more than 1,200 lives around Johannesburg since August, Tutu said an end to sanctions would have little effect without peace.

"We can call for reinvestment until we are blue in our faces, if the situation on the ground is such as to scare people away then investment will not come.

"Consequently, it is important that we do something and that we do it quickly about the violence." He said blacks had learned under decades of apartheid that the way to deal with enemies was by liquidation, not persuasion.

Joint calls for peace by African National Congress deputy president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi after their two meetings this year had not been effective partly because of the difficulty in getting the message to the grassroots. — Sapa-Reuter

New forum plans to set up super city

THE "super forum" which could help mould the future of local government starts business in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

The first meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber will be held to vote on its proposed constitution and thereby decide whether to go ahead with a forum whose brief covers the entire ambit of local government issues in Johannesburg, Soweto, Randburg, Alexandra, Sandton, Roodepoort and the city's coloured and Indian areas.

Delegates will be drawn from all the white and black town and city councils in the area, the black civic organisations, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, while others such as the Tembisa and Midrand councils, Eskom, the Development Bank and the regional services council will have observer status.

The establishment of the chamber follows the ground-breaking Greater Soweto Accord last September, and State President FW de Klerk's February 2, 1991 speech.

While the chamber will have no formal executive powers, it is expected to evolve into a body which oversees the death of the unpopular black town councils and which sets the building blocks for non-racial local government in the region.
New forum plans to set up super city

THE "super forum" which could help mould the future of local government starts business in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

The first meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber will be held to vote on its proposed constitution and thereby decide whether to go ahead with a forum whose brief covers the entire ambit of local government issues in Johannesburg, Soweto, Randburg, Alexandra, Sandton, Roodepoort and the city's coloured and Indian areas.

Delegates will be drawn from all the white and black town and city councils in the area, the black civic organisations, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, while others such as the Tembisa and Mabopane councils, Eskom, the Development Bank and the regional services council will have observer status.

The establishment of the chamber follows the ground-breaking Greater Soweto Accord last September, and State President FW de Klerk's February 2, 1991 speech. While the chamber will have no formal executive powers, it is expected to evolve into a body which oversees the death of the unpopular black town councils and which sets the building blocks for non-racial local government in the region.
CP evasive on disease outbreak

Johannesburg — Conservative Party-controlled Carolina town council officials were nowhere to be found yesterday when reaction was sought to news of an outbreak of infectious skin and stomach diseases in nearby Sibolela township after the council cut the township’s water off 80 days ago.

The superintendent of Carolina Hospital, Dr M P Veltman, who was contacted at his private practice in Ernella, also refused to talk.

“Phone back on Monday,” his receptionist said tersely after she first spoke to Dr Veltman. “He’s busy till then.”

At the Carolina town council it was much the same story.

“This council has a policy that only the mayor can speak to the press,” said Carolina’s town secretary, who declined to give his name.

“Do you want me to put this telephone down in your ear?”

At the mayor’s office his secretary said he was away on holiday until Tuesday and no one knew where he was.

Carolina’s town council cut Sibolela’s services on January 16 after its arrears reached R130 000, it was reported yesterday.

Local doctors said that besides skin diseases, the incidence of dysentery and gastro-enteritis was approaching epidemic level, especially among small children.

A parent of a pupil at Sibolela’s 726-pupil Ezemeleni Primary School said yesterday that 140 of the school’s pupils were suffering from illnesses linked to the lack of water.

“Although the pupils are suffering they are still attending school,” said the parent, who asked not to be named.

“There are 90 pupils at the moment with diarrhoea or some stomach complaint. Others have scabies on their legs.”

A newspaper reported that for the past 11 weeks Sibolela residents had had to collect water from the town’s Indian area or from the township’s polluted spruit.

— Sapa
Birth of Metropolitan Chamber

First step to non-racial local govt

REEF councils will take the first step towards eliminating apartheid from local government when the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is formally constituted in Johannesburg tomorrow.

The chamber will serve as a blueprint for the rest of SA by acting as a forum for improving non-racial local government structures which could replace existing local authorities as early as the year-end.

The constitution, to be signed by more than 50 parties at a ceremony in the Johannesburg City Council chambers, states that "the intention is to have political participation, dialogue and interaction in the forum during the period of constitutional transition in SA".

The chamber will thrash out a way of pooling the region's finances, tackle the thorny issue of a single tax base and improve the administration of its townships.

Eventually it could renegotiate existing municipal boundaries and decide on a system of local elections for the new non-racial local authority. Members will use the forum to debate such crucial issues as rents and services tariffs, the intimidation of councilors, inept administration, bridging finance and boycotts.

Although the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) is not specifically represented in the chamber, nine civic associations from Cast's Johannesburg regional group are due to sign as members.

However, they have emphasised their participation will not curb their mass action campaigns aimed at ousting black councillors.

The "civics" see the chamber as a "second terrain of struggle" to bring about the dissolution of allegedly unrepresentative black councils and Indian and coloured management committees.

A task group will be set up to report within three months on a common tax base for the region.

The constitution states that problems of local government financing need to be addressed from the perspective of the metropolitan region within which a common fiscal base should be a major element.

Johannesburg has said it would be unable to shoulder Soweto's financial responsibilities on its own. And the presence of Sandton, Randjespark and Randburg in the chamber will spread the financial burden.

Other members who will sign tomorrow's agreement include Indian and coloured management committees and the original five parties to the Soweto Accord, which was the starting point for the formation of the metropolitan chamber.

A separate working group, comprising representatives of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the Soweto morning's mandate to find a new metropolitan and local government structure.

Tomorrow's meeting will elect a chairman, who will not necessarily be a delegate.

The chamber will decide who will foot the bill for the chamber secretariat.

By signing the agreement, parties will undertake to negotiate in good faith on any disputes arising from the implementation of the constitution.

The chamber will dissolve when it believes an appropriate system of local government and administration has been established for the region.
Carolina told: turn on taps or go to court

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

CAROLINA — The Conservative Party town council here has until today to switch on disease-ridden Slobela township’s water supply, or possibly face Supreme Court action by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

At the weekend the provincial authorities disclosed that Slobela’s water account of R19 480 had been paid by the TPA two weeks ago.

But the CP council refused to reconnect the supply because the township’s outstanding electricity arrears of R123 600 had not been met.

Last week, The Star reported that after 80 days without water, sewage or refuse removal there had been an outbreak of scabies and other infectious skin diseases in the small eastern Transvaal township.

And local doctors said the instances of dysentery and gastro-enteritis were reaching epidemic level.

The Department of National Health had been notified of the health crisis by township administrator Marie van Vuuren.

On Friday, the TPA’s deputy director general of community affairs, Len Dekker, said he had ordered the Carolina council to turn on Slobela’s water supply immediately when he heard that the township’s water account had been settled.

However, a council official had stalled him until the end of the weekend, saying this could only be done by council resolution, and the earliest the council could hold an extraordinary meeting was today.

Said Mr Dekker: “As I read the contract, once the water account had been fully paid Carolina is obliged to reconnect the water supply. They can’t withhold water because the electricity account is outstanding.”

He said he wanted to hear from the Carolina council today that they had held their extraordinary meeting and reconnected the township’s water.

“Failing that, I will recommend to the Administrator that urgent court action be taken.”

All attempts to get comment from the Carolina town council were unsuccessful. Council secretary Albert Myburgh said only mayor Dr Sarel Bloem was allowed to talk to the press, and he was on a caravanning holiday until April 15.
We're piggy in the middle, says Eskom

By Esmare van der Merwe
Political Reporter

Eskom has strongly denounced the 'punitive blackout of townships by white local authorities in response to massive outstanding electricity accounts. Communications manager Johan du Plessis said this practice was extremely unfair because it posed serious security and health risks to black communities and punished residents who paid their accounts.

Eskom was firm on its views that non-paying individuals should have their electricity cut off, but not entire towns, he said.

Mr. du Plessis said Eskom's negotiations with community organisations confirmed that only 80 percent of township residents were prepared to pay their accounts once affordable tariffs and accurate metering and billing systems were implemented.

He said black local authorities owed Eskom about R120 million countrywide, but Eskom had not cut off power supplies to any of the defaulting black towns.

"Some people blame us because we don't cut off electricity. They say this is because they believe blacks don't want to pay for services. But white people would not pay their accounts either if they were to have the problems black residents have."

"On the other hand, most blacks blame Eskom for the mess in which they have been caught up. They don't understand that Eskom cannot bypass the local authorities which have the right of supply."
Launch of Chamber hangs in the balance

By Jo-Anne Collinge and Shirley Woodgate

Political violence has reared its head as a last-minute threat to the formation of the multicultural Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, due to be constituted in Johannesburg today.

The inaugural meeting was still in the balance 15 minutes before it was due to start at 9am as there was no sign of any of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) members.

At the heart of the issue is a claim by CAST that township councillors "have become the actual source of violence against our people" and that sitting on a joint structure with councillors demands urgent reconsideration.

CAST affiliates — including those who are potential members of the Metropolitan Chamber — were due to meet today to take a final decision on whether to take part in the Chamber or not.

Said CAST vice-president Kgabusi Masunkuta yesterday: "There might be a surprise taking place."

CAST president Moses Mayekiso said: "The whole violence issue is going to play a role in deciding whether to participate in such a structure with people who are mowing down the communities through using red blood (sic) vigilantes."

CAST general secretary Sam Ntuli added that CAST had resolved "that civics are not allowed to sit with councillors any more because of the escalation of violence."

In addition to reviewing participation in the Chamber, CAST is seeking a meeting with President de Klerk this week to discuss its demand for the resignation of councillors and its proposal for the setting up of "interim local structures."

At the launch it appears possible that would-be participants will be faced with a last-minute amendment to the constitution, moved by the civics, in which an attempt may be made to eliminate councillors.

In terms of the draft constitution, the Chamber will comprise nine civics from the greater Johannesburg area, the Johannesburg, Roodepoort, Randburg and Sandton councils, coloured and Indian management committees, the three Soweto councils and the TPA.

It reports the Government did not ban traditional weapons, then CAST would encourage township residents to carry weapons. People should be armed to defend themselves through defence committees using available weapons, CAST added.
Johannesburg — The ANC has called for a mass boycott of all white-owned businesses in Krugersdorp and Randfontein in response to the forced cancellation of an ANC march in Krugersdorp at the weekend.

"Witwatersrand ANC spokesman Mr Thami Luphoko said yesterday the boycott would probably start on April 20. Saturday's march was aborted after thousands of ANC supporters were confronted by gun-wielding right-wingers.

Mr Luphoko said the boycott would go ahead even if the town councils involved agreed to let the ANC stage another march.

He said he expected the ANC leadership to support the boycott.

A spokesman for the Krugersdorp Town Council said he did not know of the boycott plans and the council was not planning to discuss the issue.

Randfontein council was unavailable for comment yesterday."
Johannesburg — Today’s planned formation of the non-racial Central  Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber hung in the balance last night as civic associations weighed up whether to participate or not. The six members of the Civics Assocation of Southern Transvaal (Cast) appeared likely to refuse to take part alongside black councillors they have accused of involvement in the continuing township violence.
Meanwhile, the names of Idasa director Dr Van Zyl Slabbert and former Inkatha chairman Mr Oscar Dlamini have been put forward by councillors as possible chairmen. The civics will take a joint decision this morning on whether to take part.

However, Cast general secretary Mr Sam Ntuli said yesterday their refusal to sign the agreement formally constituting the chamber was “highly unlikely in the light of the recent Cast resolution that member civics not be allowed to sit on forums with black councillors”.

Their decision hinged on their assessment of the role played by black councillors and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) in allegedly fuelling township violence in the region.

Without the civics the chamber will consist only of existing, racially defined local authorities and the TPA.
CAROLINA water decision today

CAROLINA's CP-controlled management committee will hold a special meeting today to discuss restoring the water supply to neighbouring Slobela township.

Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) spokesman Magda du Toit said yesterday the eastern Transvaal council had told the TPA its management committee would meet to discuss the issue.

The TPA, which paid Slobela's R10 480 water account, had asked Carolina to switch off the water supply of the disease-ridden township, Du Toit said.

Carolina deputy mayor AD Pieterson confirmed the council would debate the matter this afternoon.

Pieterson said it was not his council's decision to cut the water supply to Slobela that had caused the outbreak of infectious skin diseases in the township.

The diseases could be blamed on the fact that the sewerage systems were overflowing in the streets.

However, the Carolina municipality would "love" to start supplying water again as it was losing "valuable income by not doing so," Pieterson said.

Meanwhile, at Vosloorus electricity will be cut to 30% of the East Rand township's residents from today or tomorrow.

Vosloorus town clerk George Prinsloo said yesterday 70% of residents had paid the agreed interim rate of R67 for March.

Vosloorus town council would cut the power supply to those who had not, Prinsloo said.

Prinsloo also urged residents to come forward and pay the interim rate of R60 for this month.

Also on the East Rand, the Tembisa town council will hold a special meeting today to discuss a possible electricity cutoff.

But the switch-offs would not be announced.
Metropolitan chamber hangs in the balance

TANIA LEVY

TODAY's planned formation of a multi-racial Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber hung in the balance last night as civic associations weighed up whether to participate.

The six members of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cass) appeared likely to refuse to take part alongside black councillors they have accused of involvement in the continuing township violence.

Meanwhile, the names of Idee director Van Zyl Slabbert and former Ikatsha chairman Oscar Ithlomolo have been proposed by councillors as possible chairmen of the chamber. Cass will take a final decision this morning on whether to participate.

However, Cass general secretary Sam Nthiwa yesterday urged the council to consider the question of the chamber's formation, adding that the Cass resolution that member municipalities should not be allowed to sign up for forums that they did not have the assent of black councillors.

The council will be considering the formation of the chamber as part of the broader question of the role of the provincial administrative panel (TPTA) in alleged violence in the region.

The civic associations concerned include the Sebenza Civic Association, Alexandra Civic Association, Stellenbosch Civic Association, Western Cape Civic Association and the Kliptown Ekurhuleni Park Civic Association.

Without them, the Metropolitan Chamber will consist only of Cass and the TPTA.

Cass president Lefanu Moshupa said the recent massacre at today's meeting was a "surprise" to everyone.

Civic associations could declare a motion to exclude black councillors if the Cass made a decision in favour of participation, he said.

If the council made a decision in favour of participation, he said, black councillors would have to resign from the council to exclude them.

Moshupa said.
Cast calls township residents to arms

THE ANC-aligned Cries Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday urged township residents to arm themselves and form defence units. (266)

Cast spokesmen told a news conference in Johannesburg the organisation had asked President F W de Klerk to meet them on Thursday to discuss the escalating violence on the Reef.

At the meeting, Cast would demand the urgent scrapping of hostels, which it said had become "vigilante bases and launching pads." (94191)

It also called for the immediate resignation of all the remaining black councillors and management committees who had become "the actual source of violence against our people".

Cast president Moses Mayekiso said the violence, and particularly attacks by "sokdoek" vigilantes using spears, pangas, choppers and other so-called traditional weapons had escalated.

Now residents were being told to defend themselves against their killers, including the "third force created by government." Cast supported the ANC's call for a ban on the carrying of weapons, but while this was not needed by government, communities would have to carry weapons for self-defence, said Mayekiso.

These would include firearms.
Civic constitution backed

Most members of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) participated at the inaugural meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber in Johannesburg yesterday, despite earlier widespread criticism of their involvement.

Fanie Ferreira, MEC and chairman at the inaugural meeting, said the draft constitution for the new body was tabled, approved and signed by representatives of the Transvaal Provincial Administration, seven local government bodies and five civic associations.

The objectives and activities of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber were similar to the Greater Soweto Accord, signed on September 24 last year — to serve as a negotiating forum to investigate and formulate non-racial, democratic metropolitan and local government structures.

The forum would invite political participation, dialogue and interaction during the period of constitutional transition.

The local government bodies who signed the constitution were the councils of Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra.

The civic associations were the Soweto People's Delegation, Soweto Civic Association, Western Residents' Action Committee, Kliptown, Eldorado Park, Kipspruit West Interim Democratic Civic Association and the Riverlea Civic Association.

Seven other groups also attended.

The new body will not require funds to run it, Mr Ferreira said during a Press conference which followed the inaugural meeting.

Replying to the criticism at their involvement in a body shared with black town councilors, Cas Coovadia of CAST and the participating CAST members had been mandated by their constituents to sign and participate in the Metropolitan Chamber.

Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the National Union of Mine workers, said he and CAST would continue to call for the resignation of all black town councillors.

Also taking part in the meeting was Ian Davidson, chairman of the Johannesburg management committee — Sapa.
**Mayor challenges role of associations.**

By Shirley Woodgate

Drostdy mayor Moses Khumalo has thrown down the gauntlet to civic associations who have regularly called for the resignation of black councillors, but who yesterday attended, and in some cases signed, the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber constitution.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, he said the civics, not the black councillors, were the problem.

"We are offering service to the people in our areas, working for one SA, where there is justice, no discrimination nor intimidation. Long before the civics came into existence, we not only worked on bread-and-butter issues but called for a multi-racial government and the scrapping of apartheid," Mr Khumalo said.

"They talk like the ANC, which says the Government should resign — which seems to indicate they are nothing but one of the ANC structures. They were signatories to the Soweto Accord without then promptly calling for our resignation," Mr Khumalo said.

Giving no hint of opposition to sitting around the same table with black councillors, Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal assistant secretary Cyle Coovadia said, "I would have attended this meeting if I was not positive."

"We have committed ourselves to doing our utmost to ensuring the chamber improves the living conditions of people."

...
New chamber to press ahead

The future of the new Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber seemed assured yesterday, despite the failure of some township civic associations to sign the chamber’s launching document.

Five civic bodies, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and seven councils signed an agreement yesterday to constitute the chamber which will negotiate future non-racial local government structures.

Seven parties did not sign but indicated they would probably join the chamber once they had been given assurance by their members.

These were the Alexandra Civic Organisation, Actstop, the Roodepoort City Council, the Federation of Ratepayers of Lenasia, the Ennerdale Local Development Committee, the Ennerdale Civic Association and the Davidsonville/Fleurhof Management Committee.

The local authorities who signed the constitution were the councils of Johannesburg, Soweto, Dobsonville, DeaneMeadow, Sandton, Randburg and Alexandra.

The council’s formation hung in the balance when Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cass) indicated on Monday that some council might refuse to take part because of the inclusion of black councils and the continuing township violence.

However, the Soweto Civic Association, Soweto People’s Delegation, the Western Residents’ Action Committee, the Riviera continued to refuse to resign.

He said the problem lay with the civic associations and the black councils.

“As far as the councils are concerned, we are all trying to reach a South Africa free of discrimination, with justice and if possible no intimidation.”

Long before the civic associations existed black councillors had joined government structures to try to rid them of apartheid, he said.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said there were clearly problems between members of the metropolitan chamber but members had signed because there was more uniting them than dividing them.

The chamber would help create a non-racial structure for the region and set the pace for local government throughout SA.

The chamber meets again on May 15 when a chairman or co-chairmen will be elected and a decision taken on whether to open future meetings to the public.

To Page 2

From Page 1

Civic Association and the Kipton’s, Eldorado Park, Kipspruit West Interim Democratic Civic Association signed the agreement as members.

He said the problem lay with the civic associations and the black councillors.

“As far as the councils are concerned, we are all trying to reach a South Africa free of discrimination, with justice and if possible no intimidation.”

Long before the civic associations existed black councillors had joined government structures to try to rid them of apartheid, he said.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said there were clearly problems between members of the metropolitan chamber but members had signed because there was more uniting them than dividing them.

The chamber would help create a non-racial structure for the region and set the pace for local government throughout SA.

The chamber meets again on May 15 when a chairman or co-chairmen will be elected and a decision taken on whether to open future meetings to the public.

To Page 2

Comment Page 6
Civic body defies and joins talks

MEMBERS of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal were at the inaugural meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber in Johannesburg yesterday.

This was despite earlier widespread criticism of their involvement.

Mr. Fanele Ferrera, MEC and chairman at the meeting, said the objectives and activities of the CWMC were similar to the Greater Soweto Accord, signed on September 24 last year.

The aim of the accord is to serve as a negotiating forum to investigate and formulate non-racial, democratic metropolitan and local government structures.

The forum would involve political participation, dialogue and interaction during the period of constitutional transition in South Africa.

The local government bodies who signed the CWMC constitution yesterday were the councils of Soweto, Dobsonville, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra.

The civic associations were the Soweto Peoples Delegation, Soweto Civic Association, Western Residents Action Committee Klipspruit, Eldorado Park, Kliplands West Interim Democratic and Riverlea Civic associations.

Cast was severely criticized on Monday for its participation in the CWMC by, among other groups, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, which said the CWMC would be “squeezing valuable resources”.

Replying to the criticism at their involvement in a body shared with black councillors, Mr. Cas Coovadia of Cast said the participating Cast members had been mandated by their constituents to sign and participate in the CWMC.

“We do not see our participation here in isolation from the broader issues and we would take our guidance from the events occurring at national level,” he said.

Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the National Union of Mineworkers, explained that he and Cast still rejected local black councils and would continue to call for the resignation of all black councillors.

Although they were all signatories to the constitution of the CWMC, “this will not detract from us continuing to call for their resignation”, Ramaphosa said.

During yesterday’s Press conference, the black councillors shared the same table as Ramaphosa, Coovadia and other black leaders who have consistently called for their resignations — Sapa

Sabta gets tough on taxi drivers

THE South African Black Taxi Association is to recommend to the Department of Transport that permits of taxi owners and drivers convicted of drunken driving be temporarily suspended.

Sabta’s president, Mr. James Ngoyoza, yesterday confirmed that five drivers stopped by Sabta patrols during the Easter weekend were found to have been under the influence of alcohol.

Ngoyoza said Sabta would ask the department to suspend for six months the permits of drivers and owners found guilty of the offence.

The recommendations would be endorsed in Sabta’s constitution in June — Sapa.
The sad state of Jo'burg

WHERE Washington researchers unfurled when they rated Johannesburg as one of the worst-quality cities in the world.

The survey results increased many South Africans out of a possible 100 points, Johannesburg managed to score only 46 in an international report entitled "Cities." It examined the quality of life in the world's 100 largest cities.

Johannesburg scored just enough to scrape in around 70th, central India — and thus escaped being categorized among the worst of Africa's cities.

The cities surveyed used were "very good," "good," "fair," and "poor." Johannesburg came bottom of the "fair" category.

The ratings, published worldwide, were arrived at by the Population Crisis Committee in Washington. It analyzed the world's 100 largest metropolises, placing such cities as London, Athens, Johannesburg, Bogota, and Baghdad all ahead of both Johannesburg and Cape Town as far as the quality of life is concerned.

The worst cities in the survey were published by The Star some weeks ago, Nigel Mandy — a Johannesburg expert on the world's metropolitan areas — proclaimed it "homemaker.

Mr. Mandy, founder of Johannesburg's CBD Association, has been to many of the cities in the survey. The researchers claimed only 20 percent of Johannesburg's homes had lights and water. According to the survey, only 48 percent of Cape Town's houses were fully serviced.

Judging by the survey's definition of "city" — Johannesburg included all the towns and cities abutting it. Greater Johannesburg's total population was given as 6.6 million.

Johannesburg is deemed to be the world's 38th largest city, but from a quality-of-life point of view it is rated 70th.

The survey, completed in mid-1989, appears to have been based on outdated municipal data as far as Johannesburg is concerned.

Johannesburg's housing statistics appear to be from 1989 when three-quarters of Soweto did not have electricity.

Johannesburg's 1 out of 10 housing quality puts it at par with Lagos and Kinshasa. By contrast, Cape Town, where thou-

The "Cities" project used 10 sets of criteria:

PUBLIC SAFETY — (how many murders per 100,000 head of population) Johannesburg rated 3 out of 10 (15.8 murders per 100,000) Cape Town scored 1 out of 10 and was deemed the most murderous city on earth with 64.7 murders.

Safest cities (10 out of 10) were Bandung (Indonesia), Manchester, Rome, Pusan, Barcelona, Madrid, Nagoya (Japan), Madras, Calcutta, Seoul and Tokyo/Yokohama.

FOOD COSTS — (percentage of personal income spent on food) Johannesburg was not rated but Cape Town scored 6 out of 10 — as did Kiev and Seoul. New York, London, and Chicago were among the cities which scored 10 out of 10.

LIVING SPACE — (how many as per room) Johannesburg again rated 1 out of 10 along with Calcutta, Ho Chi Minh City, Shanghai, Kinshasa, and Lagos.

BRIEFING — Johannesburg rated 1 out of 10 (see above)

COMMUNICATIONS — (telephone per 100 people) Again Johannesburg rated 1 out of 10.

The metropolitan is said to have only six phones per 100, along with Mexico City, Bombay, Kinshasa, Lagos, Rio and many other cities.

EDUCATION — (percentage of children at secondary school) Johannesburg again scored only 1 out of 10 Cape Town scored 6 Only five of the 100 cities scored as low as Johannesburg — Dakar, Lagos, Lahore, Kuala Lumpur, and Hyderabad.

PUBLIC HEALTH — (infant mortality) Johannesburg scored well — 8 out of 10 — and Cape Town 8 out of 10, putting it on a par with Paris and Chicago.

PEACE AND QUIET — (based on background noise) Johannesburg scored 8 out of 10 as did Cape Town, whereas Cape Town only scored 10 and only three were quieter than Johannesburg — Dallas, Singapore and Manchester.

TRAFFIC FLOW — (speed of rush-hour traffic) Johannesburg scored 10 out of 10 Only six other cities did as well, and Belo Horizonte (Brazil), Houston, Kiev, Casablanca, and Atlanta.

CLEAN AIR — (based mainly on ozone from cars) Johannesburg scored 8 as did Cape Town, while only Taipei, Sydney, Melbourne, Lahore (with), and Birmingham (9) did better.

The three worst cities in the world were Lagos (19), Kinshasa (29) and Dhaka (32).
Grave mistake to join forum, says Mayekiso

The Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) has come out in strong opposition to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, a negotiating forum to investigate and set up non-racial metropolitan and local government structures.

President of Cast, Moss Mayekiso, said yesterday “it was a gross and grave mistake” for civics and other parties to ratify the Chamber constitution, which he said was made up of racially-defined bodies. Metropolitan and regional structures with a racial component would only pave the way for the furtherance of the incameral parliament and continued protection of group rights envisaged by the government, he said.

His response comes as a surprise in the wake of the signing of the constitution by the Soweto People’s Delegation and the Soweto Civic Association.

The constitution was signed this week by the Transvaal Provincial Association, several local government bodies and five civics. Five other bodies, including the Alexandra Civic Association, Actop and three local government committees, said they would only sign after receiving authorisation.

Mayekiso said yesterday that Cast would clearly distance itself from being party to a forum which had been “bulldozed through before people understood it”.

Cast rejects the CWMC constitution on the following grounds.

- It is racially-based in that the various groups represent racially-defined areas and are comprised of racial bodies like local authorities.
- It is based on proposals whereby the government wants to give power to regional structures and thus pre-empt a “watered down” national constitution where strong regional government bodies will be able to protect racial interests.
- It has not yet been thoroughly discussed by civic bodies (save the Soweto People’s Delegation and Soweto Civic Association) which are being “rushed into signing”.
- Black local authorities which were not elected by their constituents feature prominently in the Chamber, despite the call for the disbanding of black local authorities and resignation of the councillors.

However Mayekiso said this did not mean negotiations could only take place once fully-fledged non-racial local authorities were in place, but that interim non-racial structures should be created as negotiating arms, as was the case with Alexandra and the Sandton and Randburg town councils.

Soweto Civic Association general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday that the CWMC came about in the wake of the Greater Soweto Accord with the purpose of drawing in a wider spectrum of local bodies to create a single tax base and non-racial municipality for the Witwatersrand region.

Lephunya said the SCA had all along called for the resignation of the black councillors, but he added that the formation of the CWMC was an important step towards the disintegration of racially-defined municipalities. “We cannot deny that the municipalities are racial in character but what we are saying in the Chamber is that the time has come to begin to address this situation and have a vision of the future.”

Lephunya said there was no way non-racial regional bodies could be formed while municipalities and areas were still racially-defined. He added that Cast’s position would not create conflict as those civics under the umbrella body were part of a federal organisation and could thus act with autonomy.
Cast rejects plan for ‘racial’ chamber

JO-ANNE COLLINGE

THE Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber has been rejected outright by the Civic Association of the South Transvaal (Cast), largely because it "is based on racial representation" and includes "illegitimate and discredited" township councillors.

Cast publicity secretary Sandy Lebese yesterday released a statement stressing that Cast had not been party to any of the negotiations which had taken place between signatories of the chamber.

The chamber, comprising seven white and black local authorities, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and several civic associations in Greater Johannesburg, is seen as a forum in which future non-racial forms of third-tier government will be planned.

About half the eligible civic bodies — including the largest, the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — joined the chamber at the launch on Tuesday, while others held back. They have until the end of the month to add their names to the founding parties.

Constituent assembly

Cast said it believed structures such as the forum cut across national political demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government.

Cast executive member Nomvula Mokonyane elaborated that the reform of third-tier structures — even of an interim nature — could not occur satisfactorily unless representative national interim structures were set up.

Various Cast members said it appeared the TPA wished to foust chamber-type structures upon areas in which opposition to township councils was stronger than in Soweto.

Cyril Ramaphosa of the SCA accused Cast members of "political dishonesty." He said none had raised fundamental objections to the chamber in a meeting shortly before the signing.
United they stand in one-council Klerksdorp

WHILE other politicians bicker and posture over the formation of one-city governments, sleepy Klerksdorp has taken practical steps towards achieving this goal.

The West Rand town and the black township of Jouberton have a single administration with one town clerk.

On a scale of nought to 10 for integration, they are probably at five — and further down the unification road than any other local authority in the Transvaal.

Klerksdorp town clerk Jan Muller, who is also the town clerk for Jouberton, said this week the move towards a single administration came about through necessity last August.

**Resigned**

The Jouberton town council approached Klerksdorp with financial, administrative and skills problems and Klerksdorp agreed to help.

Since August, Klerksdorp's departmental officials head both the administration's departments and all Jouberton's services are delivered by Klerksdorp on an agency basis in collaboration with Jouberton employees.

All but three councillors from the Jouberton town council have resigned and an administrator, who is also a member of the Klerksdorp town council's management committee, has run the council since February this year.

Mr Muller says the three remaining councillors have no power and are mere figureheads.

He believes the joining of the administrations at the first step towards forming a single, non-racial local government structure for the two towns.

He is waiting for government legislation to allow for black community participation in the structure, but sees it as important that practical steps are taken in the meantime to institutionalise local government.

Mr Muller says this town has no say on how their town is run and there is no forum for participation.

Mr Muller concedes this top-heavy "act now, talk later" approach could present problems, but there is little alternative.

Mr Muller says the Jouberton Civic Association, which is a member of Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal, has majority support in the Jouberton community.

On Thursday, the Jouberton Civic Association, the Jouberton administrator and Mr Muller, in his capacity as town clerk of Jouberton, will meet to discuss new rates for rents and services.

Mr Muller says he will use this meeting to suggest a gathering of all interested parties in Jouberton to discuss a forum whereby the community can participate in the running of the town.

Also on the agenda on Thursday is a discussion on the move towards a single local authority and a single tax base.

Jouberton Civic Association chairman Henry Moleme said that while Jouberton and Klerksdorp had merged administrations, there was an urgent need for negotiation and consultation on a new non-racial structure with a single tax base.

**Satisfied**

The civic association was not consulted about the merging of the two administrations and this was a problem, he said.

However, Mr Moleme said he was not opposed to it as it was for the good of the community.

He challenged the Klerksdorp town council to set the process in motion whereby all community representatives in Klerksdorp and Jouberton could start talking about a new system.

Transvaal provincial administration spokesman Magda du Toit said the TPA was satisfied with the joint administration between Klerksdorp and Jouberton.

It was the most advanced example of a joint administration in the Transvaal and the first step towards a joint non-racial and democratic structure, she said.
Soul-search for strategy to define ‘new’ local government

THE FIRST of the all-race "voluntary" forums on local government has been launched in the Transvaal in the guise of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. It appears to have been accompanied by about equal proportions of back-slapping and cold-shouldering.

Many observers are puzzled by the deep-seated disagreement which the chamber has provoked among civic organisations representing various townships and black residents of various Johannesburg areas. Activists who for years have been battling against apartheid are now launching verbal missiles at each other over participation in the chamber.

The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — and its appointed negotiating arm, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) — have gone into the chamber together with three other Johannesburg civic organisations. About an equal number of Johannesburg residents have formed the Botetla Action Committee, which it says has been formed to represent all residents, black and white.

The other parties to the chamber are the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the councils of Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton, Dargans, Dobsonville, Soweto and Alexandra.

The question on many a tongue is whether division over the chamber could critically split the civic movement just as the setting up of a national civic structure

The answer is almost certainly yes. Firstly, regional civic structures such as CAST and presumably the planned national organisation — have a federal character and do not deprive individual affiliations of the right to take decisions as directed by residents of the townships they represent.

Secondly — and more importantly — there are certain goals and principles to which both the supporters and the opponents of the chamber adhere. These policies and principles are at odds with those the chamber adheres to. That is why the chamber is split. The question is whether division over the chamber could critically split the civic movement just as the setting up of a national civic structure would.

Harmony on the civic association front has changed, in part, into a struggle of strategy and procedure.

JO-ANNE COLLINQ reports on the first all-race forum

on local government

"completely based on racial representation which is similar to that of the Treason Trial Parliament"

Mr Mokgosi adds: "We believe it is a Government ploy to introduce a racial structure to the negotiating forum on local government. It gives us the impression that the central Government is implementing the Thornt Hill commission of inquiry proposals."

Mr Mokgosi believes the chamber must be used to establish a new local government in advance of national constitutional negotiations.

It is the method of achieving these goals that the fall-out in the civic movement has occurred. CAST's members and the SCA's representatives are in conflict.

CAST says it has no "illuminated and discredited" councillors, while the SCA appears to have a defaced image.

CAST sees the situation as a struggle of strategy and procedure, with "illuminated and discredited" councillors entering the fray. CAST says the "illuminated and discredited" councillors "will be used to establish a new local government in advance of national constitutional negotiations."

Mr Ramaphosa adds: "We believe it is a Government ploy to introduce a racial structure to the negotiating forum on local government. It gives us the impression that the central Government is implementing the Thornt Hill commission of inquiry proposals."

Mr Ramaphosa believes the chamber must be used to establish a new local government in advance of national constitutional negotiations.

CAST members take the view that they can emerge victorious. CAST says it has no "illuminated and discredited" councillors, while the SCA appears to have a defaced image.
Townships' power debt tops R1,6-b

BLACK local authorities throughout the Transvaal owe more than R1 billion collectively and electricity cuts are still continuing as a result.

By DON SEOKANE

A Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman said the amount, which is owed by 82 local authorities in the province, is for service charges.

According to Eskom, Transvaal townships owe at least R1,6 billion for electricity supplied.

Although East Rand townships have been particularly hard hit by blackouts, an East Rand Regional Services Council spokesman yesterday said the council was only providing funds for necessities such as water, sewerage and part of refuse removal bills.

She said although the TPA had requested the council to provide funds for electricity accounts, the council had not decided on the matter.

A delegation of Civics Association of Southern Transvaal was last night scheduled to attend a meeting with affected local civic bodies.

Power supply to Katlehong township has been cut off since last Tuesday.

Mr Fame Maree, Katlehong's town clerk, yesterday said residents with electricity have to pay R72 as an interim amount. Those without were supposed to pay R25, he said.

Maree said the council owes R12 million to Eskom for electricity.

Three youths, one from Moseleki section and two from Radebe section, have been admitted to Nata Hospital after being shot.

The Kailehong branch of National Council of Trade Unions called a meeting of all community organisations in the township in a bid to resolve the blackout dispute.

At Vosloorus, residents not paying their electricity amount will soon find themselves in the dark. A council spokesman said letters were being delivered to residents who are not paying their bills.

The spokesman said residents were supposed to have paid R57 for electricity in March and R60 for April and May.

Meanwhile at Tokoza, residents have been without power supply since December 1 1990.
Rand towns face consumer boycott.

W. Rand towns face consumer boycott.

Discipline
LOCAL POLITICS

CIVIC DISPUTE

Power struggles within the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) organisation almost cost Johannesburg its hard-won nonracial Metropolitan Chamber last week.

The chamber is a product of last year’s Soweto Accord between the Transvaal provincial administration, three Soweto town councils and the Soweto People’s Delegation. It has the job of formulating “regional, nonracial and democratic approaches for long-term implementation of measures for the constitutional, economic, institutional and social development of the metropolis”.

But nearly seven months after the signing of the accord, Cast questioned the mandate of those who had signed and rejected the formula for the chamber, calling it racist. Cast, which represents about 40 civic structures, also refused to sit at the same negotiating table as black councillors.

At first it seemed the chamber might collapse before it had begun. But the powerful Soweto People’s Delegation, under union boss Cyril Ramaphosa, rejected Cast’s allegations, saying it was unfortunate that Cast had gone to the press before consulting the signatories of the accord. In the end, last week’s opening chamber meeting was attended by all relevant structures, including some members of Cast.

Other signatories to the constitution last week were councils of Johannesburg, Alexandra, Randburg, Sandton, and the Civic Associations of Soweto, Kliptown, Eldorado Park, Klipland, Riverlea and the Western Residents’ Action Committee.

The FM learns that there is deep division in Cast about a number of issues, including its stance on the new chamber.

Moses Mayekiso, Cast president and resident of Hillbrow, is head of the Alexandra Civic Organisation, which so far has refused to sign the chamber constitution. Mayekiso - who is thinly spread between those tasks and his role as head of the National Union of Metalworkers of SA and a central committee member of the SA Communist Party — usually takes a tough line. This has been aggravated by him being less than familiar with the chamber, and the influence of a militant faction under Thokoza Civic Association president Sam Ntuli.

Mayekiso refused to comment to the FM before a meeting this Thursday with the Soweto People’s Delegation.

Cast has recently begun leaning towards an anti-negotiations stance and some of the opinions of its members sound more like militant Pan Africanist Congress rhetoric than the statements of the ANC, Cast’s traditional ally.

Ntuli is against talking to black councillors, which is contrary to more flexible ANC negotiations strategy. Last week Ntuli called on township communities to arm themselves for self-defence after the government had failed to respond to an ultimatum for the carrying of traditional weapons to be banned. Though Cast claims it is non-aligned, Ntuli made it clear that Inkatha and black councillors were seen as “the source of violence against our people.”

Others in the “civics” claim the real issue is the personal ambition of some members of Cast, rather than the best interests of civic structures. Cast is the most powerful amalgamation of civic structures in the country and will be a prime mover behind a national civic organisation expected to be formed this year.

Though the movement is theoretically nonpolitical, it has strong ties with the ANC. There is a belief that some of the militants are trying to form power bases, either for election to the ANC’s National Executive Committee in June or as a springboard to more powerful positions in the ANC — as long as the violence makes militancy a popular option.

The NP leadership regards local government as critical to the negotiation process and talks here are expected to deal in advance with some of the issues to be discussed by ANC leaders and government.

Yet other members of Cast are closer ideologically to African nationalistic positions than those of the PAC, and could form part of a breakaway faction.

Whatever the reason for the latest intriguing squabble in the anti-apartheid ranks, the citizen of Soweto or Alexandra — rubbish mounting on his pavements, sewage running down his potholed roads, his skies polluted by coal fires, his neighbourhood unsafe — appears to be last on anyone’s list of priorities.
RACE CLASSIFICATION
A TOTAL of 463 people were reclassified racially in 1990, compared with 549 the previous year, according to the annual report of the Department of Home Affairs tabled in parliament this week.

The following reclassifications were approved:
White to coloured: 12; coloured to white: 138; coloured to Chinese: two; Chinese to white: two; Chinese to Indian: one; Chinese to Malay: one. One white person reclassified from white to Malay, five Malays to white, and one Malay to Chinese.
White to Indian: three; Indian to coloured: 23; coloured to Indian: 31; Indian to Malay: eight; Malay to Indian: 23; other Asians to Indian: one; African to coloured: 183; coloured to African: nine; African to Indian: five. Coloured to Malay four; Gquka to coloured: one; Indian to white: three; and Malay to coloured: six.

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT TRUST
Of the R2-billion allocated by the state to the Independent Development Trust (IDT) last July, R1.3-billion had been allocated to housing, education and health, Finance Minister Barend du Plessis said in parliament this week. He said funds had been allocated to upgrade land and housing for hostel and squatter settlements. An amount of R750-million over 24 months had been allocated to making property rights and housing accessible.

INDEMNITY
A FURTHER 1 208 people had applied for, and been granted, indemnity for injury and death in military training contrary to provisions of the Terrorism Act, Minister of Justice Kobie Coetzee announced last week. His department said this brought the total of indemnity applications granted to 3 692 — 73 percent of those received.

BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES
EIGHTY-TWO black local authorities in the Transvaal still owe more than R1-billion for service charges. Ekom said this week townships in the region owed at least R1.6-million for electricity supplied. Thokoza, Katlehong, Atteridgeville and Woulwiese are among the townships still being affected by electricity cuts as a result.

ABORTIONS
A TOTAL of 868 legal abortions were performed during 1989/90 as compared with 960 during 1988/89, Minister of Health Rina Venter said in parliament.
Replying to a question from Dr Zach de Beer (DP, Parktown), she said 70 in the first and 34 in the second period had been authorized due to rape and incest.

POLICE DEATHS
Tougher protection for black mayors

Own Correspondent

Johannesburg — Security for black mayors would be stepped up following the killing of Diepkloof mayor Mr Moses Khumalo at the weekend, police spokesman Colonel Tienie Halgryn said yesterday.

Mr Khumalo was gunned down in an AK-47 ambush in Meadowlands on the eve of his departure — together with two other greater Soweto mayors, Mr Oscar Maseko of Soweto and Mr MacFarlane Phenebe of Dobsonville — for Frankfurt, Germany.

Col Halgryn said municipal police had always maintained security at mayors' homes in Soweto since these councillors had come in for threats and intimidation.

"Municipal police have always patrolled areas near their homes. But now police are going to step up security," he added.

Mr Khumalo was one of the most defiant councillors in the face of black organisations' calls for them to resign. In February this year he, together with the other two greater Soweto mayors, took a strong stand against the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast), declaring that they would not be intimidated into resigning.

The mayors vowed to stay in office until a new form of government was introduced.

A previous assassination attempt on Mr Khumalo in December 1988 failed – he escaped unscathed after he was shot at by gunmen only five days after he became mayor. Mr Khumalo is survived by his wife Catherine and five children.

No arrests have yet been made in connection with the incident.
Stim Khumalo qualify man

Assassins gun down outspoke mayor in ambush
Diepmeadow mayor Moses Khumalo...shot dead on Friday night.
Maggie's protest mounting

By Shirley Woodgate

Opposition to Johannesburg management committee plans to grant the Freedom of the City to Margaret Thatcher was stepped up yesterday with the Johannesburg Civic Association warning that the honour would be a Pyrrhic victory for the former British prime minister.

The ANC and PAC threatened at the weekend to make it impossible for Mrs Thatcher to go about her business in South Africa and warned of mass demonstrations if the council went ahead with its plans.

Advising her not to accept the offer, Civic Association spokesman Mohammed Dangor warned that if the council ignored the wishes of the majority of the people, a future nonracial local government was likely to strip Mrs Thatcher of the Freedom of the City.

"She did little for the cause of liberation of the oppressed in South Africa. On the contrary, she consistently supported the oppressors," he said.

Johannesburg management committee member Paul Asherson reacted by saying threats would not deter the council if the committee's recommendation were approved at next week's meeting.

He said speculation about the line to be taken by future governments was irrelevant.
The Ministry of National Education

Education and Training

The Minister of Education and Training

Date: 9 April 1999

The Hon. the Attorney General (Mr. K.)

This document cannot be printed directly. Please submit for printing.
We won't resign, say councillors
By Stan Hlophe

The three members of the Greater Soweto Council Committee last night reiterated that they would not be intimidated into resigning from the council in spite of the killing of former Diepmeadow mayor Moses Julies Khumalo last Friday.

"We will not be intimidated by anyone to stand down as councillors. We serve the people of Greater Soweto," they said in a joint statement.

"We have lost a great man in the person of Mr Khumalo, mayor of Diepmeadow and chairman of the GSCC. We the GSCC stand firm on the principles of our late chairman."

"We urge the police to spare no effort in apprehending the perpetrators of this hideous crime against the community of Soweto," the statement said.

Mr Khumalo (63) will be buried at the Avalon cemetery on Sunday. A service will be held at the Meadowlands Stadium.

The former mayor, who has been described as a person whom you either hated or loved for his courage, was gunned down on his way to visit a fellow councillor in Zone 8 Meadowlands a few hours before he was to leave for Germany.

His car was riddled with bullets and 18 spent cartridges were found on the scene. Police said a hand grenade was also used in the ambush.

Mr Khumalo, a local Inkatha leader, escaped two previous attempts made on his life in 1984 and 1989.
City management makes its choice for town clerk

TANIA LEVY

THE Johannesburg management committee yesterday unanimously decided to recommend acting town clerk Graham Collins as the city's next town clerk.

If the city council approves his appointment at its monthly meeting next week, Collins will assume the country's top municipal post with an annual salary of R166,000.

Collins has been acting town clerk since former town clerk Mame Venter resigned last September in the wake of the Vereeniging Commission of Inquiry into alleged council spying activities.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson said the committee decided unanimously on Collins after interviewing three other candidates yesterday.

Eleven initial applicants included some of the city's most senior personnel as well as town clerks from other municipalities around SA.

"The Johannesburg town clerk's post was recently placed in a class of its own in terms of the Remuneration of Town Clerks Act and the salary increased from R140,000 a year to about R166,000 a year."
THE future of the newly-formed Central Waterstand Metropolitan Council (CMC) is in the balance. A series of damaging developments have emerged within the CMC. The organisation representing millions of black people whose participation in the new local government structure played a vital role in the struggle against apartheid has been seriously divided. The National Party has been seriously divided in the matter of what to do with the CMC. The ANC, represented by two delegations - Cyril Ramaphosa and Ace Magashule - has been seriously divided. The CMC will be remodelled in line with the requirements of the new government to ensure the participation of black people.
Family bed down on Church Square

A DESPERATE Pretoria City Council employee and his family have taken up residence on the city’s Church Square.

They say they cannot afford a house in Pretoria and claim the council says they “have to wait a year and two months for a house.”

Gert Swanepoel, his wife Christa and two of their four children, Pieter (4) and Gertie (3), moved their furniture and other belongings alongside the statue of Paul Kruger last night.

Notice

Their move came after they had been given notice to vacate their Jan Niehuispark house.

Members of the family made two trips to the square. While Mr. Swanepoel returned to fetch the children’s beds and warm clothing for his family, his wife made up their double bed.

In the meantime the children played “cops and robbers,” enjoying what they saw as an adventure.

Mr. Swanepoel works in the City Engineer’s Department of the council.

He feels the council should be able to provide housing for its workers when they are desperate.

“We were told by Mrs. Strubel, who deals with council housing, we must be on the housing list for one year and two months before we get a house,” Mrs. Swanepoel said from her armchair on Church Square.

She said she called the housing department “almost daily” but Mr. Chris Brand, the head of the department, was never available.

“I called him twice on Thursday and the second time I phoned yesterday I was told he would be back at quarter to four. He had gone home when I called the third time.”

“There are no houses we can afford in Pretoria and we have been forced to move here. Mr. Brand refused to speak to us.

Yesterday I told Mrs. Strubel and Mr. Brand’s secretary we would be moving to the square if they did not find a house for us.

“The council has houses but they don’t have electricity. I would rather sit with a candle for light than here in the open,” Mrs. Swanepoel said.

City residents have been sympathetic towards the family’s plight. Two policemen who stopped to question Mr. Swanepoel were also sympathetic and took him to a flat they knew of. It was not available.

Hampers

A Schubart Park couple, who declined to be identified, arrived late in the evening bearing hampers of food which they donated.

Ina Oliver, a spokesman for the Pretoria City Council, said Mr. Brand was out of town for the weekend and would not be available for comment before Monday.
Local govt

of the two men.

Last night, Mr Coovadia declined to comment "I'm not prepared to discuss the matter with the press, at least not now."

He regarded the issue as "an internal matter" that had yet to be discussed by the executive of Cast

Mr Ramaphosa acknowledged that things were not as rosy as before in the civic associations. He said that a meeting would be held in two weeks at which "differences" were expected to be resolved.

On top of the infighting, Cast is in financial trouble. In recent weeks, Cast general secretary Sam Ntim flew to Sweden on a fund-raising mission, according to a reliable source.

And Cast is in debt to a Johannesburg hotel it used as a venue for a number of meetings, the source revealed. It owes more than R20 000, according to the hotel's managing director, who added that the bill would be paid because Cast had "just received some money from America."

Saturday Star can also reveal that Mr Mandela chaired a meeting of the warring groups within Cast a few weeks ago. The ANC leader, realising the seriousness of the problem, urged the two factions not to make their differences known to the press.

In another development, Pat Lephunya, SCA general secretary, said civic associations reluctant to join the MC were victims of their own inexperience. They include the Alexandra Civic Association and the Johannesburg Civic Association.

Mr Lephunya said civic associations unwilling to join the MC were unaware that the chamber was not meant to replace the existing local authority structures. "They lack the understanding of mass mobilisation at the local government level."

He said the objections of the hardliners within Cast to the MC were vague.

If Cast joined the MC its members would be in a stronger position to change lower levels of local government and deny black councillors recognition.

Mr Lephunya said the MC would never be a failure. "We will continue with or without them."

A senior official of the SCA, who asked not to be named, expressed regret over the SCA's involvement with the chamber.

"Our strategy was to ensure that before joining the MC, black local councils relinquished control of their finances."

The official was reluctant to talk about Mr Ramaphosa, but revealed that Mr Coovadia was recently sent a letter listing grievances regarding his participation in the MC.

He said Mr Coovadia's response, expected "soon", could signal the end of his career in civic politics. "He is expected to resign."

Cast has also come under fire from well-known urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy, who branded the organisation "unproductive."

League contest thus opposed to Mrs Mandela's candi-
Soweto Jobless Put To Work

By TERRY BETTY

266
‘Comrade’ councillor shakes up Diepmeadow

By TEZMBA KHUMALO

DIEPMEADOW councillor Benjamin Mtumkulu is a controversial character.

He is often snubbed by his colleagues in the council and is rejected by the ANC – though he claims he is a member.

His double-storey house in Zone 6 Diepkloof has been petrol-bombed twice in two years – first in 1988 and again last month.

With friends like his, who needs enemies?

“It was not the comrades. It was thugs hired by my colleagues in the council to kill me,” he said.

“My comrades would not kill me. I’m a card-carrying member of the ANC.”

Mtumkulu claims to have been recruited as an underground operative by the ANC when the organization was still banned.

Either you love him or you hate him.

He wants an all-black council – a suggestion that has angered white officials.

“I remind them that we cannot afford the luxury of unqualified white officials in influential positions when we have black graduates,” he said.

At council meetings Mtumkulu has suggested that money be set aside to train council employees so they can replace their white counterparts.

He has been known to infuriate some councillors by accusing them of corruption.

“Just look at that rubbish,” he said, pointing to a mountain of rubbish.

“It has been lying there for weeks. A white official has been given a car to check where refuse is being dumped, but he is not doing his job.”

Maverick: Diepmeadow councillor Benjamin Mtumkulu.

But how is it possible for Mtumkulu to be a member of the ANC and a councillor when the two are fundamentally opposed?

He explained that ANC negotiations with the government had urged a peaceful transformation from black town councils to democratic local structures.

Mtumkulu has two sons, one in exile in the US who fled the country in 1976. He said his family had a long history of ANC membership.

“My father was a driver for leaders of the ANC in the 60s and I helped my son to skip the country.”

Mtumkulu may never become a national leader, but his irreverence will probably keep him in the public eye for years – that is, if he does not tire of playing the maverick.
Municipal finance ‘needs new sources’

ALTERNATIVE forms of municipal financing would have to be urgently investigated if service disparities between black and white local authorities were to be addressed, Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson warned at the weekend.

Davidson told the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Friday that black local authorities were capable of generating only about 20% of their operating costs.

While Johannesburg residential rates could be kept artificially low because of the city’s industrial component, apartheid laws had made establishing a local economy in dormitory towns such as Soweto and Alexandra almost impossible.

Alexandra, Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville would be short of an estimated R165m for their operating budgets this year, he said.

This did not allow for capital expenditure.

Davidson added that this shortfall was based on the provision of unacceptably poor services.

It would cost R2,6bn a year to extend the level of spending on Johannesburg to Greater Soweto.

Only about a quarter of this amount would in fact be spent, said Davidson.

To add to the problem, the Transvaal Provincial Administration had indicated that its source of finances was limited and that subsidies would probably be cut.

Davidson said government was increasingly seeking to devolve authority and financial responsibility to local government level.

However, “we are not being given the resources to cope with such increased responsibility”, he said.

Notwithstanding a government subsidy, it would be inevitable that white local authorities would have to come to the financial aid of black councils, in addition to the contribution being made via regional services councils levies.

But if white authorities were left to shoulder the burden alone, they would inevitably face bankruptcy as there was a limit to the burden they could place on ratepayers, said Davidson.

Davidson said alternative or supplementary forms of local government taxation would have to be investigated soon.

International

A local income tax, a share of present GST or VAT and an increase in RSC levies to supplement assessment rate income or to replace non-domestic rating could be considered, he said.

In addition, long-term financing might have to be raised on the international market.

Davidson said cities and towns had to give urgent attention to attracting investment and creating wealth.

Debate, particularly among civic associations, had revolved around the distribution or redistribution of wealth, with scant attention being paid to its generation.

He said cities like Johannesburg would bear the brunt of massive urbanisation and the PWV region should not and could not be excluded from regional industrial incentive programmes.

“Cities like Johannesburg deserve to benefit more from industrial initiative programmes as we are the key to the generation of economic growth and therefore jobs.”
Pearce stepping down but dust far from settled

**Municipal Reporter**

Johannesburg's former director of public safety John Pearce steps down from his R12 000-a-year job today after being fired by the management committee — but the matter is far from over.

And councillors have warned they will today raise the management committee's refusal to have the sackings debated by a full council when the Deloitte Pm Goldby Management Consultants' report on the Organisational Review of Structure is presented at the monthly council meeting.

It is being speculated that if far-reaching changes to the structure of council envisaged by Deloitte Pm Goldby are implemented, Mr Pearce will be in line for a handsome retrenchment package.

The report recommends that several senior posts, including that of director of public safety, be abolished.

If his position is scrapped and it is ruled that he should be reinstated, he could claim compensation, according to Johannesburg Municipal Employees Association general secretary Theo Crouse.

But, he stressed, the report still had to be approved and implemented, and Mr Pearce still had the Industrial Council and a possible Industrial Court hearing ahead of him.

Suspended for his part in the council's security department spy network, which was investigated by the Hiemstra Commission, Mr Pearce was summarily sacked by the management committee in February.

His appeal against the dismissal was rejected and chairman Ian Davidson explained that his committee had unanimously agreed with advocate Chris Flewman, SC, who recommended the move after finding, during a disciplinary hearing, that Mr Pearce was guilty of 15 counts of misconduct.

Claiming he was a "sacrificial lamb" and the victim of a council vendetta, Mr Pearce took his dismissal to the Industrial Council on March 18.

A hearing must be held within 30 days but he has already warned he is prepared to go to the Industrial Court.
**Municipal revamp proposed**

By Shirley Woodgate

Far-reaching plans aimed at transforming the Johannesburg municipal structure from a traditional municipal body to a service-driven organisation managed according to sound business principles will be presented in a report to the council today.

The review was commissioned in July 1990 by the management committee and compiled by Deloitte Pim (Pty) Ltd Management Consultants in conjunction with a project steering committee of officials and councillors.

**Abolished**

It recommends the scrapping of 17 departmental head and three deputy town clerk posts and the creation of 11 executive director positions to replace them — eight strategic business units (SBUs) and three support service units (SSUs).

If the report is approved by the council, officials at present occupying posts due to be abolished would receive three months' notice and would be invited to apply for the new positions, competing with outside applicants on the open market.

Critical to the streamlining operation affecting the staff of 23,000 are aims to provide fewer levels, faster decision-making, more autonomy at department-head level and decentralisation of support services.

Each division would become an autonomous strategic SBU headed by executive directors answerable directly to the town clerk.

Changes to the top structure of the council would mean abolishing the positions of deputy town clerk finance, technical and administration, and chief directors of manpower, development, funds and licensing, health and public safety.

Also due to be scrapped are the posts of city electrical engineer, city engineer, city secretariat, city treasurer and valuer as well as director of fire and emergency services, housing, library and museum services, markets, parks and recreation, transport, and water and gas.

They would be replaced by eight SBUs with more powers culture and recreation, electricity, health and housing, planning, public safety, roads, transport, and water and waste.

Certain SSUs would be retained — human resources, treasury and secretariat — to perform an overall strategic, control and co-ordinating role and to cut down unnecessary duplication by centralising certain functions.

**Improve**

Their functions, providing a comprehensive service across divisional (departmental) boundaries would be human resources — formulating strategy and policies, secretariat — providing services including administrative and legal advice to the council, treasury — managing the financial resources and the budget.

The report states that the new structure would not only improve the implementation of strategy but would promote market awareness and a results-oriented culture.
TPA set to unveil plan for Pilgrim's Rest

THE proposal to "privatise" the historic town of Pilgrim's Rest will be outlined by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) on Thursday.

In addition to spelling out the town's future, the TPA may disclose which company will be awarded the tender for the eastern Transvaal town's development, says TPA spokesman Louis van der Linde.

Three potential developers, including Stocks and Stocks and Ovland, were invited to submit provisional ideas and costings for development. The third party is a consortium headed by former Cabinet Minister Pietus du Plessis, the Financial Mail has reported.

The developers are expecting the TPA to call for further details and costings on specific development requirements.

Building and construction-listed Ovibol Holding's property development subsidiary Ovland is strongly rumoured to be the frontrunner, but MD Tony Barnetson says he has not been informed of any recent developments.

The tenders closed on March 13.

The people of Pilgrim's Rest are concerned about the privatisation drive, unveiled in April.

The town's business chamber chairman Christine Grover says they are still in the dark despite repeated requests to the TPA for further information.

"The townpeople are very worried about their livelihood and whether or not they will be allowed to continue operating their businesses in Pilgrim's," she said.

"Most of the people here are traditional craftsmen and I don't know what they would do if they were forced out to make Pilgrim's into some form of commercialised amusement centre."

Expectations are that the TPA will retain ownership of the land, but it will "franchise out" the various buildings.

It is likely the TPA will control the upkeep and administration of historic sites.
Top Jo'burg council jobs put on market

By Shirley Woodgate

Top positions in the Johannesburg City Council will be advertised in national newspapers this weekend, all aimed at placing the revamped organisation at the forefront of the new South Africa.

Heading the senior posts, with salaries between R94 000 and R149 000, will be the newly created executive directors to head departments ranging from culture and recreation to electricity and planning.

These situations, which will replace the existing top council structure, offer more responsibility and greater accountability, as proposed in a report submitted to the council by Deloitte Pm Goldby Management Consultants.

In addition, the council is looking for three top promoters for sport, culture, and commerce and industry in the city.

The report said it was apparent Johannesburg had fallen behind in these areas, which would have to be addressed urgently if the city aimed to become a destination point.

The city seeks to take full advantage of an expected sports explosion, which includes making the city the major sports centre in Africa.

The report stressed the huge scope for new industries and businesses. Aiming to take full advantage of the lifting of sanctions, Johannesburg wants to stress new job creation to improve living standards.
Cast likely to plaster over its rift

By GAVIN EVANS

The schism in Cast over participation in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is expected to be resolved this weekend. By GAVIN EVANS

THE internal rift within the Ctya Association of the Transvaal over whether to participate in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is expected to be resolved this weekend.

While the parties currently in conflict over the issue are sticking to their positions, African National Congress sources close to both groups say they are expecting an agreement which opens the way to attempt to change the chamber from within.

The Metropolitan Chamber was launched with considerable fanfare on April 9 and was intended to be a 'super forum' which would help mould the future of non-racial local government in the PWV area and beyond.

Delegates are drawn from all the white and black town and city councils in the area, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the ANC-aligned Soweto Civic Association and other civic bodies, while observers from the Development Bank, Eskom and the Tembisa and Midrand councils also participate.

But the chamber was rejected by Cast, largely because it is 'based on racial representation' and includes 'illegitimate and discredited' township councillors.

Cast said it believed structures such as the forum cut across national political demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government.

The SCA and Soweto Peoples' Delegation, which had forged the ground-breaking Greater Soweto Accord with the TPA last September, believed it was a useful forum through which a future non-racial local government system could be forged.

Following the Cast announcement of its rejection of the chamber, SPD leader Motshegosi accused Cast members of 'political dishonesty'; saying that none of them had raised fundamental objections to the chamber at a meeting shortly before its launch.

Since then top-level ANC members have been working hard on getting the two sides to reach agreement.

It has been stressed that failure could lead to a major split between Cast, led by National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa general-secretary Moses Mayekiso and its most powerful affiliate, the SCA, in which National Union of Mine-workers general secretary Ramaphosa is playing a central role.

'The differences are essentially over tactics, not over principle,' said one ANC leader involved in the discussions which they hope will resolve the issue this weekend.

'It can't be reduced to the individuals involved, but bear in mind that Cyril comes from a union tradition where initial agreements were made space for NUM to organise, while in Numsa they had to force the space to organise from the bottom before the initial agreements were won.

'In the end though, I think they will reach an agreement which will open the way to try and change the chamber from within — to use it to oversee the demise of the illegitimate black town councils.'

Mayekiso this week confirmed that some Cast affiliates were still against the chamber while others had signed its constitution, and that meetings were being held to resolve the problem.
'Super-council' cheered

BY ELIAS MALULEKE

BLACK political and community organisations are 'elated' that Pretoria City Council has agreed to discuss the formation of one municipality for Pretoria.

The council this week announced a plan for a "super council" representing: Atteridgeville, Eersterus, Laudium, Mamelodi, Pretoria Central and two other white towns - Akasia and Verwoerdburg.

The conservative city was finally getting the message that there was no longer room in the country for apartheid, said the ANC.

Management council chairman Dr Pieter Smith said he would lead a team to negotiate for one metropolitan municipality for Pretoria.

"We do not want to deprive anyone of the right to have a say in the future of our city," Smith said in a statement.

The talks, which are scheduled to start this month, would not focus on any specific model for Pretoria and its team would approach the negotiations with an open mind, he said.

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) praised the council, saying it was what the organisation had always campaigned for.

Cast spokesman Sandy Lebese said Atteridgeville and Mamelodi had been fighting for one municipality and one tax base with Pretoria and it now seemed imminent.

A spokesman for the GaRankuwa and Odi civics, Pule Mointjie, said his organisation supported the move, but felt bad that townships north of Pretoria would not benefit.
Stayaway set today

By MONK NKOMO

THE Mamelodi Civic Association has called on local residents - except students, journalists and health workers - to stay away today to demand the resignation of local councillors.

In addition, MCA publicity secretary Mr Pasty Malefo urged residents to pay a monthly flat-rate tariff of R50 a household until the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Pretoria Council meet the organisation to discuss affordable rent and service charges.

Residents were planning to march on the local town council offices to deliver a memorandum demanding the resignation of councillors.

Malefo said the MCA resorted to the stayaway action after the TPA refused to meet it to resolve the rent problem.

He added that the chief magistrate of Pretoria had granted the MCA permission to stage a peaceful march.
Daunting job for new Soweto council head

By Shirley Woodgate

Hopes for the revival of the South African economy were pinned on the lifting of sanctions, but the role of local business and industry in financing development should not be minimized.

This was said by Soweto’s new town clerk Elizabeth Nkumazana Sithole (42), the first woman to hold the position.

"It is a job which offers more problems than solutions."

But the outspoken mother of two highlighted, without hesitation, three main areas where she would urge positive action.

Lack of finance was the problem underlying all other considerations.

Fortunes

Unlike those who dream of untold millions, pouring into the country from overseas, Mrs Sithole said a large slice of the financial responsibility for the new South Africa rested on local financial institutions — banks, building societies, mining houses, insurance companies and other major business institutions.

"These are the people who made their fortunes on the Highveld since the discovery of gold in 1930, through the labour provided by blacks.

"These are the people who should now plough some of that back. It is virtually their duty to do so.

"We need to encourage local black businessmen who have the skills. But for them to get off the ground the institutions will have to ease their loan conditions.

"Banks require collateral which we blacks cannot provide. Lending organisations should address that problem," she said.

The allocation of land for housing an estimated 43,000 shack dwellers who flocked to the township south of Johannesburg after the lifting of influx control in 1989 was another key issue.

Ms Sithole saw the only hope for these people in the provision of land for informal housing.

Land had been allocated, but she stressed, the wheels of officialdom moved slowly and should be speeded up.

"When a man has a home, he is not so keen to fight in the streets," Mrs Sithole said.

After 17 years on the council and with an MA in social work from the University of the Witwatersrand, she is currently studying for her PhD at the Rand Afrikaans University.

But work comes first and Mrs Sithole identified the main task of her council as being “remedial” — trying to catch up with inadequate infrastructure and deteriorating services.

"Whatever was supplied is totally inadequate for the growing population. We are busy plugging the holes, correcting the faults of the past," she said.

Uplift

"We lack normal facilities of every description and it is essential that these be provided.

"The job of this council is daunting. We must uplift all our residents, irrespective of their political affiliations.

"Unfortunately the truth is if you do nothing, you do not meet with problems, but if you act you will find problems. That is where we are now.

"Mayor Oscar Maseko who sat in on the interview, agreed largely with Mrs Sithole’s views. When she was asked about her role as a woman at the head of a male-dominated council, it was he who replied: "We have accepted this liberation."
TPA plans to abolish 10,000 posts

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has begun a streamlining exercise to abolish 10,000 posts in its roads and works departments.

At least R40 million will be saved in the works branch after a job evaluation. More savings are expected in the community development and health services departments.

Deputy director-general Geoff de Smit, stressing that no wholesale sacking was envisaged, said posts deemed unnecessary would be frozen as they fell vacant.

Some people would be offered retrenchment packages and others transferred.
Linbro Park votes to leave Sandton

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Linbro Park residents have voted in a referendum to break away from the Sandton Town Council and to make an application to the Administrator of the Transvaal for incorporation into adjoining Modderfontein, the chairman of the suburb's ratepayer's association, Chris Perry, said yesterday.

Support

The Sandton Town Council was almost certain to make a bid to retain Linbro Park, as it was an integral part of the town, management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said.

The councillor for the ward into which Linbro Park falls, Jo Marais, last night voiced her support for the outcome of the referendum.

Mrs Marais added that she would resign from the Sandton Town Council as a result.

She was sure this "major step" by Linbro Park residents would come as a surprise to Sandton town councillors because, up to now, they had had to stem the tide of people wanting to become part of Sandton.

Residents of Linbro Park have recently expressed dissatisfaction with the Sandton Town Council, saying there was little regard for the interests of the people in the community.

"Linbro Park residents are looking for stability after years and years of continuous insecurity, and feel this can be achieved by associating and aligning themselves with Modderfontein," Mrs Marais said.

Mr Perry said that in a 69 percent poll, 75 percent of the residents voted in favour of joining Modderfontein, 20 percent chose to stay in Sandton and 5 percent had unacceptably voted.

"These figures are seen as a statement both of confidence in the management of the town of Modderfontein and the development plan proposed by the Modderfontein Town Council for the entire region," he said.

Application

Mr Stewart said the Sandton Town Council would await an official application from Linbro Park residents before attempting to discuss the matter with them.

"I would like to know what the reason is for their wanting to move so that we can address the problems as a council."

Give all a say in development

SOME suggestions for ending the violence which plagues the townships could land up achieving the opposite.

One example may be the African National Congress' demand that the government "phase out the hostel system", showing that it is serious about trying to curb conflict.

On the face of it, there are obvious reasons for the demand. Much (most?) of the violence begins in the hostels.

To other people in the townships, many of whom support the ANC, they have become a source of terror which must go before normal life can resume.

It's not hard to see why. A group of men, forced to live apart from their families in squalid, overcrowded, barracks, who have strong links with the countryside and are excluded from the city around them are obvious targets for anyone wanting a conservative army, ready to rally around "ethnic" slogans.

To demand the end of hostels is, therefore, to support people in the townships who want a threat removed — but at the same time to demand the end of one of apartheid's ugliest creations. And, if the demand is met, it seems obvious that everyone can sleep easier.

It seems less obvious if we cast our minds back to events in Alexandra a few weeks ago.

There, according to reports in this newspaper, a devastating round of violence began because it seemed possible that hostels were to be "phased out".

The Alexandra Civic Organisation had just agreed with the province and municipalities that the hostels should be "upgraded" — and, possibly, converted into family dwellings. Someone who was threatened by the agreement then reportedly went to the hostel and told residents the civic had agreed that their barracks should be demolished: the rest is history.

The point is not whether what the hostel-dwellers were told was true. It is that the fear of losing their barracks may have been enough to trigger violence. And that, before the agreement was signed, no-one seems to have asked them whether they wanted the hostels "phased out".

There is evidence that some hostel residents choose to live in single-sex dwellings. They obviously want to live decently and would prefer better housing. But they don't want to lose what they have. They fear that "phased out" hostels would mean losing just that.

There is also evidence, that even if the hostels were removed, the problem would not disappear.

This doesn't necessarily mean that hostels should stay. It certainly doesn't mean that they should stay as they are now. But it does mean that a government-ANC agreement to "phase out" hostels could prompt much more of the violence it aims to stop.

The only way of preventing that might be an agreement that nothing will be done about the hostels unless the residents agree that it should be done.

Similar points could be made about another suggested cure for the violence — development. Government and business strategists now accept that violence is more likely if people lack jobs, houses, or water.

The key to peace, therefore, is to develop "communities". But in many communities, the prospect of development has triggered violence.

Black communities, like white ones, bring together people with different allegiances and interests. Particularly where there are already hidden tensions, development plans — particularly when they are negotiated with some parts of the community only — raise fears that only parts of the community will be "developed". Those who suspect they are going to be excluded then mobilise to do something about it.

Again, this doesn't mean we need less development — we need more. But it does mean that it could cause more violence than it stops unless all those who are affected have a say in the process.

Part of the reason for violence is that, although 80 percent of the people are denied the vote, parts of that majority find it far harder to make their voice heard than others. Since they aren't organised enough to influence decisions peacefully, they do it in other ways.

Until they are, some will claim to speak for them — political movements or uneducated leaders. But there will be no guarantee that they really do, and that what they agree to on behalf of the excluded is what they are willing to live with. For as long as that lasts, violence will be a constant threat.

No-one can force them to organise. But the threat of violence could drop if conditions are created in which they are more likely to do it themselves.

Throughout our society, negotiating development directly with those who are to be "developed" may be essential if we are to avoid decades of violence.
METROPOLITAN PLAN IN TROUBLE

GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE TO PROVIDE CLARITY AND DIRECTION

It's seven months since the signing of the historic Soweto Accord set SA on the way to its first multiracial local authority, but the next seven to 14 days are crucial to turning those paper pledges into reality.

The accord, signed on September 24, was a significant achievement. It was the culmination of civic pressure, particularly through rent and services boycotts, which eventually coerced the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) into negotiating with representatives of the Soweto community.

The agreement promised even greater things than ending the boycotts. It also established the forum, through the creation of a metropolitan chamber, for negotiating a new multiracial local government structure in the central Witwatersrand.

Set to participate are the TPA, the city councils of Johannesburg, Sandton, Randburg and Roodepoort, five Indian and coloured local authorities, the Greater Soweto Councils, and nine black civic associations. Other bodies, such as Eskom, have observer status.

The significance of the chamber is heightened because government sees it as a possible blueprint for shaping local authority structures in the rest of the country. The Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) says discussions on a metropolitan chamber for Greater Pretoria are already under way.

With the blessings of both government and the ANC, few obstacles seemed to stand in the way of performing its task quickly and efficiently when the Soweto Accord was signed. But now the inaugural meeting scheduled for Wednesday may not even happen.

Rumours are rife that the chamber has been sabotaged. The threat is not, as one might expect, from the white right which rejects power sharing, but from the civic associations that fought so hard for multiracial local government. The possibility, however remote, cannot be ruled out that this is part of a destabilisation strategy aimed at paving the way for a coup.

The problem stems from rumours of serious discord in the civic's ranks. The fear is that more radical elements may boycott the chamber and scuttle the negotiation process.

The dissent is not denied but any suggestion that this could torpedo the chamber is totally rejected. The TPA's Jan Opperman says that according to its documentation and records there is no problem. Everything is proceeding at full steam.

Cast publicity secretary Sandy Lefose echoes this. "All Cast affiliates agree overwhelmingly to the concept of a metropolitan chamber. We want a nonracial municipality for the central Witwatersrand."

---

EVERYONE DESERVES AN EQUAL CHANCE

A Workshop on Affirmative Action

and Equal Opportunity in Practice

JULY 29 - AUGUST 5 - 7

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

FINANCIAL MAIL • MAY • 10 • 1991 • 23
Humphries points out that government supports a considerable level of devolution of power to the metropolitan areas of Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Pretoria, and the east, west and central Witwatersrand. That would mean adopting a two-tier system as set out in the Thornhill Report, a government commission set up in January by Chris Thornhill, Director-General of the Department of Planning & Local Government, into local government systems.

Within the metropolitan areas would be smaller geographical units, perhaps neighbourhood authorities, with considerable powers in terms of such issues as education administration and financial management.

Needless to say, again there could be strong objections from the civics.

The tax base could be an even bigger problem. "All parties agree on the common tax base principle but each seems to have a different interpretation of the concept," says Humphries.

"Extra-parliamentary bodies like the civics see it as a way of redistributing substantial wealth. Because of past politics, the rich must pay. Pressing for such a solution would be a recipe for disaster," says Humphries.

But, he adds, so would local authorities' contention that a common tax base also implies a common rate. At present, he says, a rates base has not been established in the townships. Even NP concessions for people who cannot pay full rates, until they can realistically be asked to do so, are unlikely to win the support of the civics.

There are other options, such as implementing direct user charges for all services. But, with high unemployment, such a system, which could put many services out of reach of the poor, may have to be passed over.

Others include the undesirable, but perhaps necessary, option of central government subsidies, or following a suggestion by Frances Kendall in her new book on regional and community government, The Heart of the Nation: Always a champion of the Swiss canton system of devolved powers, she also supports the Canadian system of financial equalisation, in which, she says, minimises the effects of redistribution.

Every tax system she points out, has negatives. It is crucial that these are recognised.

The real problem is that the financial crisis at local government level is so enormous and volatile that, irrespective of the desirability of devolution, central government funding may be necessary, at least in the short term, to tide over local authorities.

Government may also have to be more active in the whole local government negotiating process. As Humphries points out, metropolitan progress is fine if there is a real prospect of the divergent parties striking a deal. But what, for example, happens if negotiations with Conservative-controlled councils? Does one wait until they're ready to talk?

The answer must be no. There is a desperate need for clarity and direction, neither of which has come from government.
Alexandra centre
due to open ‘soon’

WILSON ZWANE

SA’s first “dispute resolution centre” was expected to open in Alexandra within the next few months. Johannes-
burg lawyer Steven Goldblatt said yesterday.

Goldblatt, one of several lawyers training Alexandra residents in med-
diation mechanisms, said he was impressed with the response of the 14 people he had trained so far to be-
come part-time mediators.

“Mediation is a skill one has to learn and it is difficult to set a date on which the Alexandra dispute resolu-
tion centre will open its doors to the community. It could take three to four months, depending on how the training goes,” Goldblatt said.

To date the Community Dispute Resolution Resource Committee (CDRRC) — an organisation formed by legal experts to provide resources to communities wanting to set up their own dispute resolution centres — has had three training sessions.

Goldblatt said although meetings had been held with the Justice De-
partment to discuss the Alexandra project, the first in the country, the project did not “seek permission to con-
tinue with its work”.

“But we are keeping the Depart-
ment of Justice abreast with the de-
velopments,” he said.

Goldblatt said the organisation had funds to operate for six to eight months. More funds were expected from local and international funding organisations, he added.

Most civic groups
set to join chamber

TANIA LEVY

ALL but one of the civic associations in greater Johannesburg are expected to take part in the Central Witwaters-
rand Metropolitan Chamber — in defi-
ance of the stand taken by the execu-
tive committee of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) to which they are affiliated.

The chamber meets for the first time tomorrow since its inauguration last month.

The Alexandra Civic Organisation has not decided on participation in the cham-
ber by yesterday, but is expected to make its position clear at a meeting of the Johan-

nesburg Civics Council interm com-
mittee tonight.

Five of Cast’s nine Johannesburg affiliate-
ates have already become members of the chamber and the inner city group, Acstoph, will consider joining this week. Two other organisations will join once they have sorted out “technical problems” They are the Emeraldale Civic Association and Lenasia’s Federation of Ratepayers Association.

Transvaal Provincial Administration consultant Nigel Mandy said it would be a pity if certain civics chose not to join the chamber, but that this would not stop the forum negotiating new non-racial local government structures for the area.

The Cast executive last month came out strongly against civic associations joining the chamber alongside black councillors and members of management committees.

This prompted the resignation of assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia from the Cast executive. At an AGM tomorrow Coovadia will propose a resolution that his organisation Acstoph join the chamber.

Yesterday he said he had been unhappy that Cast, which was a federal structure, went public with its opposition to the chamber before consulting constituent members who were considering joining.

Wits Centre for Policy Studies senior researcher Steve Friedman said the dissent among civics regarding the chamber highlighted the problem facing the civic movement in general — they had to decide whether to continue mobilising protest at local level or whether to become vehicles representing residents in negotiations.

WILSON ZWANE reports that Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Herman Kriel was “excited” about the announce-
ment that a national civics federation would be formed later this year, a spokes-
man for Kriel said yesterday.

Johan Oosthuizen said the move would “make contact between the government and civic organisations a lot easier”.

Civics sources said the national civics federation was unlikely to align itself with the ANC. The federation would aim to depoliticise development issues as the civ-
ic associations did not see themselves as a political party or a liberation movement, they said.
CAST, TPA meet today over Tembisa cuts, rent boycott

Representatives of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) will meet Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) officials today and tomorrow, to discuss the rent boycott and power cut in Tembisa.

Power was cut off by the council on April 56. A meeting which was to have taken place between the Tembisa Residents' Association, TPA and the Tembisa Council last week was cancelled.

"Residents' Association president Albert Tleane said TPA had told their delegation that councillors refused to attend the meeting because their houses were attacked after the power cut.

Mr Tleane said the association called on the TPA to switch on power to avoid further violence in the township.

"We told the TPA that the switch-off could only exacerbate the situation, but there was no sense of urgency from them."

He said Tembisa residents would continue with the consumer boycott against white businesses in Kempton Park as the boycott was about 90 percent successful.

Mr Tleane said the consumer boycott could lead to a change of attitude from the authorities, and result in the restoration of power in Tembisa this week.
Residents want white official to quit council

By MONK NKOMO

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation yesterday called on the township's administrator to resign after accusing him of having failed to bring normality to the Pretoria township.

The call for Dr Ernie Jacobson's resignation follows electricity cuts on Monday.

The Pretoria City Council said the action was prompted by the council's failure to pay nearly R1 million in service charges arrears.

Fifty residents yesterday staged a sit-in at the town council offices in protest against the power cuts.

Police liaison officer Lieutenant Marno Erasmus confirmed there was a sit-in and said police were monitoring the situation.

No arrests had been made.

**Must resign**

Aso's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, warned that if electricity was not restored by 4:30pm yesterday "the administrator must resign and all white officials in the council vacate the offices immediately."

Ramatsui called on Jacobson to refund all residents who paid their May rental accounts and those who paid the April and May Community Trust Fund fee of R5 a household.

Responding to Aso's call, Jacobson said he could resign and have all essential services in Atteridgeville discontinued because the R50 monthly flat rate was not enough to run the township.

Residents could not be refunded because services had been rendered.

Meanwhile ALINAH DUBE reports that the Mamelodi Council has warned local residents of a possible power cut unless they paid their rent and service charges.

The warning was issued yesterday by local mayor Mr SS Mokone in reaction to a decision announced by the Mamelodi Civic Association that residents would pay a flat rate of R50.

He said according to an agreement between his council and the Pretoria City Council, the Mamelodi municipality was expected to pay for the bulk supply of services before dates agreed upon by both parties.

Unless residents reacted positively to his plea, electricity might be switched off, he said.

He advised residents to pay an amount reflected on their rent statements, "and not any other amount."
Council to speed up building plan approval

THE Town Planning Department of Johannesburg intends to speed up the approval of building plans. 75% of which are domestic applications for minor alterations, a study has shown.

Based on the newly completed study, it is envisaged that the processing of all plans will be reduced to 15 working days by July 31, 1991 and reduced further to 10 working days by November 30, 1991.

It says at least 80% of all building plans submitted for domestic houses and alterations will be reduced to a 24-hour service by August 31, 1991.

Provided that applications are correctly submitted, the approval of plans for the construction of residential houses, as well as alterations to houses, will be processed within 24 hours when the service is finally phased in.

New streamlining procedures will now be followed. The inspector will visit the site after the application has been submitted and not necessarily before submission.

On processing plans, the examiner will effect technical amendments and alterations after which he will stamp and sign the approval.

This procedure will eliminate weeks, and sometimes months, of lengthy complex correspondence.

A new procedure will also obviate the double checking of drawings submitted by professional engineers.
Van Zyl Slabbert to lead new chamber

IDASA director Van Zyl Slabbert was unanimously elected chairman of the fledgling Central Witswatersrand Metropolitan Chamber last month.

Parties in the multiracial chamber said they regarded Slabbert as well qualified for the task of guiding the chamber.

At the chamber's first meeting since its launch last month, Slabbert said he was confident the chamber would play an important path-finding role in the new constitutional dispensation.

The position is the first public post Slabbert has held since his resignation as PFP leader in February 1996.

He said the varied backgrounds of the groups represented in the chamber could lead to them making an important breakthrough. He said the local and regional level negotiations would be linked to wider negotiations in SA (268).

Slabbert said his election as chairman did not signal a return to politics as he had been active in politics all along. He felt his role would be to facilitate a consensus on a model for a new government.

He did not foresee a clash of interest between the chamber and Idasa and would not resign his directorship of the institute.
White officials pull out of Atteridgeville

By McKee Kotlo

All the white officials of the Atteridgeville Council, including the administrator, have left the township after threats by local residents, administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said yesterday.

This followed demands by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) that the officials leave the township until electricity has been restored by the Pretoria City Council.

Dr Jacobson said he was planning a meeting with Asro in an attempt to find a solution.

Trouble started on Monday morning when the Pretoria City Council switched off the bulk electricity supply after the township council failed to pay its electricity and sewerage debt.

Asro publicity secretary John Ramatsu yesterday said the administrator and white officials should resign or not return to the township until power had been restored.

Mr Ramatsu said residents were also demanding the money they had paid for services for this month and money paid into a trust fund.

He said that since the appointment of the administrator, the situation in the township had deteriorated, and that was proof enough that the black local authority was unworkable.

Mr Ramatsu further said the administrator had failed to provide basic services.

A spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday said the TPA was not aware of any withdrawal of officials.
10 000 at TPA may lose jobs

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is to phase out more than 10 000 jobs in the "next few years".

Deputy director-general of the TPA Mr Aubrey de Smidt said this was in line with the TPA's move to streamline its functions.

"It will not be one big exercise of retrenchments but will affect everybody irrespective of colour," De Smidt said.

The TPA employs almost 94 000 people and has in the past few years begun to phase out some projects, especially in the roads, works and nature conservation departments.

Asked about the effect on black employees, De Smidt said: "We have analysed functions that can be done away with but I cannot say if blacks would be the hardest hit. One way of phasing out jobs is not to fill a vacancy if someone resigns."

The TPA has reported losses of hundreds of millions of rands in rent and services arrears as well as in financial planning and budgeting.

Adding to its woes is that black local authorities owe it millions of rands and the TPA had to write off arrears in some townships.

The budgeted sum of R26 million for the 1990/91 fiscal year was eroded by payments of up to R75 million a month in the first quarter of last year.

This money was a bridging finance package to black local authorities who did not manage to negotiate a resumption of rent and services payments.

By ALI MPHAKI
Atteridgeville white officials forced out

By MONK NKOMO

WHITE officials of the Atteridgeville Council were ordered to leave their offices yesterday by local residents angered by electricity cuts in the Pretoria township.

Mr Simon Chidi, secretary-general of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation, said the officials were asked to vacate their offices at 9am.

“We told them they would be accepted back only after the electricity supply has been reconnected,” said Chidi.

He said a meeting with black staffers of the municipality was scheduled for yesterday afternoon to discuss the running of the council.

Chidi said local residents at area committee meetings held on Tuesday night resolved to demand a refund of the R50 rent paid for May and to embark on a rent boycott.

“We plan to hold meetings with Eskom and the Rand Water Board to discuss certain legal requirements with a view to getting these supplies direct from them,” said Chidi.

The latest moves by Aaro follow the cutting of electricity to the township by the Pretoria City Council on Monday.

Switched off

It switched off the lights after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay their service charge bill totalling R838 608.92.

The deputy chairman of the Pretoria City Council’s management committee, Mr Cor Uys, yesterday made it clear that electricity in Atteridgeville would only be restored after payment of arrears.

Chidi lashed out at Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson and accused him of having violated an agreement he signed with Aaro early this year in which he agreed that residents pay a R50 flat rate a month.

The Central Transvaal region of Azapo yesterday condemned the Pretoria Council’s decision to cut the power supply to the township.

“We appeal to Eskom to consider selling the essential commodity direct to townships and avoid the laager mentality of the city fathers,” Azapo said in a statement.

Jacobson said the Pretoria municipality would not consider reconnecting electricity to Atteridgeville if the township council did not guarantee payment of their May instalment.

He also said he spoke to the chairman of Aaro and asked him to call together his executive and discuss the matter to try to stop the threats.
City Council to consult unions on Aids policy

By Carina le Grange
Medical Reporter

The Johannesburg City Council is developing a corporate policy on employees who are HIV-positive or who have AIDS.

This has been confirmed by Dr. Nicky Padayachee of the Johannesburg Health Department.

The Johannesburg council was approached by The Star about its policy on HIV testing, in the light of Germiston's recent decision to make testing compulsory for all new employees.

Other councils approached included Bloemfontein, Pretoria, Alberton, Roodepoort, Springs, Boksburg, Krugersdorp and Brakpan.

No spokesmen were available at any of these councils at the time.

Dr. Padayachee said Johannesburg City Council did not, at present, screen prospective employees for the HIV virus.

Germiston town clerk Tonne Heyneke said prospective employees who tested positive for HIV would not be denied jobs, but the pension and medical aid status of HIV-positive people would be affected.

Mr. Heyneke said the Germiston council was not the first or only employer to do pre-employment screening. He believed that the Bloemfontein city council was already doing it and that Pretoria was considering doing so.

He believed that it was done by many insurance companies.

On the Johannesburg development, Dr. Padayachee said:

"In developing a corporate policy for the council, it will obviously be done through consultation between the council and trade union or worker representative bodies.

"The spirit of the document is such that it will be progressive and supportive of AIDS sufferers and HIV-positive people. It will have a spirit of care and compassion and we believe no person will be denied employment."

Trade union spokesman Monde Mutsuwa of Nehawu (National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union) said no employer should establish HIV-testing without consulting workers or their representatives.

"Trade unions took up the serious issue of AIDS long before employers did - they were dragging their feet. They put profits ahead of people, and we are not aware that Germiston engaged in consultations before their decision."
Talks begin for greater Pretoria

PRETORIA — The Pretoria City Council (PCC) and the Laudium Management Committee on Monday held their first round of talks to establish a greater Pretoria. The two bodies said in a statement yesterday. The meeting, was described as an open and fruitful one and the two parties said they hoped to meet in the near future. — Sapa
Council is silent on cash shortfall

By DON SEOKANE

THE Soweto Council yesterday refused to disclose the amount of its shortfall on electricity payments by residents.

The council's spokesman, Dr Johan van der Westhuizen, said the amount was still "classified information at the moment" as the council was negotiating with the Metropolitan Chamber on its electricity income.

The council is experiencing problems with payments from residents and hostel dwellers, he said.

An Eskom spokesman has confirmed that the Soweto Council had indicated it had problems with electricity payments.

Eskom was awaiting the decision of the joint technical committee of the Metropolitan Chamber on electricity payments.

No further action could be taken without the recommendations of the chamber.

Sources within the chamber said there were discussions about electricity being supplied directly by Eskom.
**News in Brief**

**Road freight down**

The road freight industry has made a slow start to the year with reduced tonnages carried in January that year reflecting the extent of the economic slowdown. Central Statistical Service figures released yesterday showed a 14% drop in the total tonnage of goods carried by public transporters during January 1991 to 29.3 million (341-million tons). However, with the average tariff a tad increasing from R8.18 to R11.47, total transport earnings were boosted 20% to R337m in January 1991 compared to R279m in January last year.

**Council workers fired**

Seventy-five black municipal workers — some with up to 18 years of service — were fired by the Venterdorp Town Council last week, said Operation Masakhane for the Homeless executive committee member Ernie Ngeleza. Legal advice had been taken on the matter. He said 16 of the workers had been rehired, although they were being treated as new workers, thus losing pension rights and benefits. No-one was available for comment at the town council.

**UK’s GDP shows drop**

Britain’s gross domestic product (GDP) fell 0.8% between the last quarter of 1990 and the last quarter of 1991, figures released in London yesterday by the Central Statistical Office said. The decline was less than the last two quarterly drops of 1.5% and 0.9% respectively. Compared with the first quarter of 1990, the British economy has contracted by 2.5%.

**Rise in German GNP**

Western Germany’s gross national product (GNP) grew between 3% and 4% in price-adjusted terms during the first quarter of 1991, the Economics Ministry reported in Bonn yesterday, while in eastern Germany “the downward development of overall economic activity hasn’t yet reached its low point.”

---

**Further talks to follow summit**

**President F W de Klerk said last night he envisaged follow-up meetings after this weekend’s summit on violence which is expected to be boycotted by most extra-parliamentary groups.**

De Klerk said in a statement the summit was never intended to be “a final discussion during which final solutions had to be found.”

His statement confirmed expectations that government would be willing to become involved in meetings after the summit.

“It is and remains an important step in the process of consultation. The road ahead will be discussed in depth and the contributions of all involved are needed,” De Klerk said.

“If there are political groupings that have decided against attending the conference on political grounds or because of the question of traditional weapons, they will have to bear the responsibility for their non-participation in a peace meeting intended to deal with the problem of violence in a solution-oriented manner,” De Klerk said.

**Patrick Bulger reports that Afrikaner Weerstandsbevordering (AWB) leader Eugene Terre Blanche said on Tuesday he would attend De Klerk’s summit.**

Right-wing sources yesterday expressed amazement at Terre-Blanche’s decision to attend which, they said, was “a step out of step with the refusal by other conservative groups, including the CP, to attend.”

The Civic’s Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) and the PAC confirmed yesterday they were joining the ANC in not attending.

Meanwhile the SA Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday formally pulled out of the summit but remained optimistic that behind-the-scenes moves to get political parties involved in a peace process would succeed, SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said.

Addressing a news conference in Johannesburg, Chikane said religious leaders who met on Tuesday to draw up proposals for getting peace talks back on track had found that they could not attend the summit.

“Religious leaders are convinced that the problems of violence are of such magnitude that they cannot be solved without the participation of all the parties and organisations involved,” Chikane said.

He said it was now too late for De Klerk’s summit to be redefined so as to attract wider participation.

**Billy Padock reports the DP yesterday unveiled short-term proposals to be submitted to the summit. These included setting up a national network of township peace task teams, and groups representing all political movements.**

---

**Standard Chartered boss on ‘return to SA’**

**Michael Hartnock**

Galpin said the political situation in SA now was “promising”, encouraging hopes of renewed co-operation.

“I dare say that after the complete independence they have had since then they may well not want us back,” said Galpin.

“If it looks right from the point of view of our business in the rest of Africa to have some sort of presence in SA, then I think we could probably do it, but I think at the right time,” he said.

---

**HARARE—After enjoying complete independence since 1986, Standard Bank SA might not want to resume ties with its former UK parent, Standard Chartered, when the political situation was resolved, Standard Chartered chairman Rodney Galpin said yesterday.**

The Standard Chartered board is having a monthly meeting in Zimbabwe, only the second time the bank’s board session has been held outside London. It met in Hong Kong last year, reports Sapa-Reuters.

VENTERSDORP — Some 75 black municipal workers — a few with up to 18 years' service — were fired by the Venter dorp Town Council last week, according to Eric Ngeleza, executive committee member of the advisory body Operation Masakhane for the Homeless.

Mr Ngeleza said 16 of the workers had been rehired, although they were being treated as new workers, thus losing any salary increases and pension and other benefits they might have had.

No one was available for comment at the Venter dorp Town Council.

Venter dorp in the western Transvaal, and its adjoining black township of Tshing, have been in a state of armed preparedness since an attack two weeks ago by rightwingers on the Goedgedwonden squatters camp.

In retaliation for the attack, Tshing residents organised a three-day work stayaway.

Mr Ngeleza said the council had apparently only been aware of a call for a two-day stayaway, and workers who had remained at home for the extra day had been fired last Thursday. — Sapa
TPA enlists aid of private sector

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) has called in the services of the private sector in an attempt to address the province's growing urbanisation crisis.

Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough warned in a statement yesterday that urbanisation was stretching the TPA's resources to the limit.

He said a meeting with private sector groups in February agreed that quick decisions had to be taken to mobilise private sector organisations into six regional development management (RDM) posts.

The RDMs would be based on the East and West Rand, Pretoria, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom and Witbank. They would be extensions of the TPA and would support the TPA's regional directors in their efforts to meet demands flowing from urbanisation.

To ensure the RDMs provided the required expertise, it would be necessary to form multi-disciplinary consortiums led by a consulting firm with proved project management experience in the urban development field.

The RDMs had to deal with infrastructural, institutional, financial, economic, developmental and community participation needs.

Hough said the February meeting had been called to inform the private sector of the extreme urgency of the issue and to explore ways of forming a partnership between the state and private sector.

Advertisements are currently running in newspapers inviting applications from private sector organisations to act as regional development managers to assist the TPA's Development Branch.

The appointments will be effective from July this year.
Power struggle in Jo’burg civic body

Johannesburg's central civic body Actstop is in turmoil after more than 30 representatives boycotted its annual meeting this week and publicly secretary Cas Coovadia resigned a week after being re-elected.

Actstop secretary Pessge Ngosa yesterday admitted Actstop was having "internal problems". He said Actstop, like other organisations in the broader progressive movement, had been caught off-guard by political changes such as the lifting of the state of emergency.

The conditions which had usually united organisations in protest were no longer there and they had not yet worked out how to handle the transition period, he said.

Ngosa said there were power struggles going on in Actstop but refused to elaborate, saying the association's problems were an internal matter.

Actstop president Sandy Mgiekana refused to comment until after the Actstop executive met tomorrow.

Coovadia said he had resigned as publicity secretary and had been one of the members who stayed away from Wednesday's meeting. He denied a leadership struggle was at the heart of the problems which "had been brewing for some time".

He said the group which had stayed away had objected to the way the executive committee was operating. He declined to elaborate as "a process had been started to resolve the problem".

He said he could not say whether the group was trying to vote the executive out of power and denied that they would lead a breakaway from Actstop to form a new civic body.

Actstop's troubles have prevented it from taking a decision on whether to join the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. It currently has observer status.

Earlier this month Coovadia resigned asCsvs Association of Southern Transvaal assistant general-secretary, citing unhappiness with the Cast executive, particularly the way it had handled the issue of chamber membership.

Coovadia, who favoured Cast's participation, disagreed with most Cast leaders on the issue. Actstop is a Cast affiliate.
TPA rejects ANC 'unfair deals' claim

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has rejected allegations by the ANC that it is using electricity supplies as a "weapon" to impose unfair deals on black communities.

The TPA's MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiation, Olaus van Zyl, said in a statement yesterday that the TPA took exception to an earlier release issued by the ANC's PWV region.

"It is clear that the press release does not reflect what in fact has been happening over the last few months with regard to negotiations and the supply of electricity.

"The Croydon Associations of Southern Transvaal (whose membership includes prominent members of the ANC) has been in a process of negotiations about the supply of electricity and various other municipal matters since late in 1990. During these negotiations, CAST made it abundantly clear that they and their affilliates accepted the principle that the people must pay for municipal services, including electricity.

"The ANC's statement that electricity is basically a right, and not a privilege, is clearly in direct conflict with the stance taken by CAST. Electricity is clearly a commodity for which the user must pay, while agreeing that subsidies are also necessary."

Mr van Zyl said the TPA rejected the ANC's accusation that it was using the issue of electricity as a weapon to impose unfair deals on black communities. The ANC and CAST were fully aware of the fact that the TPA was in no way involved in the supply of electricity.

Consequently, the TPA had not terminated the supply of electricity. In all cases where electricity had been terminated so far, it had been done by either the bulk supplier or the local authority.

"The TPA, as a responsible Government body, is not at all interested in unfair deals, as alleged by the ANC. In fact, the TPA is only interested in deals which are in the interests of the communities.

"The TPA has stated publicly its readiness to negotiate with any representative body or organisation about local government affairs.

"Consequently, the TPA finds the suggestion by the ANC, that the TPA is unwilling to sit down to discussions with CAST to work out fair deals for the whole region, contrary to the facts," the statement said. — Sapa
VENTERSDORP FIRES COUNCIL WORKERS

SEVENTY-five black municipal workers - some with up to 18 years' service - have been fired by the Venterdorp Town Council.

This is according to Mr Eric Ngeleza, executive committee member of the advisory body Operation Masakhane for the Homeless.

In a telephone interview with Sapa Ngeleza said 16 of the workers had been rehired, although they were being treated as new workers, thus losing any salary increases and pension and other benefits they might have had.

**Attack**

No one was available for comment at the Venterdorp town council.

Venterdorp in the Western Transvaal, and the adjoining black township of Tshing, have been in a state of armed preparedness since an attack two weeks ago by rightwingers on the Goedgevonden squatters camp.

In retaliation for the attack Tshing residents organised a three-day work stayaway in Venterdorp.

**Earnings**

Ngeleza said the council had apparently only been aware of a call for a two-day stayaway, and workers who had remained at home for the extra day had been fired on Thursday last week.

The average earnings of the workers, before they had been fired, had been R180 a month, he said.

An appeal would be made to Operation Hunger to alleviate the plight of the 59 workers - all of whom were breadwinners for their families - who had not been re-employed by the council.

Ngeleza said legal advice had been taken on the matter.

He added the stayaway had only been suspended, and depending on the Venterdorp council's reaction concerning the fired workers, could be reimposed. - Sapa
CAST teams study local government abroad

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) has sent 10 young black South Africans to various overseas countries to study local government. Fields of study include education, housing, national development and transport management.

Mr. Mayekiso, CAST's president, told the Star: "We're sending people over for training to make sure that the new South Africa doesn't end in a shambles"
Cast teams study local government abroad

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) has sent 10 young black South Africans to various overseas countries to study local government.

Moses Mayekiso, CAST's president, told Saturday Star more young men and women would be sent to join those who left two weeks ago for Canada, India, the US and UK.

"We're sending people over for training to make sure that the new South Africa does not end in a shambles," said Mr Mayekiso.

Fields of study include health services, informal education, housing, national development and transport management.

Mr Mayekiso said the idea for the training scheme occurred to him when he saw councillors signing documents they hardly understood.
New men to take control of Jo'burg

The Johannesburg City Council will be asked tomorrow to approve the appointment of 11 new executive directors in the revamped council structure.

Only two top officials retain their positions — city secretary Howard Venale and city treasurer Wilhe Subert.

The new city electrical engineer is Ron Leish, city engineer roads is Dr E. Horak, and city engineer water and waste is M. Watson.

The new executive director of culture and recreation is Dr DJ Myburgh, executive director of health and housing is Dr Necky Pikeyeche, executive director human resources is D. U. Lamprecht, executive director planning is Ian Symon and executive director of transport is M. G. Cuthbert.

Frikkie Kotze takes over as director of public safety.
Violence delays pensions
	By SUSAN MILLER

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday claimed delays in pension payments had been caused by the violence in the townships.

TPA spokesman Ms Elsabe Ferreira said payment of pensions had taken place smoothly this year except for the incidents highlighted in the Sowetan last week.

She said the TPA was aware of the needs of the pensioners and sunshades had been erected for their convenience at some of the pay points.

Volunteers

The TPA was already busy making arrangements to establish two additional payout points outside Soweto, she said.

Ferreira emphasised that it was not necessary for pensioners to queue from so early and that adequate time was allocated for the paying of the pensioners.

She appealed for more volunteers to come forward "to help with this great task."
Top jobs lost in council reshuffle

At least three top Johannesburg municipal officials have lost their jobs in a major restructuring of the city council’s administration.

Johannesburg Medical Officer of Health Prof. Hillord Harwitz, city engineer Dave Read and parks and recreation senior director Paul Louben have not been appointed to any of the 11 new executive positions created as part of a restructuring exercise.

The revamp, which follows an in-depth investigation by Deloitte Pim Goldby management consultants, involves replacing 20 senior posts with 11.

The position of four senior officials, whose posts were among those abolished, remains unclear. The other senior posts to be abolished are now occupied by acting officials or officials planning to retire.

Councillors will be asked at today’s monthly meeting to approve the appointment of 11 people recommended by the management committee after interviewing applicants last week.

Harwitz and Louben yesterday indicated that they would now retire and Read, who has been with the council for 28 years, refused to comment.

Louben, who has been with the council for 20 years, said he would retire now at the age of 57 instead of in three years’ time and would lose about 5% of his potential retrenchment payout. He said he felt he had been treated fairly.

Management committee chairman Ian

To Page 2

Top jobs

Davidson said yesterday it was impossible to estimate what the restructuring would cost the council in retrenchment and pension payouts.

The Deloitte Pim Goldby report estimated that it would cost the council R3.5m in severance pay if none of the existing departmental heads was appointed to new posts.

Davidson said the actual cost could not yet be calculated because it was not known whether people whose positions had been made redundant would leave the council or reapply for other positions.

While these posts would entail less status, they would not necessarily involve a drop in salary, Davidson said.

The management committee will recommend today that city secretary Howard Veale, city treasurer Willie Sibbert and electrical engineer R. Leih retain their posts.

Former senior deputy health director Dr Nicky Padayachee will be recommended as health and housing executive director, while former development chief director Franske Koetz will be proposed as public safety executive director.

Eskom’s Dean Myburgh will be recommended as culture and recreation director and CSIR business manager Emile Horak as city roads engineer.
Germiston puts out hard-knock budget

Mr Louw said there had been great emphasis on privatisation and deregulation, and the council was continuing to enhance productive use of its financial resources.

He said South Africa was experiencing a deepening recession characterised by double-figure inflation, increasing unemployment and continuing high interest rates, with a predicted low growth rate of not more than 0.5 percent.

Instability

"Against the background of political changes and financial instability, the management committee exercised great restraint to keep tariff increases to a minimum, especially in view of the fact that residents would be subjected to 12 percent VAT on all amounts payable with respect to service rendered from October."

He said the regional services council's contributions had led to a decrease in the council's financial burden on transport studies, planning and road projects.
owed R3m

Council is

The Soweto City Coun-

cil yesterday said it was

owed nearly R3 million in

arrears for electricity sup-

ply to these consumers:

- A local department store

- A local business

- A local factory

Meanwhile, residents

from the Police and the

Divine Church said they

were not happy with the

disturbance caused by the

electricity cut.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number of posts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

(2) There are no Colleges in the service of the department.
Name change row in Verwoerdburg

The Argus Correspondent
PRETORIA — Controversy is brewing over plans to change the name of Verwoerdburg, near Pretoria, because its political connotations are causing an economic pinch.

Businessmen at a forum hosted by the Verwoerdburg Town Council on the future of the town, said yesterday that the town was losing investment opportunities because of its name, which foreign companies saw as being synonymous with apartheid.

But rightwing organisations and the widow of former Prime Minister Dr H F Verwoerd have slammed the proposed change.

Mr Lous Norval, of the Verwoerdburg Central Business District Association, said changing the name was an emotional issue, but support for a new one was based on economic realities.

"We are losing many possible investors and development opportunities," he said, explaining that multinational companies would not even allow the name "Verwoerdburg" to appear on their letterheads; they preferred to invest in towns like Midrand instead.

Mr Norval said the CBD Association had conducted a poll among businessmen at the end of last year, and 90 percent had supported a name-change. The other 10 percent were either opposed to a change, or did not have an opinion.

Mr Dudley Pound, also of the CBD Association, said a change of name would be in the interests of Verwoerdburg, especially its main business area.

Mr Reg Edwards, of Stocks and Stocks, said he supported a name-change from a practical point of view, as this would be good for Verwoerdburg.

Town councillor Mr David van der Bijl said the town should have a name that did not have political connotations.

"We are losing business and playing second fiddle to surrounding towns," he said, adding that the naming of the town in the late Sixties had been an "historical error".

The council had chosen the name "Doornkloof," but this was rejected by the then administrator of Transvaal, who named it Verwoerdburg following the assassination of Prime Minister Dr Hendrik Verwoerd in 1963.

Voters at the time had also opposed the name.

The only speaker to oppose a new name for the town was businessman Mr Willie Marais.

He said the Verwoerdburg era had been extremely prosperous for South Africa in terms of economic growth, and that changing the town's name would amount to tampering with history.

Commenting today, MP for Verwoerdburg, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok said he had no comment but would abide by any decision taken.

Dr Verwoerd's widow, Mrs Betsie Verwoerd, said today the name had proven in the past to have led to prosperity in the area.

She said the proposal was part of a process to change the name of buildings which were Afrikaans.

The Conservative Party and conservatively minded South Africans would resist with all its power moves to remove Dr Verwoerd's name from places where he had been honoured, Mrs Verwoerd said.

The leader of the CP in the Pretoria city council Mr Paul Fouche today described the proposal as "absolute rubbish."

One could not destroy the history of a "volk," he said. Mr Fouche added that it was a fact that Dr Verwoerd was the architect of the establishment of independent republics.

The Boer Commando asked why foreign businessmen did not invest in black areas if they were offended by the political connotations of Verwoerdburgstad "or are they afraid their investments might go up in smoke?"

The organisation described the proposal as "the most ridiculous ever."

African National Congress spokesman Mr Gill Marcus said the proposal indicated a dawning realisation that South Africa had a wider constituency.
Steam rises over Nelspruit budget

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

Nelspruit's R61 million municipal budget, which, after general tariff and assessment rate increases, provides for a R250 000 deficit, caused heated debate at a town council meeting on Monday night.

Tabling his 29th consecutive budget, management committee chairman Nico van Zyl said this year's capital expenditure programme of R11.4 million was R2 million less than the previous year.

A great effort had been made to keep costs as low as possible, but certain projects had had to be undertaken.

These included the re-establishment of a new motor vehicle testing area (R250 000), upgrading roads and traffic control (R1.2 million), water network improvement (R500 000), electrical network improvement (R1.3 million) and business centre landscaping (R100 000).

Mr van Zyl announced sharp tariff increases, which he said were necessary to balance the budget.

From July 1 assessment rates will increase by 15 percent. Electricity, refuse and sewerage goes up by 15 percent and water will cost an additional 20 percent.

The budget drew sharp criticism from Conservative Party councillors Tobie de Bruin, Dawid Jacobs and Loms Badenhorst.

Describing Nelspruit as one of South Africa's most expensive towns, Mr Jacobs said the time had come for drastic cuts in municipal spending.

Mr Jacobs said the amount allocated for civic functions was too high.

During the meeting a rowdy audience continuously coughed and interjected while Mr van Zyl spoke.

"This is not the place to air your political views," Mr van Zyl told Mr Jacobs during a heated discussion.

Came the reply from somebody in the audience, "That's why so many ANC marches take place in our town."
Vying for council seat at three of the four candidates who will contest the Northcliff municipal by-election are Elsabe Brink (left), Frank Salmon and Rentia Fouché. Picture: Karen Fletcher

4 contesting Northcliff by-election

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

In a surprise development, four candidates have emerged to fight the Northcliff (Ward 2) municipal by-election in Johannesburg on June 19.

Five were nominated but one, former school principal Daniel de Bruin, was disqualified. Johannesburg election officer Hennie Geldenhuys says it is the first time in the council's history that he can recall five candidates coming forward to fight a municipal election.

Of all the political parties, only the Democratic Party has put forward a candidate - historian Elsabe Brink.

The others are independents businessman Rentia Fouché, Western Johannesburg Ratepayers Association chairman Frank Salmon and clerk Johanna Strydom.

Mrs Brink will concentrate on the problem of traffic intrusion, the spread of business development into the area and conservation issues.

She would like to get more women involved in local government issues.

Mr Salmon said: "I have lived in Ward 2 for over 40 years and know it and the people in it like my own family."

"I identify with their problems, and being in the council will give me more muscle to ensure that their wishes are acted on."

Mrs Fouché has pledged to stand for ratepayers.

"I don't want to get involved in party politics. I want to devote all my attention to the voters and give them what they want," she said.

Mrs Strydom could not be reached for comment.

In terms of an election agreement with the DP, the National Party will not contest the seat.

The ward was vacated by independent councillor Hans Strydom.
The Cynics Association of Southern Transvaal (CasT) and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) agreed yesterday to form a working group to tackle the crisis facing black local government.

Cast said in a statement later the four-member working group would try to facilitate agreements in local areas where negotiations had deadlocked.

Bodies such as Eskom, water boards, regional services councils and white local authorities would be co-opted if necessary to help reach agreements.

Cast and the TPA also agreed to set up neutral points for the payment of service bills in townships.

The working group would investigate proposals put forward by Cast as an alternative approach to the TPA's local government strategy.

Cast said the group would study a Cast document proposing alternatives to the TPA's local government strategy.

An unprecedented crisis faced the entire local government system in Transvaal, the document said.

Cast predicted that the belief that conditions were deteriorating and that there had been little progress in the transition to a more acceptable form of local government would soon be borne out.

The proposals dealt mainly with ways to ensure the continued provision of services, while a completely new local government structure was negotiated.

Cast proposed that government be approached to increase the amount set aside for bridging finance or inter-governmental grants to townships by R25m.

Without this extra money, black local authorities would receive only 54% of the finance they needed this year.

CasT said the payment of bills in the townships would only increase if residents experienced improved services. This would be possible only if enough financing was made available to keep services going while negotiations were under way.

CasT proposed that tariffs for water, sewage, electricity and refuse removal be set at a regional level, while the cost per housing unit was worked out.

The TPA accepted Cast's suggestion that legitimate payment points be set up to increase the confidence of township residents who did not trust the existing black local authorities.

The working group would investigate Cast's proposal that agency agreements be entered into to transfer responsibility for providing services from black local authorities to regional services councils.

This would increase residents' confidence in the administrative system.

There was no point in leaving this responsibility in the hands of authorities which would be scrapped first when real reorganisation on local government structures began, said CasT.

TPA spokesmen were not available for comment on yesterday's meeting.
Josiah Matlala, new Diepmeadow mayor.

Five threatened before shooting

By Montshwe Moroke

Death threats were directed at five Diepmeadow councillors three days before mayor Moge Khumalo was shot dead, deputy mayor Zabelon Thabane claimed yesterday.

Mr Thabane, who was addressing councillors and guests at the inauguration of new mayor Josiah Matlala, said a council member had threatened to "eliminate" five councillors, including himself, P Phiri, the chairman of the council's executive committee, and deputy S M Gunduza and J M Mabada.

"It was not a secret. It was said in public and not even in whispers. After marching out of this meeting, a member said outside that five members were to be eliminated," Mr Matlala said.

Mr Matlala (62), of Meadowlands, served as deputy mayor in 1987 and 1989 and was the right-hand man to former mayor Johannes Mathala.

Town clerk Johan de Jager said that in the process of change with the imminent move towards nonracial local authorities, Mr Matlala could be the last, if not the second last, Diepmeadow mayor.
Quit or face boycott, town council told

By Dirk Nel
Northern Transvaal Bureau

The Messina Town Council has been asked to resign immediately or face a consumer boycott by Nancefield township residents in the border town tomorrow, the civic association said this week.

"We regard the council as an apartheid-appointed authority, which does not have the interests of residents at heart," a civic association spokesman said.

He claimed that water rates and service charges had soared to unacceptably high levels. A memorandum detailing these and other complaints and demanding the council's resignation had recently been handed to the Nancefield community council chairman after a protest march.

Leaflets urging residents not to support the boycott have been circulated in the township. The leaflets warn workers they will lose their jobs, saying white-owned businesses would not be able to pay wages if subjected to a consumer boycott.

Attempts to contact the mayor of Nancefield and members of his council for comment were unsuccessful, and Messina town clerk Johan Kok was said to be on leave.

However, a spokesman for the Provincial Directorate of Community Development in Pietersburg said the Nancefield council, though not planning to resign, was giving attention to the grievances of the civic association.
He's stepping into Big John's shoes

Taking over the post of one of the most controversial council department's in the country would be a daunting task for most, but not for former Johannesburg fire chief and development director Frikkie Kotze.

Appointed executive director of public safety, Mr. Kotze is now in charge of one of the largest departments in the council with about 3600 employees in the traffic, security, fire and emergency, civil defence and fire protection departments.

He oversees a budget of R150 million a year, and takes over from former traffic and safety chief John Pearce — forced out after The Star's expose of a 'city council spy ring.'

Mr. Kotze promises an open administration and says he is looking forward to his new job.

Spying

"I have no problems stepping into Big John's shoes. Mr. Pearce did a marvellous job over the years and we are still good friends."

A report is due out soon on the restructuring of the security department.

"Spying is totally out. We have a council staff of 23 (50) and a budget in excess of R2 billion, so the security department is there to protect council property, to provide protection to its employees and conduct internal investigations wherever necessary.

"I don't see myself going in as a super-duper traffic officer or because I was fire chief. I am going in as an executive director to manage the unit."

Mr. Kotze was with the fire department for many years. He lectured at the University of the Witwatersrand and was involved in drafting legislation regarding building safety standards. Much of his research was accepted internationally.

One of Mr. Kotze's first goals is to do something about the morale of his employees and the image of the department.

"The department has had a lot of adverse publicity and we need to create pride — they have so much to be proud of."

The emergency services came up tops in a recent survey by consultants as the department that received the least complaints from the public and was the most admired.

"Our people are out there day and night looking after the safety of the public."

"A traffic officer often goes beyond his call of duty to be a friend to the public, and that is the kind of image we would like to project."

What gives Mr. Kotze great joy is serving his public.

"To be able to serve and to give is like giving presents over Christmas. I love to give myself. I love this city; it's my city and I'm very jealous of it."

He finds it very satisfying to be part of the many challenges facing Johannesburg.

He is, however, worried about the rising crime rate, attacks on his traffic officers and the recent planting of impet mines in the city.

"If there is anything we can do to assist, we will be at the forefront."
For a Future Job: Burg

The post of transport director will become vacant when Mr. Wilson, who became city engineer, tendered his resignation in September for personal reasons. The vacant position was filled by Mr. Key, who became director of public safety and recreation. The new director will be responsible for the efficient operation of the city's transportation system, including public safety and recreation services.

Several new positions have been created in the organizational structure to better manage the city's transportation needs. The new positions include:
- Director of Public Safety and Recreation
- Director of Planning
- Director of Transportation

These changes are expected to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the city's transportation services.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The council's primary focus will be on improving transportation services, including the expansion of public transit routes and the development of new transportation centers. The council will also work to ensure that transportation services are accessible to all residents.

The city's transportation system is expected to see significant improvements in the coming months, including the expansion of public transit routes and the development of new transportation centers. The council will also work to ensure that transportation services are accessible to all residents.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.

The new council structure is expected to be in place within six months. The new council members will work closely with the Transportation Department to ensure the smooth operation of the city's transportation system.
CONTROLS
The following controls were four:
- Batching of record types: mar, tot
- Audit trial: checked back to be balanced, edit 1
- Gross profit report
- Company number (se)
- Company number (se)
- Posting of entries
- Physical stock count
- 2 levels of pass

While these controls are substantial, the system felt that a form of perpetual stock was needed with the system choosing location.

BENEFITS
The following features of the system were:
(i) The committed quantity to be taken into and out of master files.
(ii) The system was computer menu driven and was easy to use.
(iii) The stock system on with Order Entry an
Name and shame of Verwoerdburg

VERWOERDBURG is feeling the economic pinch of its name and there are growing moves to change the town's name because of the political connotations and the area of its "name and shame."

Most businessmen attending a forum, hosted by the Verwoerdburg Town Council, on the future of Verwoerdburg, last week said the town was losing investment opportunities because of its name, which foreign companies saw as being synonymous with apartheid.

But most rightwing organisations - and Dr Verwoerd's widow - have slammed the proposed change.

Mr Louis Norval, of the Verwoerdburg Central Business District Association said changing Verwoerdburg's name was an emotional issue, but support for a new name was based on economic realities.

"We are losing many possible investors and development opportunities," he said, explaining that multinational companies would not even allow the name "Verwoerdburg" to appear on their letterheads; they preferred to invest in towns like Midrand instead.

Norval said the CBD Association had conducted a poll on the issue among local businessmen at the end of last year, and 30 percent had supported a name-change. The other 50 percent were either opposed to a change, or did not have an opinion.

Mr Dudley Pound, also of the CBD Association, said a change of name would be in the interests of Verwoerdburg, especially its main business area.

Mr Reg Edwards, of Stocks and Stocks, said he supported a name-change from a "practical point of view", as this would "be good for Verwoerdburg".

Town councillor Mr David van der Bijl said Verwoerdburg should have a name that did not have "political connotations".

"We are losing business and playing second fiddle to surrounding towns," he said, adding that the naming of the town in the late Sixties had been an "historical error".

The town's council had chosen the name "Doomkloof", but this was rejected by the then administrator of Transvaal, who named it Verwoerdburg instead after the assassination of Dr Hendrik Verwoerd in 1966.
THE Verwoerdburg Town Council will consult all the people in the area before deciding to change the town's name.

Commenting on speculation that they were to hold a referendum to test whether residents were in favour of changing the town's name, the council said the matter would be thoroughly investigated before action was taken.

The council has not yet discussed the outcome of meetings held last week with businessmen and residents where concern was expressed about the name's political connotations. They are expected to meet soon to decide on any further action.
Civic movement tries hard to shut off the past

The violence on the Reel has made it difficult for the NIC to span political divides. Reports of anti-college
Council staff's wages withheld

By Abel Mabelanc and Sapa

Tembisa, Alexandra and Kagiso council employees have not been paid their May salaries and wages because a six-year rent and services boycott has left funds depleted and because of "certain administrative problems".

According to Transvaal Provincial Administration chief director of local government J.J. van der Walt, R2.6 million in salaries and wages for officials, councillors and workers has been withheld. He would not say how many employees would be affected and when they could expect their money.

He said the rent boycott had left the Tembisa council with no funds. It had collected R250,000 last month—only 3 percent of the actual revenue.

Mr. van der Walt refused to discuss the problems affecting the councils.

He said he knew nothing of reports that white officials at the Tembisa council were on strike because they had not been paid. "Black employees are apparently still reporting for work."
Private aid on urbanisation sought

PRETORIA — The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) has called on the private sector to help solve some of the problems associated with accelerating urbanisation.

A TPA spokesman said yesterday the recently announced combined TPA-private sector effort to ease the growing financial crisis was expected to be in operation before the year end.

Transvaal administrator Dane Hough has said it was urgent that the problems be tackled.

The province's resources had been virtually exhausted, Hough said.

The structure of the combined effort included the appointment of six regional development managers (RDMs) from the private sector to work with the provincial regional directors.

The regions are east and west Rand, Pretoria, Pretoria, Johannesburg, Potchefstroom and Witbank.

The managers will appoint multi-disciplinary consortia to identify priority projects in the regions.

The spokesman said the response to advertisements calling for applications for RDMs had been "better than good."

So far in the Pretoria area alone more than 100 applications had been received and responses were still pouring in.

The spokesman said the RDMs would be paid by the province.

It was hoped the private sector would become more involved in financing projects such as the provision of services in squatter areas, the expansion of electricity, sewerage and other basic infrastructural services.
No pay for council workers as rent boycott hits funds

EMPLOYEES of the Tembisa, Alexandra and Kagiso councils were not paid last month because a six-year rent and services boycott has left funds depleted.

Disclosing this yesterday TPA chief director of local government, Mr JJ van der Walt, said R2.6 million in salaries and wages for officials, councillors and workers had been withheld.

He would not say how many employees were affected and when they could expect their money.

Van der Walt said the rent boycott had left the Tembisa Council with no funds. It had collected R250,000 last month - only three percent of the actual revenue.

He refused to discuss the problems affecting the councils because "negotiations were still taking place with some of them."

He said he knew nothing about reports that white officials with the Tembisa Council were on strike because they had not been paid.

Black employees, it is believed, are still reporting for work. - Sowetan Correspondent and Sapa
Councillors will crash, warns RSC chief

By Louise Burgers
and Esmaré van der Merwe

Some of South Africa's biggest townships would not be able to pay their workers within two months unless drastic steps were taken to save black local authorities from bankruptcy.

Black local government has hit its biggest crisis yet, with at least three councils—Tembisa, Kagiso and Alexandra—not being able to pay employees.

Reports that Tembisa council workers had gone on strike could not be confirmed.

Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) chairman John Griffiths warned yesterday that the Greater Soweto councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepsloot would not have funds to pay wages by the end of July unless the Government and the Transvaal Provincial Administration helped.

1H.12 Funds

"If something is not done soon, essential services in these townships will collapse within two months—and I am not exaggerating," Mr Griffiths said.

"They won't have funds to pay for salaries, wages and services, and that can only mean a total collapse."

The CWRSC, which has been funding the daily running costs of the boycott-stricken black councils in the region, provided bridging finance until March.

Although, the CWRSC on Tuesday approved R132 million to keep the councils afloat, that money becomes available only in August.

The growing crisis is the result of protracted rent and services boycotts, particularly in the Transvaal, where 54 out of the 82 black municipalities have virtually been crippled due to the non-payment of accounts.

Residents in Transvaal townships owe their councils more than R1 billion in rent and services payments, says the TPA.

The situation is so serious that about R418 million intended by central Government to maintain infrastructure being used mainly to pay salaries.

TPA spokesman Majda du Toit said that if money were left over from the salary bill, councils could use the money to pay, in order, water bills, sewerage, refuse and only then electricity accounts.

Mrs du Toit stressed, however, that the inter-governmental equalisation loan, allocated to councils on a fixed monthly rate determined by their needs, were not granted to "finance the boycott but to keep the system going."

Recently, electricity supplies to 12 townships were cut.

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) will meet the TPA today to discuss the cut-offs.

Local government experts warned yesterday that RSCs—which have been footing large portions of townships' bills—could not continue to do so for much longer.

RSCs had been established to finance infrastructure and development.
TPA rejects calls for moratorium

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday told the Civic's Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) that it would not declare a moratorium on power cuts in black townships.

Speaking to reporters in Johannesburg after meeting Cast representatives, Transvaal MECP for Institutional Development and Negotiations Olaus van Zyl said the TPA could not support a moratorium.

"A moratorium is buying time. Who is going to supply funds to buy time?" Van Zyl asked, adding that the intergovernmental grants to the local authorities were not meant to subsidise rent boycotts.

"Because the TPA has no funds available to ensure the supply of services to the black townships during negotiations, it is not in a position to support a moratorium," he said.

He said the TPA was not responsible for cutting off services in townships. This was done by the local authorities or bulk service suppliers.

The question of power cuts would be looked into by a joint Cast/TPA working group, he said.

Yesterday's meeting between the TPA and Cast came two days after Cast threatened to suspend talks unless a moratorium was declared. Cast was not available for comment yesterday.

Transvaal townships still without electricity include Sebokeng in the Vaal Triangle, Atteridgeville near Pretoria and Thohoyandou on the East Rand.

Lekoa town clerk Klane Louw said yesterday power had been restored to two sections of Sebokeng after more than 70% of its residents paid their accounts.

Power was cut in six townships under the jurisdiction of the Lekoa City Council earlier this week.

Sapa reports that the Pretoria City Council management committee yesterday announced its plan to restore bulk electricity to Atteridgeville for a trial period of one month under conditions accepted by Atteridgeville's administrator.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the townships said in Tshwane, near Parys, said it had no evidence that 33 people had died as a result of drinking contaminated water. It was claimed earlier that this had occurred because fresh water supplies to the townships were cut off on May 13.

Stream of black babies up for adoption

THERE was an endless stream of abandoned black babies in Johannesburg and an endless queue of infertile white couples desperate to adopt from a shrinking pool of white babies, Johannesburg Child Welfare Social Welfare consultant Jackie Loffel said yesterday.

Speaking at a workshop on Transracial Adoptions held at Wits University, Loffel said the number of white couples prepared to adopt black babies could grow as the "new SA" emerges.

Matching these couples with black babies could help balance out adoption needs and resources.

She said there was a place for transracial adoptions, although a restricted one.

If done indiscriminately and in isolation from other strategies, adoptions across the colour line would reflect dubious ethics. It would amount to treating the symptom of massive community crisis — namely child abandonment, without responding to the people caught up in that crisis.

In the US and UK, the one-way traffic of black children into white homes had been seen as another form of cultural imperialism in which black children were another commodity of exchange, said Loffel.
Townships Board useless without local content, say Jhb planners

JAMES CLARK

The chairman is the former MEC in charge of Education, Fanie Schoeman, who is a popular Pretoria businessman and is liked for his openness. He was unavailable for comment yesterday.

The members are:
- Former Eersterus management committee chairman William Arends
- Kloofskraal town councillor Chris van Eeden
- President’s Council member Piet Grobler
- Pretoria attorney Gert Hugo
- Former Laudium management committee chairman Moseane

The board’s inaugural meeting a few days ago was by invitation of Johannesburg’s planning department frustrated with the 100 years ago — the meeting was held in the Old Raadshuis from where Paul Kruger used to rule Johannesburg.

Reactions expressed by Johannesburg yesterday were unanimous while an appeals board was necessary it should have

JAMES CLARK

The townships board has now dismissed the old board and named a new one. The new board was in charge of looting and corruption. It was promised to destroy the board’s image as an “invisible, autocratic body.”

Sandton Council said the board created “havoc” in its town.

A petrol company wanted to build garages in suburbia, if they were turned down by ratepayers and the local council, it would go to the Townships Board to obtain an overruling. The Administrator of the Transvaal has now dismissed the old board and named a new one.

Mr. Hugh has promised to destroy the board’s image as an “invisible, autocratic body.” He said this week: “In future we will more and more try to play the role of bridge-builders, match-makers.”

But the news failed to impress Johannesburg planners, councillors and ratepayers for not one member is a Johannesburg mayor. General opinion yesterday was that Mr. Hugh has simply appointed a new set of non-local people — albeit multi-racial — none of whom has intimate knowledge of the metropolis.

“Local content”.

City councillor, Professor Harold Rudolph, told me: “I am sure they (the new board) will do their job, but it will not be the situation.”

Johannesburg should be master in its own house. We should have Johannesburg people deciding for Johannesburg. Johannesburg’s expertise is at least equal to Pretora’s.

He said people should have the right to appeal against local council decisions but the problem with outsiders arbitrators was that a couple of Townships Board members might make an inspection in loco, “let’s say when traffic was particularly quiet — and then gain a wrong impression. We who live here are fully au fait with our own situation.”

Conrad Berge of Nomag said: “The problem has not really been the board or even where its members came from — it has been the quality of its decisions.

“The concept of an appeals board is good — especially for Johannesburg. Local authorities can go through strange phases. “All that seems to have happened now is that the names have been changed. There’s been no change in law.”

Anthony Lange, the Norwood ratepayers’ leader, whose frustration, triggered November’s Saturday Star story on “the faceless few”, whose views probably influenced the decision to drop the previous board, said: “We will not rest until we have a whole new town planning decision making system.”

Tony Leon and Peter Soal of the Democratic Party have recently made strong pleas in Parliament for a total review.

Mr. Soal, Johannesburg North MP, who described the previous board as comprising “mandarins and bureaucrats”, believes an appeals board should consist of Johannesburg people — “retired experts, town planners, lawyers, judges, individuals with status.”
Guaranteed protection

SOWETO City Council staff members and cleaners are to resume their duties in township hostels after being guaranteed protection by Soweto police.

A statement from the Council yesterday said duties at the hostels will be resumed within a fortnight.

Vandalism?

Administrative staff and cleaners, who lodged complaints about vandalism to hotel property and insufficient security, were withdrawn from the area for their own safety about a month ago, the statement said.
Tokoza council slashes work force

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

The Tokoza Town Council — virtually bankrupt because of the rent boycott — has retrenched 37 percent of its employees, and is considering further cutbacks. Tokoza administrator Gert Muller said yesterday. The council owed the Rand Water Board R320 000 for April and May's water, and had no money for its June bill. Mr Muller said the rent boycott showed no sign of ending.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decree</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Creation of Posts</td>
<td>1 May 1961</td>
<td>THHO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Creation of Posts</td>
<td>1 May 1961</td>
<td>BAP ITB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Creation of Posts</td>
<td>1 May 1961</td>
<td>KH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The image contains a complex table with multiple columns and rows, detailing various decrees and their dates along with the relevant laws. The table is not legible due to the image quality.
Disagreement voiced

Strong disagreement over the 'Interim Measures for Local Government' Bill, which would allow for 'one city one council', was marked by the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting last night.

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, chairing his first chamber session, said members failed to reach a consensus on the issue and a resolution was not passed.

"Some members had strong reservations, others felt this was at least a start," he said.

Civic Association of Southern Transvaal's representative in the Metropolitan Chamber, Cyril Ramaphosa, called the Bill "disastrously short-sighted." He was shocked a Bill of this nature had been drafted.

"The Government has not ensured that parties involved in local issues were properly consulted," he said.

However, Transvaal Provincial Administration MEC Olau van Zyl said the Bill was necessary to implement proposals on a local level and it was important that it be passed in Parliament this year.

"To implement what we are negotiating, we need the Bill. If we cannot implement structural changes, we have no legal provision to do this," he said. — SPP
2 residents take council to court

TWO residents yesterday brought an application in the Rand Supreme Court against the Evaton Council to have some of its by-laws set aside.

Mr. William Titu Mogapu and Mr. Solomon Kehla Mashinini, members of the Evaton Standowners Association, asked for an order to declare the by-laws void, claiming that the council had not complied with them.

Mr. Justice MS Stegmann will hear the application again today.

They maintain that the council had, for a considerable period, advertised before enactment.

The applicants submitted that the council misled residents in the advertisement, giving the impression that residents' rights to object or comment on the proposed by-laws ended two days earlier.

The applicants claimed that the council had not complied with the regulations. The residents claimed the council did not comply with the regulation requiring newspaper advertising before enactment.

Mr. I du Toit, for the council, submitted that the council had the authority to enact the by-laws as if it had complied regulations.

Mr. Paul Kennedy, for the applicants, asked that the by-laws be set aside because they were so vague that they confused residents.
2-m face township

Talks to end boycott fail as councils endure bankruptcy

As provincial authorities and civic associations failed to reach agreement this week, more than 2 million township residents could be left without essential services by the end of July.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) have jointly warned if consumers continue with the boycott of payment for services, local authorities will no longer be able to provide those services.

Employees of the bankrupt councils are also faced with retrenchments as there is no money to pay their salaries. Already, Thokoza Town Council on the East Rand has retrenched 37 percent of its employees due to bankruptcy caused by the continuing rent and services boycott in the township.

Administrator for the town council, Gert Muller said on Tuesday the crisis could force further retrenchments.

Power cuts

Nine black townships were plunged into darkness due to the non-payment of service accounts by residents in those areas.

Power has however been restored to some areas of Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle and the whole of Atteridgeville, Pretoria and Thokoza — following agreements signed by the TPA and civic organisations and a flood of late service charges payments.

Mr John Griffiths, chairman of the CWRSC said the situation might be averted if residents paid for what they consumed and if the Government increased its bridging funds to the councils.

He predicted that in a month's time, town councils would be unable to pay their employees' salaries, let alone paying for bulk services or township development projects.

Mr Griffiths said that with the level of income at the moment, both from consumers and the Government, there would be a breakdown of services by the end of July.

"All parties involved should address this issue very soon as councils will find it difficult to pay employees and even more difficult to pay for bulk supplies of water and electricity," Mr Griffiths said.

His view was fully shared by Olaus van Zyl, MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations.

"The TPA is very concerned about the deteriorating situation in black towns. We believe the problems must be resolved through negotiation and such talks are presently taking place at 94 places in the Transvaal," Mr van Zyl said.

He said the only solution would be reached when residents fulfilled their responsibility for paying for services.

Money intended for development purposes was used for the payment of essential services such as the provision of water, sewerage and refuse removal.

"As a result of this, very little new infrastructure can be developed," Mr van Zyl said.

In another development, the CWRSC had accepted to take over the distribution and maintenance of electricity supplies, to black townships in its region, after they had been requested to do so by the Metropolitan Chamber.

"We are waiting for the councils to approach us and then we can negotiate an agreement," Mr Griffiths said.

The CWRSC had always been against a total curtailment of power to the areas and was in favour of withdrawing power from individuals that do not pay for their consumption.

Mr Griffiths made an impassioned appeal to residents to pay for what services were used.

At the moment, electricity is cut off at the following towns: Lekoa (four towns), Slobela (Carolina), Siyatutuka (Belfast), Tigane (Haartebeesfontein), Kaillebong (Germiston) and Monneville (Krugersdorp).
Civic body to confront city council

THE CP-controlled Pretoria City Council (PCC) will soon be confronted with mass action from the newly formed Civic Associations of the Central Transvaal (Cact).

Cact's publicity secretary, Pasty Malefo, warned that "for too long" the PCC has proved to be insensitive towards the impoverished black townships surrounding it and therefore deserved any form of action.

Top on Cact's agenda would be a demand for a non-racial local government for Pretoria, and a single tax base for Pretoria and the neighboring townships.

Negotiations would be entered into with the PCC, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the business community to find common solutions, Mr Malefo said. "The black local councils would be snubbed."

The new civic body was launched at the Medical University of South Africa last weekend.
Honour to FW angers 65 groups in Stanger

MORE than 60 organisations in Stanger are bracing themselves for a confrontation with local authorities over a decision to confer the freedom of the town on State President FW de Klerk.

In a strongly worded advertisement, the ANC and 64 local organisations warn the Local Affairs Committees and the town council that residents will mount campaigns to resist an attempt to confer the honour on De Klerk.

The ANC has written a letter to De Klerk asking him to decline the offer to "show respect for the wishes of the people of Stanger".

Attempts by the ANC to meet with the town clerk to resolve the issue have been unsuccessful.

"The Stanger and Groutville branches of the ANC condemn the Stanger LAC and the town council's decision that Mr de Klerk be given the freedom of Stanger. Such a move is insensitive and inappropriate," a joint statement from the chairmen of the ANC Stanger and Groutville branches states.

"The conferring of the honour on the State President is no more than the wish of a few persons and for them to think that they have the support of Stanger's people is presumptuous in the extreme," the statement says.

"Should they wish to proceed without tasting the views of the town's people, the local branches of the ANC will mobilise the people and will take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the freedom of Stanger being given to Mr De Klerk."

Stanger town clerk Mr WT Byrnes said the town council had noted the sentiments expressed by the ANC, but stood by its decision.

"Furthermore, the Stanger town council is of the opinion that it is not necessary to meet with representatives of the ANC as it will serve no useful purpose," Byrnes said.

The advertisement taken out by the ANC and other organisations says:

"The LACs in their insistence not to reconsid their decision are ignoring the wishes of the people."

"We say to the LAC and the town council, recurn your decision or face the wrath of the people." - Sowetan Correspondent.
Vote for independent – Jomag

By Shirley Woodgate

The Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group (Jomag) has reacted to a National Party appeal to Northcliff voters to support the Democratic Party in today's municipal by-election by labelling the last two DP councillors for Ward 2 "utterly useless".

Adding last-minute spice to what was expected to be a quiet suburban poll, Jomag has called for strong support for independent Frank Salmon (83) "who has notch-ed up years of fierce action without financial reward as a local municipal watchdog and long-serving chairman of the North Western Ratepayers' Federation".

Jomag said contrary to claims that the DP/NP coalition was working well, it had led to "lazy, careless government of Johannesburg".

Evidence was abundant, but nowhere so obvious as in the R10.5 million Civic Spine project in the CBD.

Jomag said that the previous DP councillor for Northcliff, Hans Strydom, had not only abandoned the ratepayers but also his party.
Joburg budget targets business

THE Johannesburg City Council yesterday approved a R10.8bn budget for the coming financial year that specifically targets the business sector in a bid to correct what it sees as a bias in the national Budget. Presenting the budget yesterday, management committee chairman Ian Davidson said businesses would shoulder the city's share of the council's increase in spending of 23%.

"Bearing in mind the extent to which the state's budget this year has favoured the business community rather than the man in the street, the management committee felt that the budget for the coming year should in some small way attempt to redress this imbalance," Davidson said.

The management committee had also taken into consideration the fact that VAT on municipal services would be reclaimable by business, but would be an irrecoverable burden on ordinary residents.

Increases in business properties' total rates and services bills range from 20% in Parktown to 25% in Norwood and between 15% and 5% in the Johannesburg CBD, depending on property's value on the new valuation roll.

Where a business property in the CBD has increased in value from R48m to R185m, for example, its assessment rates bill will increase from R1.5m to R6.5m if it pays about R1m more a month in rates and service charges.

The council has budgeted R2bn for operating expenses, about 22% more than last year, and has increased its capital budget by nearly 41% to R547.7m.

Major portions of capital expenditure will include R55m for the Civic Theatre, R160m for sewerage projects incurred by Johannesburg as an agent of the Central Wolwesrand RSC, R95m in electricity costs, R15m for the Afrikaans Museum, R18m for roads and R9m for Newtown.

The council has budgeted to run Johannesburg at an effective operating loss of about R20m in the coming year. It will use up the R39m surplus carried forward this year and has allowed for a R10.5m deficit.

About R252.8m will be raised through rates and service charges.

The council approved a 10% reduction in electricity charges for residential properties and a 5% increase for businesses, effective from July 1. Refuse removal charges have been increased 15% for domestic users and 30% for commercial and industrial users. Sewageage tariffs have been raised 25% across the board.

Water charges go up 4% for households and 15% for businesses, while gas tariffs remain unchanged for domestic users and increase 5% for non-domestic users. Council has reduced the rate in the rand from 4.35c to 4.1c but most assessment rate accounts will increase because of the city's new valuation roll.

In general the largest increases in assessment rates will apply to business rather than residential properties, unless the residential properties are in areas where property values have increased sharply.
THE Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal was not asked to participate in the Metropolitan Chamber, the Transvaal Provincial Administration has announced.

Reacting to Cast's reported decision not to participate in the chamber, MEC for institutional development and negotiations Mr Olaus van Zyl said:

"As far as we are aware, Cast, as an organisation, was never asked to participate.

"Therefore, it is not really relevant whether Cast wants to participate or not."

Van Zyl said the chamber comprised representatives of local authorities, management committees, civic and resident organisations and the TPA.

Bodies such as the Regional Services Councils, Eskom and the Development Bank participated as observers.

Councillors

"Some of the civic organisations participating may, however, be members of Cast and their participation is therefore a matter between them and Cast," he said.

Van Zyl said he understood that Cast's president, Mr Moses Mosebenzi, had his organisation had declined to join the chamber because of the presence of town councillors on the body, while he was a member of the Alexandra Joint Negotiation Forum, in which councillors participated. - Sapa."
BILLS, PRIVATE MEMBERS' - House of Assembly - 2016-17

Bill No. 114

The Electoral Act, 2015 - Amendment

NATIONAL HOUSES

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

1. Whereas, the Province of Alberta desires to amend The Electoral Act, 2015, to provide for a more democratic and efficient voting system; and

2. Whereas, the amendments to the Act would include provisions for a proportional representation system, the introduction of a ranked-ballot system, and the establishment of a Citizens' Commission to oversee the implementation of the new system;

NOW THEREFORE, this Act be, and it is hereby, enacted as follows:

(1) The definition "electoral system" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(2) The definition "voting system" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(3) The definition "Citizens' Commission" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(4) The definition "electoral district" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(5) The definition "voter" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(6) The definition "ballot" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(7) The definition "vote" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(8) The definition "electoral returns" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(9) The definition "election" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(10) The definition "electoral district" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(11) The definition "voter" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(12) The definition "ballot" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(13) The definition "vote" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "ranked-ballot" in their place.

(14) The definition "electoral returns" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

(15) The definition "election" in subsection (9) of section 1 of The Electoral Act, 2015, is amended by deleting the words "first-past-the-post" and adding the words "proportional representation" in their place.

This Act may be cited as The Electoral Act, 2015, Amended.

This Act comes into force on the day it is proclaimed into law.
Flexibility in medical benefits

PROPOSED changes to medical aid structures will mean patients will have to pay for treatment before being reimbursed and companies will be able to shape benefits privately.

These conclusions were presented over the weekend in an analysis of proposed changes to the Medical Schemes Act by Old Mutual's Employee Benefit Centre.

"In the proposed new system, members of medical schemes may be made responsible for paying all their medical accounts themselves. Members would then claim from their medical scheme," the analysis says.

Old Mutual Employee Benefits assistant GM Henk Beets says the proposed changes will also give employers and employees far greater flexibility in deciding how to structure benefit levels.

One of the most important of the proposed changes is the removal of current minimum and maximum benefit levels, says Beets.

"Members, through their employee groups, may then be able to choose the level of benefit best suited to their needs," Beets says.

The removal of the guaranteed payment system, whereby the suppliers pay doctors directly for treating patients, will result in much stronger links between patients and suppliers, he says.

However, Beets warns that some patients may be lured into saving money by drawing insufficient medical cover on the new scheme, and discovering to their detriment that their costs will not be paid.

Business criticises aims of city council’s budget

THE Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) has strongly criticised the city council for aiming last week’s budget at business targets.

JCCI CEO Martin de Jager at the weekend expressed his "grave concern" about the possible effects of the city’s policy of encouraging business investment in Johannesburg.

He was responding to a statement on Thursday by council management committee chairman Ian Davidson that the city’s budget "should be in some small way attempt to redress the imbalance in the state budget between business and private individuals."

"It will mean that businesses thinking of moving here will decide they are better off in Maritzburg, Durban, or Pretoria," he said.

He added that while nearby municipalities such as Midrand were offering incentives to business to relocate there, the Johannesburg council’s action would act as a disincentive.

"The decision is a bad one and if the objective is to attract companies it is not the role of the local authority to redress what it perceives as imbalances in the state budget."
Workers want to run pension fund

TEMBISA Council workers on Sunday expressed dissatisfaction with the handling of council-controlled pension funds and resolved to work towards controlling their own funds.

In a statement after a weekend meeting, South African Black Municipality and Workers Union general secretary Mr Philip Dlamini said workers had submitted complaints about the insurance companies' handling of municipal pension funds.

"Members of the funds are not informed about anything with regard to their pension funds."

"Additionally, they were not involved in the election of the Board of Trustees and thus were denied a say in the affairs of the pension fund," Dlamini said.

More than 70 000 union members belong to the Transvaal Joint Municipal Amenity and Gratuity Fund, the South African Local Authorities Pension Fund, the Tembusa Pension Fund and other municipal funds.

A committee has been elected to investigate the administration of union member's pensions, said Dlamini.

Sapa.
Council may be dismissed

The Argus 26/6/91
Correspondent

Johannesburg — Tembisa Town Council may be dissolved.

A provincial administration spokesman said a report on alleged mal-administration by the council would be sent to the Administrator on July 15.

The TPA has been unhappy with the council taking resolutions which have led to litigation. It has also complained of councillors allegedly ignoring regulations when using public funds.
Blackouts set to hit State buildings

By DON SEOKANE

GOVERNMENT buildings, including police stations and post offices, are set to become the latest targets of blackouts as the Soweto Council begins to crack down on rent defaulters.

The council began switching off power to businesses and houses at Protea South on Tuesday in an effort to force them to settle their arrears.

Soweto Council spokesman Mr Moalema Moski said the council had taken the decision to crack down on Government departments after they failed to respond to final notices sent to them two weeks ago.

Moski said the total debt of Government departments amounted to almost half the R12 million owed by traders.

"They will face darkness anytime," said Moski. "In fact, council electricians are now switching off electricity".

He said the deadline for residents had been extended to July 6 and council offices would be open on that day until noon to enable people to pay.

"From July 8 the council will cut electricity to those who are in arrears without delay."

Soweto police could not comment on the impending electricity cuts and referred enquiries to the Department of Land Affairs and Public Works, whose Johannesburg spokesman could not be reached.

Sowetan established yesterday that Protea police headquarters had paid only R13 460 of the R198 174 they owed; Moroka Police Station was R66 578 in arrears, having paid only R3 958; Orlando Police Station had paid R3 000 and still owed R29 564; Jabulani Police Station was owing R30 769 and had paid R3 248 only; and the Orlando Magistrate's Court's electricity arrears totalled R8 952.

A Post Office spokesman for the Witwatersrand said yesterday they had not yet been officially informed of the impending power cuts.

Individual post offices were not responsible for paying their accounts, the spokesman said.
Vaal leaders and TPA in rent talks

VAAL Triangle civic leaders met officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration on Tuesday and agreed to resume talks to resolve a seven-year rent boycott.

Mr Paul Sihole, a spokesman for the Vaal Civic Association, said the meeting lasted for two-and-a-half hours. The parties agreed to resume discussions on July 2.

He said the talks on Tuesday did not touch on power cuts.

Four townships are still without electricity, which was cut by the authorities on June 3 to punish residents who were in arrears on rent payments.

"The priority today was to ensure negotiations are resumed," the civic leader said.

TPA spokesmen could not immediately be reached for comment.
Planning ‘based on ideology not needs’

TOWN planners had helped mould an apartheid SA and had based their planning on ideological rather than community needs, civic campaigner Cas Coovadia said yesterday.

Coovadia was addressing the Transvaal branch of the SA Institute of Town Planners’ one-day conference at Wits University on ‘planning in a post-apartheid SA’.

He said an example of this ‘top-down’ planning was the creation of ‘inside-out’ cities, where the poorer sections of the population had been allocated land furthest from the CBDs.

‘This is, as you know, the reverse of most international experiences. Such flawed planning has, in our opinion, been a factor in impeding economic growth because it creates substantial hidden costs. One example of this is the vast amount of money spent by the poor to commute to and from their places of work.’ If community-based town planning had taken place, the money could have generated economic growth.

Coovadia said a further problem created by an ideological approach to town planning was that of differentiated standards. ‘The gap between black and white standards was immensely wide.’

‘The ideological approach to town planning has deepened this differentiation. This legacy of apartheid is such that even new developments, having a community-orientated approach to town planning, will not deliver standards for black people that are at a level presently enjoyed by white people.

‘The practice of standards being determined by town planners must stop and the community must be empowered to negotiate standards by being provided with sound information and alternatives.’

He challenged the institute on several points which included that:

☐ They should promote community-based structures to facilitate community participation in the development process.
☐ Their promotion of community-based structures must include the building of an institutional infrastructure for such community-based structures.

Black local authorities presently had neither the capacity nor the political will or legitimacy to do ‘this, yet white ratepayers’ associations were subsidised by white city/town councils. Such inequalities had to be eliminated, and
☐ There needed to be a fundamental shift on the part of planners and other professional people in the field of development. They needed to become advisors to the communities rather than the privileged dispensers of specialised knowledge.”
Council meets over electricity

SOWETO councillors have voiced strong opposition to the Central Witwatersrand RSC taking over management of electricity supply from the Soweto City Council.

The council's monthly meeting was closed to the media yesterday when Transvaal MEC for institutional development and negotiations Olans van Zyl and MEC for housing and community development John Mavuso addressed councillors.

Sources said councillors opposed handing over the function of selling electricity to residents taken from them. Many felt finance needed to be provided to Soweto to upgrade its services.

Councillors were heard arguing outside the chamber that the RSC had no magic formula to get the residents to pay but would resort to supply cutoffs as well.

The RSC recently offered to take over the service from the three Greater Soweto councils after Diepsloot, Dobsonville and Soweto had found it difficult to get residents to pay.

Mavuso said yesterday it was not the TPA's offer that was discussed, but a recommendation from the council's executive committee that councillors accept the RSC offer in principle. He said he did not know what the councillors had decided.

Gordon Sibaya, an electrical engineer who is a consultant to the council, said the council had asked for time to consider the proposal.

Sibaya added: "I can't see how the RSC is going to succeed where we as blacks are seen to be failing to make the people of Soweto pay." He said the council, with the aid of 11 electrical consultants, would perform better in the supply of electricity.

Soweto Council PRO Mogalela Moseki refused to say what was discussed, but said: "Electricity wouldn't have been a separate issue from all those addressed by the Metropolitan Chamber had the Soweto People's Delegation and the Soweto Civic Association fulfilled their part of the Greater Soweto Accord — getting 80% of the residents to pay for services."

He said the two should not be pushing for the handover of electricity management while it was still being discussed.
A massive increase in the rates bill, announced by Johannesburg City Council in its 1991-1992 budget of R2,6bn, has outraged local business. They, as distinct from domestic users, have been targeted to pay for much of the 25.8% increase in council spending this year.

Even the more progressive thinkers among business men, such as Dunlop Heywood's Ian Mitchell, are disappointed by the failure of the city fathers to offset expected rises in assessment rates by reducing the rate in the rand to an acceptable level. Whereas property values will rise anywhere from 20% to 200%, depending on the location, the rate has been reduced only from 4.38c to 4.1c.

From Sunday, when the new valuation roll comes into effect, business will contribute as much as R36m, or 76% of the R44.1m council expects to collect in assessment rates.

City valuer Nick Botha says Johannesburg land values have increased on average by 50%. For business men, the percentage rise in assessment rates will equal the rise in property values, as there are no rebates for them. Residential properties, similarly, will have their rates bill increased in line with the increased rate of municipal values. Their 55% rebate remains constant.

The message from economists is less than sympathetic: The free ride, they say, is over. The new SA is happening at local government level and owners of land and capital will have to pay for it.

University of Witwatersrand business economics lecturer David Solomon says the council has obviously shifted the onus for the cost of running the city from its users to individual and corporate property owners, the latter of whom will pass these hikes on to tenants under most leases. This socialistic shift was inevitable but has come sooner than many would like.

"The 10% reduction in electricity rates for domestic users is commendable and goes some way to reversing the rate subsidy enjoyed by residents at the expense of electricity users," he says.

Progressive thinkers agree, however, that the allocation of council money to some capital projects shows anything but foresight, serving as it does in part several self-aggrandising schemes. A case in point is the revamping of the Civic Theatre — whose R132m cost over the next three years is a far cry from the R24m mooted in 1987 when it was closed for what were termed minor alterations.

While improving the city's cultural facilities is not in itself a bad thing, they say, privatisation of such facilities, as was done with Ellis Park Rugby Stadium, may be more desirable. The Civic Theatre, seating only 960 compared to Pretoria's 1,326, with which it intends to compete, has been overcapitalised.

Nor does the city's R547.7m capital account, which has increased by 40.8% on the previous year, benefit the infrastructure of outlying black townships — that is, the greater good of all.

Perhaps what is needed, as ex-city valuer John McCulloch has suggested, is a performance budget, such as those US cities have to produce, so that ratepayers will have a say in the appropriation of city funds before they're presented with fait accompli.

Business also questions the right of council's management committee to correct what it believes is an imbalance in central government taxation, as management committee chairman Ian Davidson opens.

He feels the man in the street has been unfairly treated by the national Budget, particularly by the coming imposition of VAT, which for him is irreconcilable Davidson and company have, therefore, taken it upon themselves to shift the burden to business, where the municipal value of business properties has increased at a greater rate than that of residential properties.

Solomon says business has the capacity to pass on these taxes to consumers, to labour and to other capital owners. "This is simply a way for local government to make these local taxes less visible."

Perhaps these taxes would be justified if proper use of them were made by local authorities like Soweto through grants from city councils, for the upgrading of sewerage, refuse removal and the like. The council is free to make these grants and, come the next election, business should see to it that it does.

National Interim Civic Co-ordinator Pat Lebunya comments, "With our disadvantaged and prejudiced community, to which the State and private sector have denied basic services for so long, the increase in rates paid by businesses in Johannesburg should be seen as an investment in the future and a correction of past mistakes.

"Our only point of difference is that not only Johannesburg ratepayers, but everyone who lives in greater Johannesburg, should have a say about how those funds are spent. Local authorities as they exist now, such as Soweto, should be combined with Johannesburg to form one city, with all inhabitants benefiting from the resources created and services provided."

Alison Goldberg
Council, residents blamed

THE Soweto Council has failed to provide efficient services to its residents and residents had also not observed the spirit of the Greater Soweto Accord reached in September last year.

This was the opinion of two guests on the Sowetan Radio Metro Talkback show, Soweto Civic Association spokesmen Mr Chris Ngobobo and Mr Lawrence Boya.

While electricity is a right and a service that is considered as essential, residents also had a responsibility to ensure that the service is continued by paying for it, Ngobobo said.

The SCA was opposed to ensuring that electricity bills were paid by cutting off power and said people should, instead, be advised and encouraged to pay their bills.

Residents who had not been paying rent and electricity since September last year after the resolution of the rent boycott, were guilty of not observing the agreement reached between the council and their representatives.

A caller who wished to remain anonymous found the council at fault for not sending out electricity bills and advising residents to pay even a portion of it.

Themba of Jabulani was advised by Ngobobo that residents should also learn to report technical failures in the supply of water and electricity.

The SCA is also in the position to advise residents on related matters. They can be reached at 982-5856/7, he said.
Different tariffs cause confusion

The Atteridgeville and Pretoria municipalities should perhaps first put their houses in order before embarking on punitive measures such as electricity cuts in the township.

So far the local Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, has agreed, in writing, to three sets of tariffs in Atteridgeville this year.

This has caused confusion among residents and senior officials of the Atteridgeville Council because they do not know how much to charge householders.

Jacobson agreed to a monthly interim flat rate of R50 with the local civic organisation, Asro. He warned, however, that this amount was too little to run the township.

**Problems**

During the electricity cuts last month, the administrator signed an agreement with the Atteridgeville/Saultville Interim Committee for a monthly flat rate of R90. Shortly thereafter the Pretoria City Council announced their own tariffs ranging between R75 and R180, depending on the consumption of electricity and water.

Rent problems in Atteridgeville, which could have its electricity supplies cut again soon, seem to be getting worse.

Asro this week called on residents to stop paying rent and also rejected plans to install pre-paid electricity meters in the township—a move which was seen by authorities as an attractive way to control the demand.

A number of residents this week complained that Asro called on householders to stop paying without getting a mandate from them.

"They instructed us to stop before we were given a chance to discuss the matter," residents said.

Asro's general secretary, Mr Simon "Chupa" Tshidi, told the City Press that the installation of these meters would divide the community.

"This move will weaken our campaign to fight together. We reject these plans out of hand. The time is not yet ripe for the installation of (pre-paid) meters in our township," he said.

Amid confusion over how much should be paid for essential services, Tshidi said Asro still stuck to the R50 interim flat rate agreed to by the local administrator earlier this year.

"These people are local residents who should express their views at their respective area meetings of Asro. In fact we believe that they can help us resolve a number of problems facing us daily.

"They should also tell us of any problems they encounter in the organisation. In fact they also have a right to influence residents at meetings to either be political or to align themselves with political organisations of their choice.

"They can also bring along flags of their political parties at our public meetings."

Tshidi conceded that a good number of residents were in favour of paying up to R100 a month for services and were in fact "sick and tired" of electricity cuts.

"Residents must understand that Asro cannot negotiate for affordable tariffs from a weak position of being threatened with power cuts each time the authorities want us to pay high rent."

**Residents**

"That is why we do not know how much should be paid for services because of the introduction of different sets of tariffs every day," said Tshidi.

A number of residents have urged Asro officials to resume positive negotiations with the administrator and to guide or recommend a reasonable tariff to be paid.

"We cannot be talking about rent problems throughout the year. A long-term solution must be found as soon as possible. We have a lot of things to attend to," Mrs Angelina Masiu, a resident, said.

The Atteridgeville Council should now commit itself to upgrading the township by, among other things, cleaning and tarring the streets and attending to the constant power failures in some areas.

Residents on the other hand should also provide themselves with reasonable amounts for services rendered.

"Maybe then we will stop talking about electricity cuts in this township..."
Councillors want to know what John is getting

SUE OLSWANG

THE leader of the official opposition party in the Johannesburg City Council has criticised the management committee for hushing up details of the pension package provided to John Pearce, the recently sacked head of security.

"The whole thing has been hushed up and handled wrongly," said Jacques Theron, leader of the Conservative Party in the council.

I firmly believe the management committee should have reported back on this matter, but it has never come before the full council. It is a disgrace," he said.

Saturday Star contacted Mr Theron for comment after management committee chairman Ian Davidson refused to answer Saturday Star's questions.

When contacted at his home, Mr Davidson, who had ignored telephone and fax messages requesting comment about Mr Pearce's package, snapped:

"I am not prepared to comment. John Pearce is history. The matter is history."

The CP's Mr Theron said he understood there had been "some sort of arrangement, agreement or settlement" with Mr Pearce, and the CP would officially request details.

"Salaries are always a sensitive issue," he said, "and it is hard to draw a line on confidentiality."

"But in John Pearce's case he left the council's employ under a cloud and, if it transpires that there was a settlement and he left on favourable terms, there would be less of a cloud."

"Ratepayers, and other contributors to the pension fund, have a real and legitimate interest in this matter."

Mr Theron said the CP will "definitely put questions to the management committee at the next council meeting."

"These will be written questions, which have to be submitted about two weeks before the council meeting, specifically addressed to the management committee about this matter," he said.

Independent city councillor Professor Harold Rudolph said he did not believe the management committee was attempting to hide anything, but "an open government should disclose details."

He said in a "normal" situation staff salaries are confidential, but "in the light of the enormous public controversy surrounding Mr Pearce's leaving the council, it would be in the public interest if, at some stage, the final clarification of the entire situation was laid on the table."

Lucky

Saturday Star understands that Mr Pearce could receive a full pension package worth about R10,000 a month. And it would be equivalent to the pension of a man retiring at 60, even though he was forced to leave the council's employ at the age of 47.

This came about Saturday Star understands, because of a lucky 27-year period.

Apparently nearly 45 percent of the former security chief's pension package was saved because the council decided to implement the Pum Goldby report (which suggested that certain positions, including Mr Pearce's, be made redundant) on the same day that Mr Pearce's notice period expired.

This apparently meant that, technically, his position was made redundant and therefore his pension was not penalised.

It is believed Mr Pearce would have lost a substantial amount of his pension package if the decision to implement the report had been taken after his notice period expired.

Saturday Star has not been able to establish through the management committee whether this is so or not.

Paul Asherson, chairman of the transport and utilities on the management committee, referred the newspaper to Mr Davidson, who refused to discuss the matter.

Theo Crouse, general secretary of the Johannesburg Municipal Employees Association (JMEA), did not return calls. He said he had previously indicated that he would not discuss the matter with the press.

A Mr Potgieter, acting director of the council's pension fund, said: "Our trustees took a decision not to reveal any of this type of information because it is confidential. You can approach the person concerned (Mr Pearce) or the chairman of the management committee."

Rodney Howard, who administers the pension fund, provided Saturday Star with a copy of the pension fund rules. The newspaper had hoped to use these, together with a copy of Mr Pearce's official service record, to determine what amount Mr Pearce could expect to receive. The newspaper was, however, unable to obtain a copy of Mr Pearce's full service record.

After telephoning various council employees, the newspaper was told to contact the Johannesburg Traffic Department with its request.

Public relations officers Eric Hill and Eugene Warte did not respond to this newspaper's request.
THE Transvaal Provincial Administration and Diepmeadow Council are probing allegations of misconduct against the chairman of the council's executive committee, Frederick Phiri.

Phiri is alleged to have been mysteriously allocated a site at Diepkloof Extension in Soweto about two years ago. He is also alleged to have used his official car for private purposes.

A comprehensive report compiled by the council's treasury department alleges that Phiri filled two cars with petrol almost daily at the expense of the council.

Despite the fact that the council had given Phiri only one car for his official use, another car regularly featured in the invoices submitted for financial claims.

The official car broke down regularly and was always repaired at the council's expense, the report said.

Jaap Joubert, projects director for the TPA, confirmed the investigation against Phiri and said the outcome would be known "quite soon".

According to the treasury report, matters came to a head when the treasurer refused to sign purchase requisitions for Phiri's petrol expenses.

This was after the treasurer had noted some irregularities in the requisitions.

Among the treasury findings were that Phiri filled up petrol almost daily - which was very "irregular".

Councillors also questioned the manner in which Phiri was mysteriously given a site at elite Diepkloof Extension after his old house in that area had been sequestered and he had been declared bankrupt.

The treasury recommended that the council lay a charge against Phiri and that the matter be reported to the TPA and the Auditor-General.

Joubert said if found guilty Phiri might be suspended either by the council or by Transvaal administrator Danie Hough.

Danie Hough
PUBLIC SECTOR - LOCAL AUTHORITIES - T.V.L.

1991

JULY - DEC
Sasolburg to assist black town council

By Melody McDougall

The Sasolburg Town Council has approved a recommendation to lend administrative assistance to neighbouring Zamdele township, which becomes an autonomous local authority with its own council today. Previously Zamdele fell under the jurisdiction of the Lekoa Town Council, which was disbanded two years ago.

The Zamdele township is to be managed by an administrator, Rosil Jager, pending the election of town councillors.

The Sasolburg council, which was approached by the provincial administration to involve itself in the administration of Zamdele, agreed to give assistance on the following basis:

- The objective is to establish an effective administration.
- The assistance given will not be to the disadvantage of Sasolburg ratepayers.
- The interests of council officials must be taken into consideration at all times.
Jo’burg has plan to bring back lost youth

JOHANNESBURG could be in for a “big apple” flavour, with young people being attracted back to the CBD through an upmarket residential area.

This is the hope of city council planning and development committee chairman Eddie Magid.

“The timing has never been better for the continued development of the CBD,” Magid says.

“I am determined to establish an upmarket residential component, and bring young people back to the central city,” Magid says.

PETER GALLI

The Newtown development — between Kerk Street and the Market Theatre — is geared towards improving the downtown area through pedestrian walkways, sidewalk cafes, live entertainment and a new conference centre.

“Can you imagine anything better than strolling to work through this European-type setting?” says Magid.

Security and parking facilities will have to be improved, and steps are already being taken in this direction, he says.

Magid says an announcement on the conference centre will probably be made in the next few weeks.

CBD development worth more than R500m is in progress, and the conference centre, the new taxi terminuses and the Newtown development will cost a further R1.5bn, he says.

The acquisition of land for phase two of the Newtown Turbine Square Development is being negotiated at local authority level.

If successful, it will increase the office, retail and parking space in the area.
Posts and telecom to form public companies

PRETORIA — The Posts and Telecommunications Department will be divided into two public companies on October 1.

Postmaster-general Johan de Villiers said at the opening of new regional headquarters in Port Elizabeth at the weekend that telecommunications and postal services would be managed separately.

Each company will have a chief executive officer or managing director. The senior GM for postal operations, Willem van Rooyen, has been appointed CEO of the postal company from August 1.

The Telkom’s GM for the Witwatersrand, Dane du Toit, will head the Telkom company. A board of directors will approve the annual budgets as well as conditions of service and policy matters.

De Villiers said the department would not be privatized. The government would be the sole shareholder in both companies and the two would be incorporated under the Companies Act.
Airlines freed for domestic competition

The new Air Services Licensing Act, which transfers the jurisdiction of domestic air services from the National Transport Commission (NTC) to the Transport Minister, comes into operation today.

According to a statement by the Transport Department, domestic air transport is now fully deregulated as far as economic controls are concerned.

The transfer of control would not affect the industry drastically because "a large number of these functions have been delegated to the Commissioner of Civil Aviation," the statement said.

The department said government's new policy towards domestic air transport followed four principles:

- Treating all participants in the local air transport market equally,
- Leaving economic decisions to be settled by market forces,
- Taking users' interests into account, and
- Enhancing safety as far as possible.

The Act was created to promote competition by allowing airlines to compete with SAA on domestic routes. The statement said current domestic service licences would remain valid for 12 months as from today and new licences would be issued in terms of the Act.
Dangerous to live here, TPA told

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

A property owner in Rietfontein near the Orange Farm squatter camp, has lashed out at the Transvaal Provincial Administration for its tardiness in buying up land in the area as was proposed last year.

Kobus Koen (29) claims he and his wife Melanie (28) have been forced to vacate their home and leave their plot because "living there has become too dangerous."

The Koen's are one of the many white families in the Orange Farm area who welcomed an announcement last year of the proposed purchasing of their land by the TPA.

The land concerned has been earmarked for black development. However, according to Mr Koen, he is one of the few "unfortunate" families in the Rietfontein area whose land has not yet been bought out.

"I have already complained to the State President about the matter, who referred it back to the TPA."

Mr Koen claims the TPA was also reluctant to buy out his plot as it was now uninhabited. He explained that he and his wife had been forced to leave their home and the area two years ago after six muggings and an armed robbery.

Subsequently R15 000 worth of corrugated sheeting doors and cupboards had been stolen from the house.

TPA director of public relations services Piet Wilken said certain amounts were budgeted annually for buying land in the area earmarked for black development.

He said the TPA "continuously tried to buy out the identified ground as soon as possible but that this was dependent on the availability of funds."

Referring to Rietfontein specifically, Mr Wilken said an undertaking was given to property owners in the area that those who wanted to develop their land would be given the opportunity to do so themselves.
Soweto asks Wits council for power

By DON SEOKANE

The Soweto City Council has agreed that the Witswatersrand Regional Services Council should supply electricity to the township on its behalf.

Spokesman for council, Mr Molefe Moseki, said the decision was passed by the full council meeting after an "exhaustive debate during which all implications of the resolution were thoroughly considered."

"Several conditions were attached with the agreement and they are meant to safeguard the interests of Soweto residents who own the R350 million electricity infrastructure," Seokane 217171

The conditions include: that the duration of the contract should be clearly specific, including its resumption, there should be a procedure which the council can terminate the agreement if it feels that the CWRSC is not fulfilling its part of the contract.
Buying of land near squatters: Home-owner hits at 'tardiness'

The Argus Correspondent

VEREENIGING — A property owner in Rietfontein, near the sprawling Orange Farm squatter camp, has lashed out at the Transvaal Provincial Administration for its "tardiness" in buying up land in the area, as was apparently proposed last year.

Mr Kobus Koen, 29, claims he and his wife Melanie, 28, have been forced to vacate their home and leave their plot as "living there has become hopelessly too dangerous".

The Koen's are one of the many white families in the Orange Farm area who welcomed an announcement last year of the proposed purchasing of their land by the TPA.

The land concerned has been earmarked for black development. However, according to Mr Koen, his is one of the few "unfortunate" families in the Rietfontein area whose land has not yet been bought out.

"The government promised to buy out everyone's ground in the area, but that hasn't happened yet. I have already complained to the State President about the matter, which has been referred back to the TPA.

"It's all just a vicious circle — with the TPA saying it has taken note of the problem but has no funds available right now to buy my property," he said.

Mr Koen claims the TPA was also reluctant to buy out his plot as it was now uninhabited. He explained that he and his wife were forced to leave their home and the area two years ago after six muggings and an armed robbery.

Subsequently R15 000 worth of corrugated sheets, doors and cupboards have been stolen from the house. Previously the couple — who now live in Walkerville — rented a house in the same area which was apparently stripped of the contents before being gutted.

"We are suffering financially. I am still paying off a large bond on our empty house at Rietfontein and have also had to employ two men as security guards to look after the property. While a lot of young couples put their money into a bank, we ploughed all of ours into upgrading our house on the small-holding — which we had to abandon as it was just too dangerous to continue living there, close to five squatter camps that have developed in the area.

"If only the TPA would give us a date by which our land will be bought out, we may begin to see light at the end of the tunnel," Mr Koen said.

The TPA's director of public relations services, Mr Piet Wilken, said certain amounts were budgeted annually for purchasing land in the area earmarked for black development.

He said the TPA "continuously tried to buy out the identified ground as soon as possible", but that this was dependent on the availability of funds.

When these funds were exhausted the TPA also tried other means to secure more money for purchasing land.

He added there were, however, many other factors and practical realities which had to be taken into account.

Referring to Rietfontein specifically, Mr Wilken said an undertaking was given to property owners in the area that those who wanted to develop their land would be given the opportunity to do so themselves.

He stressed that although the TPA had realised the seriousness of the situation, no definite dates could be given to landowners of when their land would be bought out.
Devolution the answer, says Kriel

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The solution to town planning problems in the Transvaal lay in a devolution of responsibility so that people at ground level could take the decisions, Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Henris Kriel told Johannesburg councillors and ratepayers yesterday.

- Democratic Party MPs Dr Zach de Beer and Peter Soal invited Mr Kriel to tour the northern suburbs, at the request of ratepayers, to see the effect of the Removal of Restrictions Act on established residential suburbs.

The Minister was taken to Houghton Island and other areas where, despite vehement objections by the Johannesburg City Council and ratepayers, business rights were granted to developers by Pretoria.

A document proposing changes to the system was presented to Mr Kriel by Northern Areas Ratepayers' Federation chairman Tony Challenger, and Flo Bird of the Parktown Residents' Association.

Ms Bird said they wanted Mr Kriel to ensure that the procedures regarding the removal of restrictions on properties were equitable, that reasons be given for decisions, that provision be made for appeal to a proper appeals board, that property rights be addressed specifically in the decision-making and that ad hoc rezonings be avoided so that planning could proceed in an orderly manner.

"Ratepayers no longer have any faith in the system or in the ability of the city council to control the situation," Ms Bird said.

Mr Kriel said he would study the proposal and pass it on to the committee investigating a new land-use Bill due to be published next year.

"I hope the new Bill will enable landowners to know what their rights are and what they can do with their properties. I believe the answer lies in devolution so that the people on the ground can take the decisions."
**SAA free to fly over north Africa**

ON SUNDAY night SAA flew a scheduled flight over north Africa for the first time in 28 years.

The airline has permission to route its planes to Europe over Egypt and Sudan. SAA Chief Gert van der Veer said yesterday that all flights to Rome, Milan, Vienna, Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Zurich and Tel Aviv would be rerouted over north Africa eventually.

This would save the carrier 10 tons of fuel on each flight and about R40 per month. Van der Veer said SAA's monthly expenditure was about R220m a month.

The development follows the rights to overfly the "bulge" of Africa, secured a month ago, which cut flying times to Europe by about an hour. The latest deal will top another hour off flying times.

Yesterday Van der Veer landed at Jan Smuts Airport on board a scheduled SAA flight that had touched down in Cairo on its way from Frankfurt.

Van der Veer and SAA chief liaison officer Leon Elo had made a secret trip to Cairo to tie up loose ends of the overflight and landing rights deal.

Until the weekend agreement Sudan was the only country preventing SAA from flying over north Africa.

A proviso of SAA using the north Africa route is that its aircraft will land in Cairo on route 10 and from Johannesburg to drop off or pick up passengers. Van der Veer said he expected the proviso to be relaxed soon, once the Egyptian government had a clearer idea of how neighbouring countries felt about the development.

Egypt Air, which last week operated several charter flights between Cairo and Johannesburg, would introduce a weekly scheduled service on the route.

At the same time, Egypt has announced that SA travellers no longer require visas for that country as long as they arrive in Cairo on an Egypt Air flight. The first group of SA tourists to fly directly to Cairo left on Egypt Air's last of eight charter flights from Johannesburg on Sunday.

SAA and Egypt Air were still finalising the frequency of flights between Cairo and Johannesburg. Van der Veer said SAA would now study the feasibility of reintroducing flights to Athens.

The London flights would not be rerouted, as the flying time over west Africa was about the same as over north Africa, Van der Veer said.

---

**SAA was negotiating with Angolan authorities for overflying rights, which would cut another 15 to 20 minutes off flights to London, Kinshasa and Abidjan.**

Air fares would not be brought down despite the savings. But SAA was considering introducing some discount special fares on European flights, he added.

"What we will try to do is retard any increase in fares for as long as possible," he said.

The new north African route will take SAA aircraft over Zimbabwe, Zambia, Zaire, Sudan and Egypt, before entering southeastern European airspace.

Only Tanzania stands in the way of SAA being allowed to fly over Africa to Europe and the Middle East via Nairobi.

Van der Veer said SAA was investigating the feasibility of introducing a scheduled service to Dakar, Senegal, which could be an extension of the current Johannesburg/Kinshasa/Abidjan flight.

Incoming passenger volume on SAA flights was down by about 18% on the same period last year. He attributed this to the world recession and to the picture of SAA violence being painted abroad.

Van der Veer said he was optimistic that both the US and Australia would become accessible to SAA in the near future.
Sandton ranks with Neuilly, Hampstead and Beverly Hills as one of the world’s most prestigious suburbs. But, unlike its famous counterparts it is a city in itself. With over 1-million square metres of office space, attaining a balance between demand for office facilities and maintaining Sandton as a residential area has been a persistent problem. DARIUS SANAI reports.

R40m village-style shopping area will rejuvenate Rivonia

Rivonia Road, Sandton’s main artery leading south towards Johannesburg and north towards Pretoria, has been diverted along a kilometre-long stretch near the town centre, allowing the development of a quiet boulevard and construction of a village-style shopping area.

Sandton council plans Rivonia Village will house 159 000m² of office space after the completion of the Rivonia Village scheme.

Old Mutual is developing the R40m village, which will see over 1,000m² of shops opening on November 1.

Available

Around 6 000m² of office space on four levels will be available early next year.

Another phase of shops, which will include a Woolworths and “other major retailers” will open at the same time as the offices.

There will be separate parking for offices and the shopping areas, and an extra basement-parking zone.
Pretoria may sell off land to curb squatting

Pretoria Correspondent

The Pretoria City Council is considering plans to sell vacant land to prevent squatting.

Management committee chairman Dr Pieter Smith said prevention of squatting was one of the reasons for an investigation into the possibility of selling a large number of vacant council stands.

Dr Smith said other reasons for the investigation were to prevent vagrancy and dumping and to get rid of land from which the council received no income.

To identify land to be sold, each councillor had been asked which land he saw as a "nuisance" in his ward.

Dr Smith said such land included undeveloped parks as well as vacant residential erven.

However, last month opposition to the selling of parkland by the council came to the fore when a group of Waterkloof Ridge residents threatened legal action over the closure of a portion of parkland along Argo Place and its rezoning to provide an entrance road to a private stand.

Yesterday a Canopus Street resident expressed displeasure over a council decision to sell a piece of open land west of Waterkloof Ridge.

The area was earmarked as a nature conservation area, approved by the council in 1983.

The council's parks and recreation department says it will support the sale of a piece of open land between 21st and 22nd streets in Menlo Park, comprising four stands zoned for houses, for the purpose of a higher density group housing scheme.
On Market Street, a sign hangs from a building that reads, "Doorstep. Residential.

Kitty's Home

210 Market St.

Phone: 555-1234

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm

Credit cards accepted

Federal Express

A POSSIBLE TITLE: 210 is an illegal shop and by doorstep, councilors claim.
THE SOWETO CITY COUNCIL was battling a legacy of fiscal mismanagement and corruption, according to a recent audit. The legacy of the council's predecessors, the municipality's public relations officers, were said to have been corrupted by high fees, kickbacks, and nepotism.

Shikuyana, the council's public relations officer, said many residents did not pay their rates because of the municipality's failure to collect them. The council had appointed a committee to look into the matter, but the committee had not yet made any recommendations.

Moseli, the council's manager, said the switch-off campaign was successful as 60 percent of residents were now paying their rates. The council had urged residents to continue paying their rates, he said, and the switch-off would be effective until the end of the year. The council had appointed a team consisting of civil servants and municipal contractors to monitor the switch-off and ensure that all properties were connected to the main water and sewerage systems.

Dr. Gordon, the council's technical officer, said the council had appointed a team consisting of civil servants and municipal contractors to monitor the switch-off and ensure that all properties were connected to the main water and sewerage systems.
JOHANNESBURG City Council has increased its training budget by 22% despite the recession.

The council has budgeted R14m this year for human resource development, compared with R11m last year.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson said yesterday that unlike other organisations, the council had responded to trying times by redoubling activities such as training, literacy and skills upgrading.

TANIA LEVY

Business Day recently reported that most businesses had cut back sharply on apprentice training during the recent economic slump.

Davidson said the council's provision for apprentice training had increased from R500 000 last year to R2.2m this year. More than 50 new apprentices would be taken on this year, bringing to about 200 the number of apprentices trained annually.

About R1.4m has been allocated to subsidise 1040 council employees studying in fields ranging from nature conservation and public health to engineering and property valuation.

The council had allocated R1m for skills upgrading, the first phase of which involved expanding the council's literacy and language programme, said Davidson.

Ten new instructor posts had been created.
Homeless stop talks

OPERATION Masakha for the Homeless will immediately suspend talks with the Transvaal Provincial Administration because of the demolition yesterday of several hundred squatter shacks in Ivory Park, between Midrand and Tembisa.

The general secretary of Omhle, Mr. Basheer Lorgat, said for the past year Omhle had been involved in talks with the TPA over issues involving homeless people, including land, water, sanitation, refuse removal and the settlement and development of cohesive communities.
A SUPREME Court judge has asked the Transvaal Provincial Administration to temporarily halt the demolition of about 800 squatter shacks at Ivory Park, between Mabandla and Tembisa.

This was confirmed yesterday afternoon by Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman.

However, he said no court order restraining the TPA from removing the shacks had as yet been given, following a request in this regard by the squatters.

Opperman said TPA officials, who started demolishing shacks by hand yesterday morning, were abiding by the judge’s request.

He said police had not assisted in breaking down the dwellings, but had been present in a protective capacity at the request of the TPA.

Opperman said only one incident of stone-throwing was reported and that the squatters were notified three times at the weekend that their occupation of the TPA-owned land was illegal.

-Sapa
Black insurance broker to contest council contracts

AFSURE (Pty) Ltd, the first major black-controlled insurance broking company, has challenged the allocation of short-term insurance contracts by four black town councils to other companies, and yesterday MD Khehla Mihembu said Afsure would take the Diepmeadow council to court.

He declined to speak about the other disputes, but conceded that the Transvaal Provincial Administration was involved in one of them.

Mihembu confirmed he had successfully tendered for the Mohlakeng and Dobsonville town council contracts, with joint billings of R800 000, and failed in bids for the KwaThema, Kriel and Daveyton accounts.

AFSURE, Priceforbes Federale Volkskas (PFV) and Glenvaal are involved in the fight for the Kagiso, Tembisa and Ilapa (in the Cape) town councils' insurance accounts.

It is believed councillors wanted to give the contracts to Afsure in some cases, but officials intervened.

The Diepmeadow Town Council called in Afsure, Trustsure and Glenvaal for interviews.

Seco chairman Frederick Phiri said, "What was disturbing was that the council started to discriminate when the tender was already considered defective, and then disqualified us on that basis. We were satisfied with the price."

Town clerk Johan de Jager said Afsure's tender was much higher than that of Glenvaal.

Glenvaal's Mike Brown said as far as he knew, Afsure's quote was 33% higher than that of his company.

In Kagiso, Afsure failed to obtain appointments with town clerk Mike van Rensburg in an attempt to get details of the council's property and insurance history.

Van Rensburg said: "They did not need any forms and should just have tendered like everybody else. I met them personally when they came to introduce themselves. This council, more than any other, would welcome a tender coming from Afsure."

The Tembisa council has asked the TPA to approve its decision to allocate its account to Afsure despite its quote being higher than that of PFV.

TPA spokesman Pieter Wilkens said the TPA could not overrule the council, although it could ask it to revise its decision.
Jo'burg approves plans worth R1bn

JOHANNESBURG has experienced sustained growth over the past three years with nearly R1bn worth of building plans approved.

Latest official figures indicated that Johannesburg was continuing to grow while development in other centres such as Durban and Pretoria had started to slow down, National Building Regulations specialist Glyn Price-Hughes said in an interview yesterday.

Price-Hughes said 5,992 residential and business plans worth R1bn had been approved in the financial year to end-June, compared with 5,992 plans with a value of R1bn approved in the 1989/90 financial year. Plans worth R711m were passed the previous financial year.

Price-Hughes said although development was not increasing in real terms, the figures showed that interest in the city's development sector had been sustained.

The Johannesburg CBD had died when white residents and developers fled to the suburbs. But the city centre had been brought back to life in recent years by the increasing presence of people with buying power.

A natural population explosion, higher wages and the relaxing of the Group Areas Act had all contributed to renewing interest in CBD development by insurance firms, banks, pension funds and other large developers.

In terms of value, about 80% of plans approved in recent years were for commercial developments, the rest were residential.

There was a tremendous demand for rental accommodation in the city but developers were not confident that this type of development would be profitable, he said.

Price-Hughes said CBD development could be divided roughly into three areas the west where development was dominated by Anglo American, the east where Old Mutual was the main player and the north, including Braamfontein which was predominantly Liberty Life turf.

Sanlam developments were dotted around the CBD, he said.

Chairman of the city council's town planning and development committee Eddy Magid said the R1.68bn of development which would take place in Johannesburg shortly was unprecedented in the history of SA.
**Huge development on track for city**

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Plans for a major R600 million convention and hotel centre over part of Johannesburg's decked railway lines are expected to be announced next week by a consortium of private developers.

The development, which is planned for north-west of the Johannesburg station, towards Braamfontein, would use space provided by the planned decki

ng of the railway line and surrounding land in the central business district.

The multimillion-rand development could have major implications for Johannesburg and the rest of the country because foreign investors have been approached to provide the funding. The Star has learnt.

Planned for inclusion in the massive convention centre is a main conference venue, a 200-bed hotel incorporating five-star luxury facilities, and a luxury bus terminus.

Sources told The Star that the project was planned to be constructed over four years, for completion in about 1995.

Yesterday it was announced that the long-planned decking of the railway line on the east side of Park Station near Noord Street would go ahead.

**Investigations**

This will effectively link Braamfontein with the CBD, which has been dissected by the tracks for so long. Trans will continue to travel under the decking.

The SA Rail Commuter Corporation has awarded the tender to RMS Syfrets for the development, which will include retail and taxi facilities.

The company will lease the area from the corporation on a 50-year leasehold. Transnet will act as the agent.

The Johannesburg City Council is continuing with its investigations into finding a site for a convention centre it has planned to develop for years. Some councillors want the City Hall as a venue and others are pushing for Newtown.

Town planning chief Eddy Magud announced in April last year that a conference centre would be ideal for the reclaimed area above the tracks.

Discussions began more than a year ago with railway authorities regarding the viability of covering the railway lines.

One source said some Johannesburg city councillors and officials had expressed reservations about the development as they were worried about whether existing infrastructure, such as the roads network and drainage systems, would be able to cope with such a massive project.
Some of the local authorities have been under severe pressure concerning their legitimacy and ability to reflect community needs, as well as facing financial and organisational constraints.

While these aspects need to be addressed and resolved in future constitutional negotiations, it is imperative to maintain the momentum of development programmes," Botha said.

The loan agreement was signed by CWRSC chairman Mr John Giffiths and DBSA chief executive Dr Simon Brand.
Northern suburbs residents associations and Johannesburg city councillors have launched a campaign to win new planning rights — and to protect the nature of their suburbs.

They took Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Hermon Krivi, on a tour to show some effects of the application of the Removal of Restrictions Act and Township Board decisions.

Ratepayers say the Removal of Restrictions Act ignores certain fundamental legal principles, so that the Township Board, which hears objections and inspects the site, makes a recommendation to the Minister.

The Minister, in turn, is not required to give reasons for his decision or to inspect the site. There is also no right of appeal.

**Appeal**

With the municipal Town Planning and Township Ordinance, the Johannesburg City Council's Town Planning Tribunal's decisions are made public, reasons are available and there is an appeal process.

Northern Areas Ratepayers' Group chairman Tony Challenor said: "Ratepayers no longer have any faith in the system or in the ability of the city council to control the situation."

"Great bitterness has been engendered by a distant authority which never gives reasons for decisions, which does not even have to inspect the site or hear arguments before changing the character of our suburbs."

Mr Krivi was taken to Houghton Island, where 25 luxury homes are to be demolished for a Sanatorium office park.

The developer was given the go-ahead by the Minister in spite of voluminous objections by the city council and some residents who are still reluctant to sell and fear being surrounded by offices.

Residents recommend that a new body be constituted to be called the Town Planning Appeal Board with a senior legal council as chairman, as was led by two assessors, that decisions and reasons be placed on public record, and that Appeals Board decisions be final.

An Appeals Board should have the power to both remove restrictions and to award compensation.

Residents said there was widespread dissatisfaction with the Act and called for Krivi to ensure that when the Act was amended:

- Procedures be adequate
- Reasons for decisions be given
- Freestanding proposals to be made for a proper Appeals Board
- Property rights be addressed specifically in the decision-making
- Ad hoc reasons be removed so that planning can proceed in an orderly manner

Mr Krivi said the solution to the town planning problems is the provision of an independent of responsibility so people at ground level could take the decisions. He has appointed Dr Charles van der Merwe, Director of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, to investigate a new land use Bill, due to be published next year.

Towns developed before 1946 were controlled in terms of restrictive conditions of title, because it was only in that year that Johannesburg obtained its Town Planning Scheme. Mr Challenor said:

"All the older suburbs therefore have to remove restrictions so that when a change in land use is proposed, the applicant usually has no choice but to remove these and very naturally does so via a simultaneous removal of restrictions and rezoning, instead of long applications, due to remove restrictions and the second to amend the town planning scheme."

**Intrusion**

When the rights have been gained and the precedent created, the community and its authorities may be forced into a position where they develop a planning policy in response to intrusion by business.

What often happens, say ratepayers, is that those who were granted land rights apply to increase their rights to match those neighbours, and the development is much greater than envisaged.

Parktown resident John Bird and most northern suburbs residents feel vulnerable, scared of "another Parktown" and helplessness because even if the Townships Board had given heed to objections, ultimately the speculators seem to win.

"Our homes are threatened — this is an urgent single investment and our most basic security. The response to this threat is a growing anger and outrage at a system which ignores the wider issues, overlooks local concerns and operates with little regard for the most basic principles of justice," Mr Bird said.
Mayor slams Hurd over cash grant

By THEMBA KHUMALO

ALEXANDRA mayor Prince Mokoena has threatened legal action to stop a R460 000 British Government grant from reaching the Alexandra Health Centre.

The donation was promised by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd during his short visit to the clinic on Wednesday.

Now Mokoena is in a huff because he was not consulted about the donation.

The storm brewed just hours after Hurd toured several places in Alexandra, including the clinic, where he was shown around by Dr Tim Wilson and representatives of the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO), Mzwanele Mayekwa and Paul Tshabalala.

After hearing about the British Government’s offer, an angry Mokoena accused Hurd of undermining him as mayor and of “hob-nobbing with people who are not accountable to local resident.”

“I feel better that a man of his stature stooped so low as to ignore me and my council in this fashion,” he said.

His Western etiquette dictates that whenever a man of his calibre visits another man’s territory he should contact him first.

“Instead, Hurd chose to enter Alexandra through the back door and be smuggled in by people who have no connection with me,” he said.

“Because of his rude manners I will make sure that his promised grant does not reach the health centre. It is a political clinic, to which he has promised the grant, and the other one is run by the council.

“Why can’t our council clinic be treated equally with the other?”

Mokoena’s allegations and threats were scoffed at by ACO general secretary Richard Mdakane.

He said Mokoena was not elected by the residents, and “we don’t take him seriously.”

Acting director of the health centre, David Rob, said Mokoena did not represent the residents and therefore did not need to be consulted. Rob added that before the visit they consulted local leaders.

“Moreover, the visit was done through the Joint Negotiation Forum.”

Hurd’s visit to Alexandra met with a storm of protest from members of the Alexandra Land and Property Owners’ Association, which is led by Eric Mangele.

He accused ACO members of wanting to enrich themselves with the promised grant.
Civics: It's a TPA ploy to prolong suffering

The Transvaal Provincial Administration's unilateral decision to 'cancel Friday's conclusive meeting for the resumption of electrical power to more than 100,000 Vaal Triangle residents was "a deliberate ploy to prolong the suffering of our people," the Vaal Civic Association charged.

VCA spokesman Mr Paul Sithole on Friday afternoon told a Press conference the agreement had been reached for the return of electricity to thousands of residents in the Vaal Triangle following a five-weeks without power.

Sithole said Friday's scheduled meeting was to conclude the agreement for the return of power to four townships in the area, but the TPA pulled out at the 11th hour.

The reason given by the TPA was that it was about to appoint four local authorities headed by administrators and that negotiations with the VCA on the electricity issue would only resume after the appointment.

"This shifting of the goalposts once more clearly shows that the TPA and the government are not serious about seeking a negotiated settlement to the problems of Vaal residents but are determined to continue with their policies of imposing their own decisions on our people," Sithole said.

He expressed concern that the move to establish local authorities in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act was a move back to apartheid structures.

Mr Nigel Mandy, the TPA's urban consultant and negotiator, however, rejected the VCA's claim that agreement had been reached for the resumption of power to portions of Sebokeng, all of Sharpeville, and parts of Bopeng and Bophelong - Sapa.
Civics body to be formed in Pretoria

The Central Pretoria Civics Association will be launched tomorrow.

Mr Reeves Mabitsi, treasurer of the Central Transvaal Civics Association, said the launch of the Pretoria zone this weekend would be followed by the official launches of the KwaNdebele Civics Association and the Bophuthatswana Civics Association within the next two months.

He said four townships, Atteridgeville, Mamelodi, Soshangane and Onkemie, near Boksburg, would form part of the Central Pretoria zone and would be affiliated to CTCA, launched six weeks ago.

The KwaNdebele zone will consist of Moutse, KwaMhlanga, Bloedfontein and other civic associations in villages neighbouring KwaNdebele.

The Bophuthatswana zone consists of Mabopane, Garankuwa, Hammanskraal, Winterveldt and other outlying areas in the Moretele and Odi districts of the homeland.

Mabitsi said the formation of the Pretoria zone followed ongoing rent and service crisis in three townships of Mamelodi, Atteridgeville and Soshangane and that its formation would help in the bargaining of one municipality for Pretoria.

He said the formation of the zone would create a forum for joint actions, negotiation strategies and establish one negotiating team with the Pretoria City Council, the Regional Services Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration. - Sapa
Huge pension for Jo'burg council spy

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Former public safety director Mr. John Pearce has received a pension payout of almost R400,000 — believed to be double the amount he was due to receive after being fired for his part in council spying activities.

Yesterday deputy city secretary Mr. Rhett Gardiner said Mr. Pearce had elected to retire just hours before his dismissal came into effect at midnight on April 30.

DP management committee member Mr. Paul Asherson said he did not know what Mr. Pearce would have received if his dismissal had come into effect, but a figure of R200,000 "had been bandied about."

He was fired after a disciplinary hearing found him guilty on 15 counts of misconduct relating to spying activities by his department. The hearing was convened after the Hiemstra Commission found Mr. Pearce had been grossly negligent.
TPA willing to discuss appointments

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) said yesterday it was prepared to consult the local Vaal Civic Association (VCA) on the TPA's plans to appoint administrators to run the Lekoa townships.

The VCA has demanded the TPA stop the proposed appointment of administrators to the townships of Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong and Botshong pending consultations with the VCA and its supporters. The decision to appoint administrators follows the dissolution of the Lekoa council.

The VCA and the TPA were engaged in talks to resolve a rent crisis in which Lekoa cut electricity to 30,000 households early last month. Power has been restored to those areas in which 70% of residents have paid for services.

TPA consultant Nigel Mandy said "various practical considerations" required that administrators be appointed without delay.

"However, the TPA is willing to consult with the VCA and other interested parties in the Vaal Triangle on possible changes."

The VCA has branded the TPA's decision to appoint administrators a "shifting of the goalposts" since it meant cancelling talks on restoring electricity and an end to a rent boycott.

Mandy said dissolving the council had presented procedural problems, so separate local authorities for the four townships would be established.

"Since there is no council in office, one or more administrators need to be appointed, and that is expected to be done during this week," he said.

On the VCA's demand that electricity be urgently restored to all residents, Mandy said power had already been restored in many areas, and all that other communities needed to do was to ensure that 70% or more of the residents paid for services.
Task force to help Goedgevonden squatters

PRETORIA - A task group has been instructed by government to find "an acceptable solution" for squatters living on the Goedgevonden farm, near Venterdsorp.

Deputy Agriculture Minister A.P. Meyer said yesterday "urgent attention" would also be given to Goedgevonden as a state-owned farm intended for agricultural use.

In a statement, he said these steps had been taken in response to many representations on behalf of the community occupying part Goedgevonden.

Problems at the farm became news in May when right-wing Venterdsorp residents and farmers attacked the squatter settlement to remove the shacks.

Police and defence force units were called in and two farmers were injured in a clash.

Last month the Pretoria Supreme Court ordered the squatters to leave the farm, but they were allowed to stay pending the outcome of an appeal.

Meyer said the agricultural study would be conducted by the Committee for Co-ordinated Handling of State-Owned Land for Agriculture.

The task group was under the chairmanship of Gillis van de Waal, former director-general for Development Aid.

Our Cape Town correspondent reports that Western Cape United Civics chairman Wilson Soduna has warned MEC Koos Theron that civic organisations will defend squatters against his "hit squad", which aims to stop the erection of new shacks.

"We cannot stand aloof while he tries to give the right wing the ability to hurt our people."

"If the authorities want to do something about squatters, they must first consult the relevant people." - Sapa

---

Pearce: councillors react

TANA LEVY

THE NP and DP caucuses are expected to discuss events leading to fired Johannesburg public safety director John Pearce's retirement two months ago.

Councillors from across the political spectrum said yesterday they had not known that Pearce retired when his post was declared redundant just hours before his dismissal came into effect at the end of April.

As a result Pearce is to be paid a R400 000 pension, believed to be almost double the amount he was due to get after he had been fired for his part in the city council's spy ring activities.

CP council leader Jacques Theron said yesterday the last thing the management committee told councillors was that Pearce had been fired and that he planned to appeal against his dismissal in court.

He said the management committee was not running an open and clean administration.
Pearce ‘struck deal with council’

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The Johannesburg City Council management committee has been accused of striking a deal with John Pearce who, by taking early retirement, effectively doubled his pension payout to about R400 000.

Opposition leader in the council Jacques Theron (CP) said that by recommending that the posts of senior departmental heads, including that of public safety director, be abolished only a few days before Mr Pearce’s notice of dismissal was up, the management committee left the way open for the disgraced security chief to take early retirement.

Earlier this year, Mr Pearce was found guilty of misconduct and the management committee accepted a recommendation that he be dismissed. He was found grossly negligent last year by the Hienstra Commission which investigated the municipal spy network exposed by The Star.

“I have no question that yes, a deal was made. The consultant’s report made his post redundant,” Mr Theron said.

He has tabled several questions regarding the whole affair for reply at the next city council meeting.

Mr Theron said “Why was nobody told? The way the management committee has handled this matter so secretly raises serious question marks.”

Despite repeated inquiries from the press and some councillors during the past months, management committee members have refused to speak about Mr Pearce. Mr Pearce and his union representative Theo Crouse do not take calls from the media.

Acting city secretary Len Holgate yesterday confirmed that Mr Pearce took early retirement before April 30, before his notice of dismissal was up.

Mr Holgate said Mr Pearce, who would have received a percentage of his pension contributions on dismissal — thought to be about R200 000 — would obviously receive far more by taking retirement.

“He was head of a department and, in terms of the Pension Fund rules, he was entitled to receive whatever he did. It’s not the council’s money, it is the Pension Fund’s money,” Mr Holgate said.

“Mr Pearce was dismissed on notice and while his notice was running, he elected to avail himself of retirement in terms of his service conditions. There was nothing improper, it was his legal right to do what he did.”

“According to the Pension Fund rules, if one’s post is made redundant, one can take advantage of an early retirement. The fund has to pay him out as he has been a contributor.”

On being dismissed, Mr Pearce instituted proceedings against the council at the Industrial Court. He maintained he was innocent of all charges and threatened to take the issue to the Supreme Court — whatever it took to clear his name. This would have resulted in proceedings being drawn out for years, at great cost to the city council.

Mr Holgate said he believed Mr Pearce’s application to the Industrial Court would become a “dead letter” on his retirement.
Jo'burg council appoints sports director

THE Johannesburg City Council has appointed a top athletics administrator to a position which is expected to entail laying plans for the city's drive to host the Olympic Games in 2004.

Council sources said yesterday Port Elizabeth University sports director and SA Track and Field Union chairman Dane Malan had been offered the job as its sports director and his appointment was expected to be approved by the month-end.

Contacted at the Jan Smuts Holiday Inn yesterday, Malan said he could not confirm or deny his appointment. He said it would be unethical for him to say anything. An announcement would have to come from the municipality, he said.

Official confirmation of the appointment could not be obtained from the council yesterday.

The position of sports director is one of three posts created by the council in an attempt to put Johannesburg back on the world map.

Last month Johannesburg Art-Gallery director Christopher Till was appointed cultural director. An industrial development director will also be named shortly.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson has made it clear that the appointments will be tied into the council's mission to re-establish Johannesburg as an international city.

This would involve attracting foreign investors, tourists, and cultural and sporting events such as the Olympics.

Durban and Cape Town are also seeking to host the Olympics, the world's most prestigious -- and potentially profitable -- sports event.
Decision on statue is postponed

Dilemma over where to put Verwoerd

The Argus Correspondent

D. H. F. Verwoerd
Plan with, not on, people
Councilors dream to
Sanctuaries demand PPP

JAMES CLARK
Civic Theatre set to go

Grand theatre will return to Johannesburg with the completion of the Civic Theatre, which could rank among the 10 best venues in the world for staging major productions such as opera.

Architect Hans Botha, who, in collaboration with colleagues Walter Smit, designed the Civic Theatre, the State Theatre in Pretoria and the Sandt du Plessis Theatre in Bloemfontein, said everything had to be the best, as Johannesburg was where international visitors arrived first.

"The stage will be able to do anything any opera house in the world can do. Our technology is the latest, and all computer-driven nowhere in the world can any theatre do more."
The theatre is scheduled to open officially in November next year, with a blockbuster musical, negotiations are advanced and the city council recently approved funds for the employment of staff so that training could begin.

Despite all the controversy, the Johannesburg Civic Theatre will be an enormous cultural asset to the city on completion, management committee chairman Cecil Smit said.

Rehearsals are to begin next July when the last workers leave.

Although Mr Bass said there was no doubt that the theatre would be able to stage major shows, he admitted it will never be able to pay for itself.

"In terms of its operating costs, it could never break even. But it can go a long way to meeting its own costs in terms of television rights and so on."

Besides the main auditorium, which seats more than 1000 people, there are now three other venues in the complex. There are five stage wagons which can enable four scenes to be pre-set. There is a loading bay behind the stage large enough to fit in two outside television broadcast units.

The main auditorium is equipped with mechanical, capable of taking any production from the State Theatre and other provincial theatres and staging it as originally conceived.

A backstage wagon with a revolving platform rolls forward and covers the setting area when the different stages, such as the side stage, are not needed.

Five mechanical lifts for scenery and stage equipment are situated four storeys below the centre stage. The equipment was imported from Germany and is electronically driven.

The Johannesburg Civic Theatre is set to take centre stage again in November 1992 — five years and R132 million later. Municipal Reporter Louise Burgers reports.

There are five stage wagons which can enable four scenes to be pre-set. There is a loading bay behind the stage large enough to fit in two outside television broadcast units.

The main auditorium has been upgraded and the roof raised 2m to accommodate the increased audiences.

The orchestra pit can now accommodate more than 100 musicians, as opposed to 60 before. It is in the biggest orchestra pit in the country.

There are new lighting and sound control rooms and a VIP suite near the mayor's box.

The stage was also under way, have a tea garden with regular lunchtime concerts for the public on the terraces.
The Johannesburg Civic Theatre is set to take centre stage again. In November 1992, five years and R132 million later, Municipal Reporter Louise Burgers reported:

"The Civic Theatre was left without a back stage, day workshop, storage space, rehearsal rooms, offices, staff restrooms, dressing rooms for principal artists, or canteen. In 1978 the province announced that because of a shifting of priorities, a State performing arts complex would not be built in Johannesburg as promised in 1964. The State Theatre was subsequently opened in Pretoria in 1991.

The governors of the Civic Theatre realized that if the city were to receive its full share of Pact productions, the stage would at least have to be completed. The council decided to demolish the existing stage and build a new one with physical dimensions equal to that of the opera theatre stage at the State Theatre. Construction began in 1987. The financial commitment for the first and second phases was R27 million.

According to Mr. Grobelaar, 'this would still have left the theatre with major shortcomings, as most of the wanted mechanical and electrical installation could not be provided. Mr. Grobelaar said that to reopen the theatre without the necessary equipment and instalment would be a waste of money.' It was announced that the theatre would be completed by 1992.

"Having taken cognisance of all the factors, the council decided in 1966 to commence with phase three rather than reconfirm the theatre at a later date."
Mayor called a dictator

By ALINAH DUBE

MAMELODI mayor Mr Simon Mokone was yesterday called "a dictator" by a local councillor, who expressed concern over the manner in which problems affecting the community were being handled.

Mr Piet Bambao, deputy chairman of the management committee, also submitted several questions in writing at yesterday's full council meeting.

He said he was particularly worried about receiving answers from the council but wanted assurance from Mokone that problems affecting the community would be attended to.

He was also unhappy about the council's decision to exclude him in a disciplinary hearing over a white official who was alleged to be responsible for the disappearance of transformers from the council's premises.

The official was found guilty of negligence and was censured.

Bambao argued that the deputy chairman of the management committee had the right to be present when the official was reprimanded.

Mokone apologised to Bambao for the exclusion.
It is enough, says council man as he quits his post

By THEMBA MOLEFE

An East Rand councillor yesterday announced his resignation, saying he could no longer take the pressure from residents for him to quit.

"Only two weeks ago, former Tsakane mayor Mr Raymond Hadebe (59) and his family narrowly escaped injury when a hand grenade targeted for his house landed next door, injuring the neighbour's children.

In June a mob pelted his shop with stones and looted it.

"This is a short-cut to death and the pressure is unbearable," said Hadebe.

He said his resignation was effective from next Monday. But the council still has to receive the letter of resignation.

Hadebe said another reason for his action was because of "the lack of direction in the Transvaal Provincial Administration." No protection

..."The TPA gives us no protection while telling us not to resign," Hadebe said. "We are councillors at our own risk."

Tsakane has been under an administrator since March last year while Hadebe had been involved in local authority politics since 1988.

During that year he became an administrator until the national municipal elections on October 26. In 1990 he was mayor "until March when pressure mounted for our resignation," he said.

"Nine councillors succumbed and three of us remained," said Hadebe, who described himself as the doyen of councillors who had vast knowledge of the legislation covering black local authorities.

Tsakane community services manager Mr ST Ratale said yesterday the council had not received Hadebe's letter of resignation.

"He told me he had resigned yesterday and that he had already told Sowetan and that the letter was on the way. But until the letter arrives he is still on the council," Ratale said.
Services please, residents tell govt

DOORNKOP residents say the government has not provided adequate services to the almost 6,000 people in the new town.

The new Doornkop Civic Association (DCA) last week called on the Transvaal Provincial Administration to improve sewage and water provision and to install high mast security lights as a matter of urgency.

The DCA said that although Doornkop was specifically intended for occupation by poor, homeless people, the lack of facilities such as schools, clinics and public transport made it one of the most expensive places to live.

Doornkop residents, many of whom moved from backyard shacks or illegal squatter sites in Dobsonville, claimed it cost much more to live in Doornkop than in Dobsonville.

The DCA says residents are unhappy about the "aqua-pry" toilet system because the smell from blocked toilets is unbearable. The toilets, which should last up to 10 years, have only been used for a few months.

The residents are also unhappy about the provision of only one tap for 20 sites, according to DCA executive member Cecilia Phenti.

This water system is really making us suffer. We accept that the government says it doesn't have enough money to build proper houses for us, but at least we should have one tap a site, Thoko Mabula, a DCA executive member said.

Another big problem is the lack of schools in Doornkop. Our children still have to attend school in Dobsonville, which means they have to walk about 4km each way. Taxi fare was R5 each way for a single journey but we have just negotiated with the taxi owners to reduce it to R1 return. That still means that the poorest families have to spend R1 a day for each child to go to school. It's impossible," said Thoko.

A TPA official said the administration was holding discussions with residents to try to alleviate some of the immediate problems.

The TPA said the price of land in Doornkop was kept as low as possible by using R5,000 per site, which translated to R27,50 per month - but there was no money to provide a high level of services such as flush toilets and tar roads.
ed to death

SHAKE IT UP, BABY... What better way to beat chilly Jo'burg winds than to work up a sweat with a solid jive? These twilight kids have found the answer to the bitter cold—heavy clothing and the jitterbug. [Pic: BOY GEORGE MASHININI]

By THEMBA KHUMALO

THE Diepmeadow Council is about to increase rent tariffs and retrench staff because of a lack of funds, according to a report tabled before the councilors recently.

The report said the R25-million given by the TPA to the council as bridging finance this year was insufficient to cope with rising costs. The staff salaries and wages amounted to R2.6-million a month and this was likely to increase by 10 percent in the next few months.

"The Treasury Department has in its possession R4-million worth of cheques owing to creditors that it is not in a position to release due to lack of funds. Creditors are going to increase at an alarming rate and council will be facing litigation," the report said.

Eskom is owed R605,625.22. The council had entered into an agreement with the Regional Services Council to pay all income from electricity directly to Eskom weekly, but due to lack of funds the council was violating the pact.

To overcome the financial crisis the Treasury Department has recommended that:
- The council takes all possible measures to recover arrear accounts of defaulters;
- That council employees negotiate on the possibility of voluntary retrenchment, and
- That the council negotiate with the RSC to defer certain projects until funds are available.
Joining Forces . . . future developments for homeless people will be managed by a broad forum of state, community, and other organizations.
Alex Accord disputed

By DON SEOKANE

The two engaged in a slanging match about their places of origin and not being genuine Alexandrans.

Mayekroo charged that Mokoena was from the East Rand and also did not stay in the township and hence he was out of touch with developments. "Even if he can pull out of the accord, it (the accord) will go ahead because he does not represent the residents," said Mayekroo, adding that Mokoena was just "(President) De Klerk's mayor".

Mokoena retorted that Mayekroo was from Transkei and also did not stay in the township. He was a resident of Hillbrow. That was all the two could talk about on television and the accord was discussed only in passing.

Transkei

In a later interview with Somonwana Mail, Mokoena admitted that he was an "exiled mayor" but asked "when your house is bombed so many times, do you still expect to be safe in it?" He asked.

The two leaders of Alexandra, who, loosely speaking - in their own words, are not residents of the township and who both claim to represent the interests of Alexandrans are at loggerheads about an agreement they both agreed and signed to.

The lack of involvement by residents is what is bothering Bea, not, whether the two leaders are residents of Alexandra.

"If the people who are appointed leaders have the expertise to administrate the township to the best interests of residents then there would not be any problem of the leaders not being Alexandrans," said Bea.

Explaining why the accord agreement appears to be fading, Bea said the reason was that the community was not involved from the beginning - when the accord was discussed.

It was taken for granted that residents would accept the contents of the accord as being in their interests, explained Bea, but that was not the case.

"Not with Alexandrans, they do not take anything prescribed to them," especially with leaders who are only seen on television and read about in the newspapers.

Sec 2.1 of the accord which deals with the "interests of the people" states that "The parties (which signed the accord) record that they are of the unanimous opinion that this agreement is in the best interests of the people, and has been accepted by their various constiuencies".

During the television debate on the accord, Mokoena agreed that people had not been informed about the implications of the accord before even after the signing of the accord.

Newspaper

To which Mayekroo replied that his organization had consulted their people in the township and that residents were aware of the contents of the accord except for Mokoena's "sidelocks" and those landlords who illegally bought the stands so as to charge high rents to people.

According to Mokoena, legitimate Alexandrans residents had been insulted by Mayekroo for remarking that they were his "sidelocks" and had bought the stands illegally.

Bea concurred with Mokoena that the remark was an insult to Alexandrans and he urged Mayekroo to apologize to residents.

"Alexandra is not any other township, residents used to have property rights, and freedhold rights not a 99-year leasehold," Those rights were taken away from them by the Government.

"And for saying that they are Mokoena's sidlocks and that they bought those properties illegally was tantamount to insulting them," said Bea.

The contentious aspect of the accord is seemingly the exportation of the Far East Bank land to a Land Trust administered by representatives of the people of Alexandra.

Bea said the Far East Bank issue should not have been included in the accord, as it had nothing to do with the accord.

Benevolent

"We fail to understand why the Far East Bank land was included in the accord and still how the Sandton and Randburg councils have suddenly become benevolent while they have neglected Alexandra for so many years," Bea accused.

The Sandton Council of allocating the previously dispossessed Methbeno land to the Indian House of Delegates and overlooking equal conditions.

"Alexandra residents had to endure for so many years," Mokoena said that the accord would collapse because some interested developers wanted to capture the development of the Far East Bank for themselves and that this would not be in the interests of the residents.

Priority for the development of the Far East Bank land was to be given to the black developers in the township, according to Bea, adding that they should be regarded as subcontractors.

"We do not need white developers in the township doing terms to us and making a mockery of residents here," Bea said.

Almost five months since the accord was signed on February 27, payments have decreased from 18 percent in January to 12 percent in June.
Top 4 quit to force councillor out.

In an effort to force independent councillor, Ry Hofmeester, off the management committee after the term of his alliance with the National Party ruling caucus in the Germiston City Council expired, the chairman, Leon Louw, and committee members Sarel Hattingh, Hennie van Zyl and Fanie Coetzee resigned from the committee at the monthly meeting last night. A request was handed to the caucus for the re-election of a new management committee.

— East Rand Bureau
A helping hand for Alexandra

SANDTON Mayor Ernie Sachs says it is a general primary school headmaster who emphasizes the importance of the city's cooperation with Alexandra. "There is a kaleidoscope of talent and people in Sandton," says Sachs. "We are doing our best to help make places like Alexandra work.

The council will be appealing to ratepayers for funds to help Sandton's impoverished neighbour, he says.

"Establishing a local government framework for a new SA will take a lot of time, but Sach's says Sandton's council is making "every effort" to meet these demands.

Long-term prospects are good, but much depends on government's blueprint for local government.

Although Sandton has flourished through its dynamism, Sachs says the re-development of the area to slow down "We need to pay more attention to current problems.

"Apart from Alexandra, there are things inside Sandton that need attending to," he adds.

"I would like to see the developments tailed off and the council devoting more time to our residents."

Street lighting, or lack of it, is the subject of the most vociferous complaints. It is not uncommon for drivers to be found crawling their way along pitch-black roads.

"Originally, the residents did not want street lighting. It was part of an effort to retain the rural feel of the area."

"Now it seems the overwhelming vote is for street lights, and we are in the process of providing them."

But lighting streets is an expensive process and has to be done gradually, with a budget of around R1m allocated to the job this year.

The main arteries are being lit first and it will take several years to complete the process and extend lighting to residential streets.

In its development, consolidation of facilities and plans for the future, Sachs says Sandton is "in the forefront of the new SA."
City council spent R1m investigating its own spies

THE Johannesburg City Council spent R1m on investigations into its security department's spying activities, a monthly council meeting was told yesterday.

Figures provided at the meeting showed R910 000 was spent on the Hennstra commission of inquiry and nearly R22 000 on the disciplinary hearing of former public safety director John Pearce.

Pearce was found guilty of misconduct and fired for his part in the spying activities. But on the day that his one-month notice was to expire he was able to accept short notice, following a major restructuring exercise which made his and other other executive posts redundant.

Pearce will receive about R400 000 in pension instead of the estimated R200 000 he would have received if his dismissal had come into effect.

Yesterday, management committee chairman Jan Davidson rejected allegations that a deal had been struck with Pearce. He said the committee had "agonised" over Pearce's letter of notice but had decided to accept it in the interests of the council, its officials and ratepayers.

"Pearce is now history and this is the last statement any member of the management committee will make on the matter," he said.
Call on council to resign

The Mamelodi Civic Association is urging residents to intensify the campaign to force councillors to resign.

Following continuing threats of electricity cuts to individual households in the township, the chairman of Maca, Mr Lazzano Mzwayeni, said yesterday that residents should pay an interim flat rate of R50 a household and R6,50 for hostel dwellers.

He said he had not received a response from the Transvaal Provincial Administration to a memorandum of residents’ demands and grievances which included the dissolution of the council.

Mzwayeni said councillors had been discredited by residents because of allegations of corruption, including the use of council vehicles and money for private use.

He said a programme of action would be announced after the general council meeting of the Central Transvaal Civics Association due to be held this weekend.
Webster's ex-wife wins rates rebate

By FERIAL HAFFAJEE

THE Johannesburg City Council has given a one percent rates rebate to Glenda Webster, former wife of murdered human rights activist David Webster. This is the percentage of their rates, she says, that they paid towards the council's spy ring, which has been implicated in his murder.

The rebate comes after a year-long campaign to have her rates reduced.

"One night last year, after the Hiemstra Commission disclosed that the city council had spied on David, I decided, 'bloody hell! I can't just sit here and make out a cheque for rates on this property as if nothing had happened to its owner,'" she said. "I was not certain that there was no link between the spying and the death of David."

She decided to stop paying rates, and a friend later persuaded her to make her objections public. She wrote a letter to a newspaper and enclosed her rates payment, saying it should be "given to someone who needs it".

Councillor Ian Davidson wrote to her, assuring her that the council's security department had been disbanded. Not entirely satisfied, she decided to pay her rates but deduct her "contribution" to the spy ring.

She explained her action in a letter to the council: "It would be nice if we could vote with our money. Why should we pay for those actions which are iniquitous? I don't mind paying for the art gallery, the libraries, the parks and all the other things that contribute to the well-being of all the people of Johannesburg. The security department falls outside this area and I believe that to support it would be to support that which is evil."

She calculated the contribution she and David had made to the spy ring as R4,17 — the proportion of her rates that would have gone to the security department. Her calculation was based on the revelation during the Hiemstra Commission that the council had spent R1.8-million on the spying operations — one percent of its budget.

In another letter, Davidson noted that her problem was "a very sensitive one," but said her objection was "in general not acceptable from a principle point of view." He said he had "urged the treasury department to come to some accommodation in this regard."

The city council credited Webster's July assessment with the amount of R4,71 — though it refused to acknowledge the amount as a "refund," calling it an "interest reversal."

Despite this small victory, Glenda Webster is not satisfied. "Mystery still surrounds David's death. The Hiemstra Commission swept all the dirt under the carpet and President FW de Klerk is doing the same thing now," she says.
Stop the rot, says Mamelodi maverick

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A MAVERICK Mamelodi Town councillor has called on his colleagues to stop the rot and corruption in the council or he would call a public meeting to "lay bare the facts".

He is LP Bambo, chairman of the Management Committee, who told City Press that because he was outspoken, he had been nicknamed "Gaddafi" and "Saddam Hussein" by other councillors.

Bambo started tongues wagging in December last year when he led the "resignation" of more than seven councillors, saying the council system did not satisfy the needs of residents.

While he was being hailed by some members of the community as having seen the "light", Bambo made a quick turnaround and rejoined the council with the other councillors.

He again captured the attention of the public at a monthly council meeting last week when he accused mayor Sydney Mokone of being "soft" on white officials and corruption in the Department of Engineering.

He alleged that he demanded that the officials and engineers be investigated, but Mokone, who is also chair of the engineering committee, argued that it was impossible to keep the council informed about every detail.

Bambo said the incident was just "the tip of the iceberg", adding that if the rot was not stopped, he would call a public meeting.

The council manager, who is also a councillor, announced that Bambo and the deputy chairman of the council would be disciplined.

"However, Mokone held the disciplinary hearing without me and some of the officials, and pardoned Hanekom, even though the council has lost a lot of money through the theft of the transformers," Bambo said.

Mokone apologised to Bambo and challenged him on the issue.

According to council records in the possession of City Press, Bambo has in the past called for:

- Pensioners to be exempted from paying rent;
- "Dead wood" among white council employees to be dismissed;
- The disaffiliation of the council from Ucasa;
- The council to stop investing council funds using the names of individuals, and for a halt to court action against rent defaulters.

He has also called on the council to stop investing council funds using the names of individuals, and for a halt to court action against rent defaulters.

City Press was unable to get comment from Mokone, but a senior official described Bambo as a maverick and an "opportunist" who was regarded as the Edgar Tekere of the council.
Boost for local govt talks as CAST supports chamber

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Negotiations for a new democratic dispensation for local government are back on track after a decision by the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal to encourage civics to take part in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

At a press conference, CAST announced it had resolved to support all national initiatives and agreements at local level, such as the Soweto Accord, Alexandra Accord and the Metropolitan Chamber.

Johannesburg City Council representative on the chamber, Sias Reyneke, said CAST's decision was a step forward.

"It's wonderful, now things are finally coming together. This is what we have been working towards," Mr Reyneke said.

CAST general-secretary Sam Ntuli said it would encourage civics to take part in the chamber and protest within.

"We haven't changed our objections to the participation of black councillors in the chamber, or the structure and status of business and white local authorities in negotiations."

Mr Ntuli demed that the decision was a major reversal of opinion: "We have always said we agree in principle with the Metropolitan Chamber. Our problem has been the format and that some civics never had a mandate to participate.

"Now we are going to protest from within and negotiate on certain changes."

The organisation has appointed heads of department to deal with transport, local government, land and housing development, finance, legal, cultural and economic development issues.

At yesterday's press conference, CAST also criticised Eskom and the Transvaal Provincial Administration for their neglect to the civics in dealing with the issue of electricity and other services.

CAST's general council also condemned the Government and the TPA for their support to "desecrated" black local authorities.

It resolved to demand that the hostel system be abolished immediately, and that the Government intervene in the transport and housing crisis.
Talks called off as TPA pulls down more shacks

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday pulled down more than 150 squatters' shacks at Ivory Park, near Tembisa, prompting an organization representing homeless people to call off high-level talks with the administration.

The TPA pulled down the shacks after the Rand Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday that the squatters were there illegally. Some shacks were pulled down two weeks ago before two squatters sought a court order restraining the TPA from demolishing their shacks.

A TPA spokesman said most of the shacks were pulled down after the squatters had ignored an early-morning warning to dismantle them.

More than 5,000 shacks had been dismantled in the area during the last few weeks, the TPA spokesman said, leaving about 1,000. The remaining shacks would be removed within the next few days.

Responding to squatters' claims that they had nowhere to live, the spokesman said, "They can go back to where they came from."

He said the TPA had earmarked the 14,000 sites in Ivory Park for low-income housing, and that the squatters were depriving prospective residents of their homes.

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhlo) chairman Basheer Lorgat said the dismantling of the shacks was irresponsible and "likely to cause mayhem."

Omhlo claims to represent squatters at more than 60 camps in the PWV area.

Lorgat said the talks were aimed at establishing a forum for community groups and municipalities to find land for homeless people.

Judge rejects closed hearing

A witness in the trial of five National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) members charged with murdering five non-striking colliers during an industrial dispute gave evidence in open court yesterday after the judge rejected a second application to have his evidence heard in camera.

The witness's home was allegedly petrol-bombed by the accused and others in an intimidation campaign.

SUSAN RUSSELL

The application was made after the witness said he was afraid that if he gave evidence in open court his children's lives would be in danger.

Mr Justice du Plessis said the facts on which the witness based his fears were too general to upset the considerations in favor of a trial open to public scrutiny.

An order prohibiting publication of the witness’s identity still stood.
Soweto Council calls for peace

THE violence that has engulfed the Mshenguville squatter camp was symptomatic of problems bedevilling the country's transitional period and could not be solved by any single organisation, the Soweto Council said yesterday.

Speaking at a Press conference at the council chambers, management committee chairman Mr Mbutana Thabalala, appealed to the ANC, AZAPO, PAC, Inkatha, Soweto Civic Association and other organisations to avoid solutions that would exacerbate conflict and lead to further confrontation.

"The council welcomes all efforts by community organisations to find solutions to the violence and pledges itself to facilitate recommendations aimed at normalising the situation," he said.

Decisions based on such recommendations should benefit everyone involved in the Mshenguville problem, the council and the ruling African National Congress (ANC) party, he said.

Inkatha and other opposition parties have charged that ANC and PAC members were behind the violence. The council denies this and says the violence is the work of small groups of frustrated young people and drug addicts.
Jo’burg area metropolitan body mooted

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

An interim local government body with legislative powers for Greater Johannesburg and Soweto could be in place within six months. (See)

Members of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber have proposed an interim body to take the place of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the chamber itself.

There have been informal discussions between major players in the chamber to promote the establishment of a body with the financial clout and functions of the CWRSC and the credibility of the chamber.

Johannesburg is believed to be taking the lead in this concept.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said the council would support an interim body for the metropolitan area.

"It is the logical conclusion of negotiations. Clearly the Metropolitan Chamber must take over all the functions of the CWRSC — the sooner, the better." "We can’t continue using the chamber as a talk-shop — it needs legislative powers."

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said there was a potential conflict between the chamber and the CWRSC as both were addressing the same problems.

"It’s logical the two should merge and form one body with the financial muscle and legislative capability."

The Metropolitan Chamber was constituted in April to negotiate a new dispensation for local government. Government and major political parties are represented — albeit unofficially — by representatives who include Transvaal MEC for local government Olau van Zyl, ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa, and National Party and Democratic Party councillors from Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort.

According to sources, informal meetings have already taken place between the "unofficial" ANC, DP, and NP representatives and the TPA.
Jo Burg's image under the spotlight
Kagiso's deputy mayor is ousted

David Modiba

THE deputy mayor of the Kagiso Council has been ousted from his position after a motion of no-confidence was passed against him during a heated special meeting yesterday.

Mr Isaac Sengwara was also removed from the management committee and relieved of his duties as the council's representative on the West Rand Regional Services Council.

The motion was tabled by Mr David Modiba who said Sengwara lacked leadership qualities in that "no progress has been made" in Kagiso since 1989 when he was elected as deputy mayor and as a member of the management committee.

Modiba tabled several motions which resulted in Sengwara's removal from any leadership position in the council.

The motions included:
- That the management committee be dissolved and be replaced by himself, Mr Z Daniel, Mr J Monama and Mr L Moleleni;
- That Sengwara be replaced from representing the council on the WRRSC;
- That Sengwara not be allowed to represent the council in any forum;
- That the projects committee be dissolved;
- That Sengwara step down as deputy mayor.

All the motions were granted by mayor Mr Eddie Moeketsi.

Modiba lashed at the council for taking councillors on a "jolly trip" to Cape Town two months ago.

He said: "Money which could have been used to upgrade the township was wasted by taking councillors to Cape Town."

"The councillors who went to Cape Town said they did not understand why they were taken on that trip," he said.

By Ike Motsepi
Major confrontation looms in health sector

By Sharen Singh

A major confrontation is looming in the health sector between a Cosatu union and the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Last week the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu), clashed out at the TPA, threatening widespread industrial action over a range of issues, including the implementations of wage increases, without consulting the union — a claim which the TPA yesterday rejected.

Nehawu accused the TPA and the Commission for Administration of arbitrarily implementing wage increases for health workers without proper consultation.

The increases, which range from 8.8 percent to 16 percent, were "predetermined by the Government and not based on Nehawu's demand, the union said.

No negotiations took place, the union added.

The union pointed out that a "special dispensation" granting general assistants a 10 percent increase had been implemented, but in reality only a small section of general assistants received this increase.

Furthermore, the union accused the TPA of not responding to demands forwarded by radiographers in July last year. Some radiographers were currently on strike.

TPA authorities undertook to make favourable representation to the South African Nursing Council (SANC), not to take action against nurses who went on strike. But to date, the issue has not been resolved, Nehawu said.

TPA Director-General A. Cornelissen denied that Nehawu's wage demands were not considered. Nehawu was part of the final agreement adjusting salary structures for the 1991/92 year.

At last year's wage negotiations between the TPA and Nehawu, it was recorded that the TPA did not have the authority to make a final decision on wages.

Regarding the radiographers currently on strike, Mr Cornelissen said two letters responding to their demands were issued — one by the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Trina Venter, and the other by TPA management.

He said the TPA had reported the nurses to the SANC and since this was an independent body, the TPA could not prescribe what decisions it should take.
JOHANNESBURG businesses hit by new rates

JOHANNESBURG businesses are beginning to feel the pinch of increased assessment rates bills, says Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) CEO Manus de Jager.

Rates on new land valuations have pushed some bills up by as much as 72%.

Responding to reports that there had already been an outcry from many homeowners, de Jager said yesterday that even stronger reactions could be expected from businesses in some city areas.

The real impact of increases would sink in only when people received their bills this month, de Jager said.

In its annual budget released in June, the Johannesburg City Council announced that a revaluation of land in the city would push up assessment rates in aggregate by 94% for non-domestic properties in Johannesburg as a whole.

De Jager said some businesses would be shocked by increases well in excess of the aggregate because their land value had increased by as much as 265%.

Average increases could not be gauged as increases varied between areas and in many cases assessment rates bills had not yet been received.

Anglo American Property Services financial director Lee Whitfield said bills received so far for Ampros buildings showed increases of between 37% and 72%.

But buildings with the lower percentage increases were actually paying the highest rates per square metre, she said.

An Ampros building in Parktown, for example, had its rates increased 37% but was now paying R2.46/m² which was expensive relative to other cities.

Whitfield said some of Johannesburg's increases put it in the league of Cape Town, which had always been considered the most expensive office space.

Increases in parts of the Johannesburg CBD which put rents up to about R1.58/m² were acceptable, she said.

SA Property Owners' Association executive director Brian Kirchmann confirmed that property owners in some areas of the city were unhappy with their high bills, while in other areas increases were believed to be reasonable.

In a statement yesterday the council said Johannesburg ratepayers should not look at the rate increase in isolation, but should assess the total municipal account which included all service charges.

Electricity, gas and water charges on statements being received for July were mainly for consumption before July 1 when reductions in electricity tariffs came into effect. Electricity reductions would be noticeable on the next statement and would largely reduce the increase in assessment rates.
Transvaal too costly to electrify, says Eskom

A PROGRAMME to bring electricity to townships and rural areas in the Transvaal would cost about R3bn, according to figures made available by Eskom.

Eskom said the electrification of the Transvaal alone would cost nearly half the total amount required to bring electricity to the 23-million South Africans without it.

Eskom corporate electricity manager Johann du Plessis said the Transvaal would account for the bulk of the cost of electrifying all of SA.

But, at the same time, the company was not prepared to fund a programme of that size by itself.

Hurdles

Du Plessis said while Eskom had the generating capacity to supply everyone in SA, the infrastructural costs would have to be covered by other, cheap funding.

To that end Eskom was looking to government institutions such as the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the IDT, the DBSA and others. But the company would not be approaching the private sector.

Du Plessis, however, pointed out that there were still major hurdles to be overcome if Eskom was to realise even a part of its vision of "electricity for all." One of the biggest problems was non-payment by townships.

Latest figures show that 27 townships countrywide owe Eskom more than R200m. Of those, according to Du Plessis, Eskom had summoned 23 and had judgments against 20. However, Eskom had not yet taken the decision to execute those judgments.

Du Plessis said the present system of de-centralisation of supply was not optimal, and suggested there could be better synergy with other models.

He said there was a general problem of inaccurate accounting and the general politicisation of electricity supply.

On the positive side, Eskom and the DBSA were already linked up in a multi-billion rand funding scheme to bring power to underdeveloped areas in other parts of SA. For instance, they were planning a R5bn, five-year plan to electrify the two KwaZulu townships of Madadeni and Osazwe.

One of the first beneficiaries of the scheme has been the fledgling KaNgwane Electricity Supply Company, which recently received a R17m loan to supply about 4 000 homes, or about 29 000 people, with electricity.

Du Plessis said discussions were ongoing with the DBSA, the IDT and the IDC. "But it will be a mammoth task to bring electricity to all," he said.

He said an important aspect was the new technology being utilised, such as the "ready board" which would replace the wiring of houses. "The fact is that we have to largely adapt our standards in some cases we are putting electricity into mud houses and shacks."
Hospitals silent on bullet wounds

By Carina le Grange

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday declined to reveal information on the types of ammunition that had wounded people in Friday night's clash in Ventersdorp.

The Star attempted to obtain independent information from hospitals on the types of ammunition which caused injuries, in a bid to clarify the accusations and counter-accusations between the police and the AWB. Both have accused the other of using sharp-point ammunition. The police also said the AWB fired first and that a policeman was wounded by sharp-point ammunition.

Hospitals where the injured were treated refused to answer questions on the matter, saying only the TPA could respond.

And the TPA's deputy director-general of health services, Dr. Hennie van Wyk, said the TPA considered it "unethical to reveal any information about any patient's condition without his doctor's permission."

Later, a TPA liaison officer said, "It is difficult for a doctor to say what kind of ammunition was used" No further information could be obtained.

A police spokesman said clarification would not come before requests had been held.

Law and Order spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said the investigation was sub judice. "But we have already said we know our members did not have sharp-point ammunition, although they were fired at with sharp-point ammunition."
Soweto’s essential services ‘near collapse’

ESSENTIAL services in Greater Soweto could collapse within weeks, plunging the entire central Witwatersrand into major crisis, Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said at a chamber meeting last night.

And the Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD) called for the dissolution within three weeks of the councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepsloot.

Reading a statement by the Greater Soweto principal parties, Slabbert said there was simply not enough money for even the most essential services of water, electricity, sewerage and refuse collection.

The parties are the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the SPD, the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the city councils of Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville.

Slabbert said all parties agreed that present tariffs were too low and that collection rates had to be improved.

The council and the TPA expected residents to make up at least part of the shortfall, while the SPD and SCA felt that most were too poor to do so and had little confidence in the councils and the standard of services they provided.

Sapa reports the problem arises from a R10m-a-month shortfall in Soweto’s services payments.

Currently, Soweto residents are paying about 20% of the total cost of supplying services, the balance is made up in government subsidies. The shortfall is about 30%.
NINE Transvaal townships are presently affected by service cuts, according to the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

In four cases it is at least the second suspension of electricity or water supplies within a year.

A year after the first service cuts were effected, negotiations are continuing in 70 out of 82 black local authorities.

The suspension of services remains a tangible threat in several of these areas.

The TPA's recent figures reveal that there has been no dramatic improvement since late last year. For instance, in November the TPA said 10 townships were subject to power cuts.

There are now four townships subject to a second round of cuts.

In Soweto, despite the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord which formally ended the boycott almost a year ago, payments are way below the agreed level.

According to the TPA, "the average payment for electricity is about 45 percent" of the billed amount and only 60 to 65 percent of residents are paying the flat rate negotiated in respect of other services.

"The only way in which people can ensure that their services are not disconnected is by paying their accounts," the province's statement said.

Nonetheless, argues National interim Civic Committee co-ordinator Mr. Pat Lephumy, the capacity of residents to pay is also pertinent.

Middelburg council for services.

SOWETAN Correspondent
Activists train their sights on 'sellouts'

Black town councillors and policemen have been the main targets of attacks from forces bent on destroying black local authorities, a recent publication claims. KAIZER NYATSUMBA reports.

The ongoing resignation of black town councillors, which has led to the collapse of a number of councils and their replacement with appointed township administrations, is an indictment of the coercive methods and pressures employed by activists, says the South Africa Institute of Race Relations.

In a report headed "History of attacks on black local authorities", SAIIR research manager Jill Westzel says black councillors and policemen have been the prime targets of attacks from activists opposed to their "collaboration with the system".

Ms Westzel catalogues threats, pressures and attacks on councillors and black policemen since the introduction of the Black Local Authorities Act in 1984, and says some of the black town councillors have had to pay the ultimate price for their convictions.

It is in this perspective, she says, that a number of councillors — 238 between August last year and February — have tendered their resignations.

Some of the statistics supplied by Ms Westzel in her report are:

- There were 111 attacks on black councillors between January and July 1990, and another 84 attacks on them between August last year and February 1991.
- Six councillors were killed between January and July 1990, seven between August and February 1991, and another three between March and June this year. This brings to 26 the number of councillors killed in 18 months — almost one every month.
- A total of 355 councillors resigned between August and February this year, with 86 percent of them saying they had been intimidated into doing so.
- A total of 90 policemen were killed between January 1984 and June this year.

Ms Westzel says that although campaigns against black local authorities were "an reflection of black anger at being foiled off with local rather than parliamentary representation" when the tripartite parliament system was introduced in 1955, the campaigns were stepped up last year despite moves towards the negotiation of a new, nonracial system of local government.

Thus, she says, was because campaigns against black local authorities continued to be an overall strategy to achieve the total collapse of apartheid by rendering "black areas" ungovernable.

Ms Westzel's report says policemen were attacked not only "during violence which arose out of protests against local authorities" but were also victims of political violence in recent years.

The police's poor image and reputation therefore obscured "the emergence of a new dimension in political violence — the steady increase in attacks on the police".

She adds that most of the terrorists caught on the streets were those said to have been employed to defend black councillors in the first place.

Ms Westzel writes "In the last five years, mobs of councillors and policemen have received most public attention when campaigns were mounted against the imposition of the death penalty and terms of imprisonment on those convicted of taking part in the killings.

She concludes that "the general lack of attention" paid to attacks on councillors and policemen appears to have "created a climate of indifference among the public and the police".

- Campaigns which got out of control and result in death, injury and destruction of property are a natural consequence of apartheid, and as such do not merit critical comment.
- Violent attacks on people and their property are less damaging to society if the victims, individually or collectively, are perceived to be morally blame-worthy.
- Attacks on blacks are of less concern than attacks on whites.
- Attacks on "collaborators" are justified.

Ms Westzel concludes "The SAIIR has spent many years recording, publicising and condemning the violence of the State's security apparatus, the police and vigilante groups.

"Time and again we warned that the violent methods used to enforce apartheid would one day call forth an ammunifying violence.

"Having contributed in no small measure to the overall understanding of how violence emerged, the SAIIR believes it must also draw attention to the kinds of attitudes and strategies that are helping perpetuate violence during a time of political liberalisation unprecedented in South Africa's history."
No services ‘within 3 weeks’

Soweto faces bankruptcy

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The central Witwatersrand is facing a major financial crisis because 2 million people in Greater Soweto will be without essential services within three weeks if funds are not found.

The Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was warned that services in Soweto, Doornfontein and Dobsonville were near collapse. Eskom alone was owed R100 million.

Civic associations have demanded the immediate resignation of the three Greater Soweto executive and the establishment of an interim administration.

In a statement, Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD) spokesman Cas Coovadia also called for a massive education campaign to explain what was happening.

A joint statement by Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto councils, the SPD, Soweto Civic Association and Transvaal Provincial Administration said a major crisis was looming not only for Soweto but the entire Witwatersrand.

“At issue in the current negotiations is the fact that there is simply not enough money to pay for the supply of even the most essential services of water, sewerage, refuse and electricity,”

Urgent meetings will continue between the SPD, Soweto councils and the TPA next week to discuss an increase in service tariffs.

All parties realized that the present tariffs were too low and that the rate of collections had to be improved, the joint statement said.

However, while the councils and the TPA expected residents to pay more for services, the SPD and SCA felt residents could not be expected to pay much more as the people were poor and there was little confidence in the black councils or the standard of services.

MEC for institutional development and negotiations Olau van Zyl said tariffs agreed to in the Soweto Accord were supposed to be increased once the chamber was established, but this had not happened.

He said it was totally unacceptable that the Government continued to pay 80 percent of the service charges and the people of Soweto only 20 percent.

Mr Coovadia said the SPD had consistently argued that the solution to Soweto’s problems did not lie within the borders of the township.

“...In fact, the apartheid system is simply the logical conclusion of the apartheid system. As it goes into the final stages of disintegration, the State expects the people to suffer the consequences.”

- Service cuts loom
The chamber has been battling since late last year to get off the ground following the signing of the Soweto Accord. The mud-slinging that took place at the beginning of the accord were a foretaste of what was to come. Cast, an increasingly militant organisation, later refused to participate in the chamber even though some of its most influential members, including the Soweto Civic Association, apparently continued to support both the chamber and Cast.

Mvuyekho says Cast’s about-face — a direct result of the ANC’s decision to begin multi-party talks — still does not mean the council body endorses the chamber. On the contrary, it wants the format to be altered and believes that national agreements at local level will contradict those at the national negotiations table. “There must be negotiations at local, regional, provincial and national level,” says Mvuyekho, “but following the leads at national level White municipalities and the government are rushing to say they must be autonomous and they are doing it in a way that will pre-empt national negotiations and decentralise power. Power has always been centralised, so why are they trying to change that now?”

He says Cast believes the move to decentralised municipal power is racially motivated and will create a type of neocolonialism. “It will create the equivalent of mini-tribal parliaments. If we don’t change direction now, we may have a monster on our hands.”

However, there are those who wonder whether Cast itself is a monster. Its stance often contradicts that of its members, it reneges on agreements and there are complaints that it does not address issues beforepronouncing on them. It has been racked by infighting. It is apparently undemocratic, particularly when compared to organisations like the ANC and Cosatu.

Its previous spokesman, Cas Coovadia, resigned after Cast reneged on agreements and refused to take part in the chamber. Sam Ntuli, chairman of the Thokoza Civic Association, then became Cast’s general secretary. Under him, the organisation has become increasingly alienated from its constituencies and controversial among those with whom it is trying to broker power. However, some Transvaal Provincial Administration officials have told the FM that as infighting has worsened at Cast and...
Soweto councils appeal to creditors for time

THE Greater Soweto councils, faced with a financial crisis that threatens essential services, are appealing to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber to hold off creditors while they find a solution.

The councils — Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto — faced a collapse of such essential services as water, electricity, sewerage and refuse collection, because there was no money, Metro Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said this week.

If everyone paid the interim charges required from residents in terms of the Greater Soweto Accord — which wrote off a R516m debt — the income would meet only 30% of Soweto's needs.

Only R1,5m of a recent month's electricity account of over R16m was collected from consumers. And Eskom was owed more than R100m, Slabbert said.

All the principal parties to the accord — the TPA, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and the councils — agreed that tariffs presently being paid were too low.

Councillor Pro Molefe Moseki said yesterday payments had gradually improved since switch-off threats were issued.

Now all the other parties would be working to find a solution to the problem, Moseki said.

Slabbert had said the councils, the SPD and the TPA would meet early next week to resume negotiations on the increase of interim tariffs. General meetings of residents would also be held.

Wilson Zwane reports parties to the Greater Benoni Forum yesterday reached consensus on a plan to consolidate water and electricity provision and payment procedures of Benoni, Daveyton and Wattville, forum chairman Dawie de Beer said.

The plan for the greater Benoni area — spelt out in last week's recommendations of the Greater Benoni Forum's tariff working group — is the first of its kind.

Modifications had been made to the recommendations and a formal statement would be issued next week, De Beer said.

The tariff working group recommended that Benoni's tariffs for electricity and other essential services be introduced in Daveyton and that metered electricity and water charges be resumed in Daveyton and Wattville from next month.

The group also recommended that accounting procedures of Benoni, Daveyton and Wattville be consolidated.

The forum comprises the town councils of Daveyton and Wattville, the DIC, the Wattville Concerned Residents' Committee and the TPA. Eskom, the East Rand Regional Services Council and the Rand Water Board have observer status.

Comment Page 12
Cosatu Witbank march goes on

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) in Witbank has decided to go ahead with a protest march on Saturday, even though the town council has refused permission.

Cosatu spokesman Mr Meshack Masumpa said workers would go ahead with the march, irrespective of whether permission was granted.

The town clerk, Mr JH Pretorius, said the council had refused permission for the march because there was little time allowed for consultations and the planning of alternative routes for the march.

Pretorius expressed optimism that future problems about protest marches would be sorted out at the newly created forum representing community organisations, the Afrikaanse Sakekamers, the local chamber of commerce and the Town Council.

The marchers will present demands on high electricity tariffs and the formation of one town council with a single tax base for Witbank. - Sapa
stay of at least a year to enable him to care for his family — he recently married a SA citizen — and to take steps to relocate.

Editor's Note

URBANISATION

Realism in action

Midrand, possibly the fastest growing town in the country, is also experiencing rapid growth in its squatter population. Many are employed by industrialists in the area. The Ivory Park area was established in July last year, to house the Midrand homeless on 14 000 residential stands. But experts knew the area was too small to solve the housing crisis. All but 1 100 stands have already been occupied by 70 000 families, according to Jan van der Walt of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA).

Ivy Park flanks a former "coloured" group area called Rabie Ridge, where for a year squatters have been negotiating with the House of Representatives for land.

Desperate, the squatter leaders moved closer to Ivory Park. On July 6, according to the TPA, three squatter homes were erected in an area of Ivory Park set aside for clinics, schools and a graveyard. Two days later, there were 2 000 shacks. The next day, the TPA demolished 1 000. Occupants of two of the structures applied for an urgent interdict against the TPA, and lost.

But the following day, the TPA met the squatters and other interested organisations, including the Midrand Town Council. It was agreed that the original 300 or so squatter families in the area would be allowed to remain for a fortnight. The issue is complicated because there are two main squatter groups.

The first "land invaders," as they call themselves, had been squatting for about three years in the Midrand area. About 90% of the families have someone employed in Midrand, according to a Black Sash survey — and many were born there, to families who originally owned land in the area.

Organised Community

It is a strictly organised community which has long been negotiating for access to land in Rabie Ridge and Ivory Park. Their move into Ivory Park was even accepted by TPA officials, to the extent that the TPA is compiling a list of their names which will put them in line for land that becomes available.

The second group is made up primarily of people who have been squatting in the backyards of already overcrowded Tembisa homes. The FM has heard allegations from several sources that the land crisis at Ivory Park is partly the fault of a corrupt Tembisa council official, whom the TPA had apparently allowed to allocate land at the official informal settlement.

It is alleged that people were being charged for access to the waiting list. And when the 300 families from Rabie Ridge decided to "invade" the land at Ivory Park, the 1 700 families who poured on to the land in the next two days were allegedly charged R70 each to move on to that land.

The TPA say they know of "a person who, in breach of agreements, allowed more people to move on to the land."

Some Tembisa town councillors have told the FM that there is conflict in the council and little is getting done because of this.

The allocation of more land is being investigated, while emergency measures to accommodate the squatters are taken.

The Midrand Industrialists' Association has told the TPA it is prepared to back employees financially in obtaining sites. All the parties involved meet again this week to discuss the issue.

Says the TPA's Jan van der Walt: "We realise that if we demolish their shacks, these people will not disappear into thin air. While some can't afford formal housing, others can.

"We are negotiating with the Housing Trust and the Midrand people and we hope that this situation can be resolved in a way that best suits the interests of all."

Charles Smith
Support is growing for local assembly

WITWATERSRAND civic associations are to call for the election of a local constituent assembly to negotiate a new local government structure.

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso said local elections to replace existing white and black councils were possible as early as the first half of next year if all parties "were seriously committed".

Their proposal has the support of at least one white council represented on the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber Randburg management committee chairman and chamber representative Andre Jacobs said he agreed that local elections would have to be held for a more representative structure than the existing metropolitan chamber.

Local elections would be cumbersome and costly and would only be possible once the criteria for voting eligibility had been debated.

Jacobs said the deliberations of the metropolitan chamber on both a local constituent assembly and a final non-racial local government model would have important implications for the national process.

Spokesman for Johannesburg civic associations Cas Coovadia said civic associations on the chamber would soon raise the issue of a metropolitan election to test the representativeness of chamber members.

He said civic believed the election should be held as soon as possible but realised it would probably only be possible in the medium term.

The major problem would be drawing up a broad enough voters' roll for and rede-namncing the metropolitan area.

Sources said the chamber's constitutional development committee had touched on the subject of elections for an interim structure and would look at the difficulties of defining who should be eligible to vote.

Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert was not available for comment.

Mayekiso said there was consensus among Cast affiliates that local constituent assemblies should be elected in sub-regions of the metropolitan area, for example in the Alexandra, Randburg and Sandton sub-region and the Johannesburg and Soweto sub-region.

These elected interim structures would be involved in regional service provision and would elect representatives to a metropolitan chamber which would continue to negotiate new local government models.

Cast planned to call a summit to formulate a national position on the issue.
Meetings planned on Soweto utilities crisis

THE rescue of essential services from collapse in the three Greater Soweto towns depended on improved payments by the residents, the TPA and Central Witswatersrand RSC said on Friday.

But civic association spokesman Cas Coovadia said payments would only improve if services were taken out of the hands of the black local authorities and depoliticised.

The councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto have appealed to creditors for time to work out a solution to their financial problem, which is expected to result in the collapse of such essential services as water and electricity.

RSC chairman John Griffiths and his council would do everything to avoid a collapse of services provided the councils played their part in resolving the situation.

The three councils, the Soweto People's delegation and the TPA will hold a meeting this week to discuss the increase of interim tariffs and general meetings of residents will be held to consider the crisis.
Deal signed to end rent boycott

AN AGREEMENT to end a seven-year rent and services boycott in townships on the Vaal Triangle was signed yesterday.

The document was signed by, among others, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA) at a ceremony in Johannesburg.

The agreement, regarded as a major breakthrough in the nationwide rent and services boycott, was negotiated over nine months and took eight drafts to complete.

Meanwhile, TANIA LEVY reports that the East Rand Regional Services Council (RSC) is to provide R23.5m to prevent a collapse of essential water, refuse removal and sewerage services in East Rand townships.

At its monthly meeting this week the RSC resolved to provide R13.3m for sewerage treatment, R6.3m for partial payment of costs involved in refuse removal and R4m for water supply. The funding would be provided over the next 11 months.

Mandy said that whether the agreement would function depended on residents resuming payments in terms of the protocol.

It sets out service and electricity charges, which for a typical household would be R30 for services, R17.50 for the electricity service charge plus the metered electricity consumption.

Electricity would be reconnected if 70% of township residents paid their accounts.

In order to facilitate this process, the Vaal townships have been split into smaller “zones” for collection purposes — Sapa...
THE Atteridgeville Residents Organisation yesterday lashed out at the Transvaal Provincial Administration for deliberately stalling rent negotiations and claimed the authorities were planning to plunge the township in darkness until October.

Electricity supplies to the township were cut on July 22 after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay nearly R6 million in arrear service charges.

Asro’s publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, yesterday confirmed that residents were prepared to pay a flat rate of more than R50.

"But the TPA does not want to listen to our offer. They refuse to talk to us," Ramatsui said.

Mr CJ Wolmarans, regional director of the TPA, refused to meet Asro officials last week and said he would only discuss the rent problem with Asro and other community-based organisations.

"It is clear that Wolmarans does not want to listen to us. We are concerned about the electricity cuts because the situation is now getting out of hand. Wolmarans is deliberately creating obstacles."

"We have also received unconfirmed reports that the authorities have planned to only restore electricity in October," said Ramatsui.

He added that they expected to meet senior officials of the TPA this week to try and set up a meeting with Wolmarans as soon as possible.

Wolmarans has accused Asro of having politicised the rent issue and said the TPA was eager to resolve the problem.

An official of the Saulsville/Atteridgeville Interim Committee, Mr Victor Gillinge, yesterday said his organisation was prepared to meet Asro officials to formulate a strategy that could lead to the restoration of power supplies.
Vaal pact may end lengthy boycott

AN agreement to end a seven-year rent and services boycott in Vaal Triangle townships was signed yesterday by, among others, the TPA and the Vaal Civic Association.

The document, which was signed at a ceremony in Johannesburg, was negotiated over a period of nine months and took eight drafts to complete.

Despite the complications, which saw the signing delayed from Friday, VCA publicity secretary, Mr Paul Sithole, said the agreement was "realistic!"

TPA negotiator, Mr Nigel Mandy, said the document set the "framework for much better things in the future."

Mandy said whether the agreement would function depended on residents resuming payments in terms of the protocol.

The agreement sets out service and electricity charges, which for a typical household would be R30 for services, R17,50 for the electricity service charge plus the metered electricity consumption.

Electricity would be reconnected if 70 percent of the township residents paid their accounts.

In order to facilitate the process, the various Vaal township have been split into smaller "zones" for collection purposes.

The parties to the document also agreed in principle that housing stock in the townships would be transferred to the current lessors, and a working group was established to examine this.

The lawyers acting for the VCA, Mr Dan Rosengarten and Ms Sue Albertyn, said the agreement also addressed the long-term problems of Vaal area.

"The agreement will facilitate the movement towards non-racial local authorities," Albertyn said, adding it was "significant" the TPA had recognised the long-term demands of the VCA - Sapa.
Could Soweto be left to either stink or swim?

For a lowly dies the week, it seemed that Soweto would have its electricity and services shut off, plunging the township into darkness to swim in its own garbage. Then a last-minute agreement kept the lights burning. But the crisis continues, and it's a lot bigger than Soweto, reports John Perelman.

The electricity is down in Soweto, the Regional Council of the South Africa has seriously considered the possibility of turning off the electricity to the township. The Regional Council has no choice but to act in the best interests of its residents.

The Regional Council has received reports of frequent blackouts and power outages in the township. The council has been working with the National Power Authority (NPA) to identify the cause of the problem and find a solution.

The NPA has confirmed that the problem is due to a shortage of power. The council has been working with the NPA to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible.

Residents of Soweto have been left without power for days on end. The lack of power has had a serious impact on the residents, who are dependent on electricity for cooking, lighting, and other daily tasks.

The Regional Council has urged the NPA to work harder to restore the power as soon as possible. The council has also advised residents to conserve energy and use alternative sources of power where possible.

The NPA has assured the council that it is doing everything possible to restore the power. The council has also been working with the local community to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible.

The Regional Council has urged residents to remain calm and patient during this time. The council has also advised residents to contact the Regional Council if they are having problems with the power.

The Regional Council has also been working with the National Government to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible. The National Government has assured the council that it is doing everything possible to restore the power.

In the meantime, the Regional Council has been working with the local community to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible. The council has also been working with the National Government to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible.

The Regional Council has urged residents to remain calm and patient during this time. The council has also advised residents to contact the Regional Council if they are having problems with the power.

The Regional Council has also been working with the National Government to ensure that the power is restored as soon as possible. The National Government has assured the council that it is doing everything possible to restore the power.
Who reads the meters? Only the spiders

By RAY NXUMALO

"IT takes a genius to figure out our electricity accounts," a Soweto resident complained this week.

A snap survey by The Weekly Mail in the township this week revealed some of the reasons for the huge backlog of unpaid bills.

Soweto residents interviewed in the survey are dismayed by the looming power cut and insist that the problem is not of their own making.

The late arrival of accounts was cited as the main reason for the backlog in payments. Respondents said they were unable to pay their June and July electricity accounts because they have not yet received them.

Soweto Electricity Advice Centre ombudsman Bernard Moleke said he received his February account in May and has not received an account since then.

Respondents had a number of complaints about meter readers. It was pointed out that there is a noticeable absence of meter readers in Soweto. They were accused of spending most of their working hours on their own personal business.

When meter readers did appear they never bothered to explain to residents how they count the units used. Consequently, it was suspected that the figures on residents' accounts are guess-work.

One respondent, Soweto resident Bertha Mahlatsa, stated that she has not seen a meter reader check her electricity consumption for the past three months. She said the meter boxes were full of spider webs.

Many respondents said the meter boxes are in a pathetic state of disrepair and neglect.

Yet another problem was that many people found it difficult to read, interpret and understand the electricity accounts. Moleke echoed the view that the statements are very confusing.

"It takes a genius to figure them out," an ordinary person who does not read between the lines, is the hardest hit," he said.

Mahlatsa, who is unemployed, typifies the frustrated Soweto consumer. The power cable which supplies her house is faulty. She always has candles ready in anticipation of the ever looming cut.

Moleke suggested that Eskom should establish a centre from which it could sell electricity directly to the residents.

The same meter readers employed by the council could work for Eskom at its new centre where all readings could be processed. This would eliminate delays caused by an inefficient third party: it will be a direct transaction between buyer and seller.
PEOPLE who have adopted children from the Natalspruit Hospital have been asked to contact the Transvaal Provincial Administration's health services branch to help investigate the alleged selling of babies.

TPA media liaison officer, Mr Rikus Delport, said the welfare of babies discharged from TPA hospitals was important and everything possible was being done to establish the whereabouts of all the babies.

"When the babies allegedly involved are traced, they will not be removed from their present homes unless it is in their own interest and should the circumstances allow it.

"However, a proper investigation will be done regarding the procedures that were followed during the placement of the babies."

The TPA said if necessary, steps would be taken against any staff member found to have been involved in the illegal sale of babies.

"In the interest of all parties involved and especially the babies, people who have adopted children from the Natalspruit Hospital are requested to either contact Mrs GA Rutter of the TPA's health services branch at (012) 201-2632 or Mrs Alla Mynhardt at (012) 201-2033," he said.

-Sapa
Jo'burg council may undergo major shake-up

Senior and middle management structure will undergo a major shake-up if councillors today approve the second phase of the council's restructuring exercise.

The organisational review, undertaken by Deloitte Pum Goldby Management Consultants, involves the creation of 59 new posts while many existing senior posts will be declared redundant.

Councillors will be asked to approve the advertisement of the 59 director and manager posts in the 11 new strategic business units created in the first phase.

Three top officials were made redundant during the first phase of the revamp which involved the abolition of 20 posts and their replacement with 11 executive directorships.

Yesterday management committee chairman Ian Davidson said posts at the next level would not yet be declared redundant.

The management committee wished to rather decide which posts needed to be made redundant after it had decided on the new appointments, said Davidson.

He hoped the appointments would be made by the end of September.

"We want to proceed as quickly as possible because of the high degree of anxiety and despondency among council officials at present," he said.

A special council meeting was to have taken place earlier this month to approve the final structure, but was cancelled.

Davidson said the management committee had changed its approach because it realised that there were many valuable senior officials whose posts would have been declared redundant but whom the council wanted to keep.
Soweto crisis: parties lack common ground

A solution to the financial crisis facing Greater Soweto appeared to drift further away this week as signatories to the Greater Soweto Accord failed to agree on their approaches to the issue.

The councils of Diepsloot, Dobsonville and Soweto were reported earlier this month to be facing a collapse of essential services as they had no money to run these.

A meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was told by chairman Van Zyl Slabbert that there was no more money to pay for essential services.

On one side of the signatories to the accord is the negotiating wing of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), which has proposed to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber that the provision of services be taken over by the Central Wits RSC, the Rand Water Board and the municipalities of Johannesburg and Roodepoort.

Quorum

The four other principals, the TPA and councils of Diepsloot, Dobsonville and Soweto, went ahead with a meeting on Monday to work out a new tariff system.

They said afterwards they intended to proceed "to consider appropriate action to be taken in the best interests of the residents" without the SCA/SPD.

SCA general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday the Metropolitan Chamber's Joint Technical Committee had decided last Thursday that there was no point in going ahead with Monday's meeting since the issue being discussed was a problem for the chamber.

"The other parties could not have formed a quorum at the meeting," Lephunya said. As far as the SCA was concerned the Soweto Accord still held firm.

Slabbert was not available for comment.

Bull not killed especially for ad

ADVERTISING agency D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles has denied aspects of a Business Day report yesterday about the bull which was reluctant to break up a china shop for a TV commercial.

The report said the bull, Bossekop, had trotted casually around the mock-up display twice without touching anything. Even the use of an electric prod had not helped.

It was reported that the head and shoulders of a freshly killed bull — Bossekop's grandfather — were then mounted on a mechanised trolley to complete the film.

DMB & B creative director Wilhe Sonnenberg hastened to correct misapprehensions yesterday that a bull might have been killed especially so that its head could be used in the filming. A stuffed bull's head had been used for some close-up shots, and the skin of another dead bull was used to supplement these shots, Sonnenberg said.

Electric prods were not used to goad the live bull into action, but only to "move the animal onto location."

The report was based on an account provided by the film company Business Day regrets any incorrect or unfair inferences readers might have drawn about the advertising agency's animal husbandry.
Civic groups to formulate local policies

WILSON ZWANE

TOWNSHIP civic organisations are set to formulate their policies on local government issues such as housing, development and the electricity supply.

Addressing a news briefing in Johannesburg yesterday, Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Sam Ntuli said "At this conference Cast will formulate its policies on local government structures and local government issues such as development, electricity supply and housing."

His organisation would invite all township civic associations within a month to a national civics' conference to formulate a national policy on these issues.

The national civics' conference would, however, be preceded by Cast's own policy conference at the weekend, its first since the organisation was formed last September.

"The conference will be attended by more than 200 delegates from the affiliates of Cast," Ntuli said, adding that Cast's membership stood at 89.

Wits Centre for Policy Studies director Lawrence Schlemmer and trade unionist Tuzamile Botha would be among those addressing the conference.
Man claims SAP recruited him to spy on ANC official

JONATHON REES

THE ANC yesterday presented to the media a man who said he had been recruited by police to spy on its PWV regional secretary-general Barbara Hogan for R250 a week.

Morris Mondau said he was recruited on Monday last week by a policeman who identified himself as “Van Wyk”.

Hogan told journalists Mondau had earlier yesterday identified L. Chris Wilken - one of three policemen in the PWV area appointed in terms of the Pretoria Minute to liaise with the ANC on violence - as being Van Wyk.

Hogan said Mondau had concealed a two-way radio with a lapel microphone, apparently for him to communicate with police.

Mondau, who said he was unemployed and previously worked as a teacher in Gazankulu, said he was given a photograph of Hogan and shown where she lived.

Police denied his claims and said the issue was whether the ANC had held him against his will. A police spokesman said the SAP did not interfere with legitimate political activity.

Mondau told journalists he had been treated well and was not kept against his will.

Hogan said the ANC was considering bringing charges, but the organisation's national executive committee would first discuss the matter.

Hogan, who is also involved in the local ANC-SAP liaison committee, said there could be no trust if the SAP continued to monitor the organisation as if it was illegal.

Atteridgeville to get a new administrator

WILSON ZWANE

FORMER Pretoria City Council director of manpower Mariann Nel will become Atteridgeville's administrator on Monday.

Nel succeeds Ernie Jacobson whose tenure as administrator of the Pretoria township ended last month.

Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) spokesman Gert De Jager said Nel - who was appointed to his new position by Transvaal administrator Dane Hough about two weeks ago - had appropriate experience.

Nel was briefed yesterday about the rent and services crisis in Atteridgeville by officials from the TPA, Pretoria City Council, Atteridgeville Town Council and the Pretoria Regional Services Council.
NEWS

Teams of officers go back on beat in Soweto

By Montshwa Moroke

Soweto traffic officers who were pulled out of township streets after a colleague was shot dead last Tuesday will resume their duties today, chief traffic officer Titus Malaza said yesterday.

Mr Malaza said the decision had been reached after he had met traffic officers on Tuesday.

Mr Malaza withdrew his squad from traffic and pedestrian control points after Simon Makheule Kungoane was shot at point-blank range while on point duty in Zone 8, Pimville.

In May, an unarmed traffic inspector, George Mthandane Modise, was killed after youths fired at him three times while he was on duty at a pedestrian crossing.

Mr Malaza's brother, Petrus, also a traffic officer, was killed in Soweto two years ago.

Measures

Mr Malaza said that as much as they were unsafe, the Soweto traffic officers felt obliged — as parents and members of the community — to go back on the road.

"We will be going back on the road again from tomorrow. We will be looking at interim security measures and the mechanisms, and all this will be confidential.

"This time it will not be possible to cover all the points, as traffic officers will be sent out in teams and not alone, whether it be on point duty, to accidents or junctions with jammed traffic lights," Mr Malaza said.

He also said he was disappointed at the apathy displayed by residents in front of whom these attacks had been committed.

His biggest concern was that if the public did not react, the firearms stolen from the traffic officers and police could be used against them.
The amalgamation of the East Rand municipalities of Germiston, Kaledon, Bedfordview and Palm Ridge may become a reality within the next nine months, Germiston town clerk Tom Heyneke said yesterday.

Linking the four, which was virtually irrevocable, would benefit all, he said.

"All four councils have taken resolutions to amalgamate and unless the unforeseen happens, it will be complete within nine months."

Mr Heyneke said there was a rightwing element within Germiston City Council which opposed the amalgamation.

He said that before the amalgamation could be finalised, an agreement would have to be negotiated with the parties.

The regional services council, which had been channelling funds into Kaledon, would be included, he said.
Races share Nelspruit revenue

By Jo-Anne Collinge

When it comes to financing townships during the transition from apartheid, Nelspruit suggests options worth exploring. In Nelspruit all house- holders — irrespective of race and the areas they were confined to under the old Group Areas Act — benefit equally from the 35 percent property rate rebate off-set by the higher rates shouldered by the town's business sector, says town clerk Dirk van Rooyen.

In addition, the three racially distinct local authorities in the Nelspruit complex all get a share of the revenue generated by business and industry. This share is directly proportional to the number of residential sites developed in the three authorities.

Nelspruit certainly represents a significant departure from the prevailing model, where the benefits of business rates revenue are firmly restricted to the white suburbs.

But it does not represent a fully nonracial model because Nelspruit is not a typical SA town — it has no black township.

The thousands of black people who work and spend their income in Nelspruit live across the kaNgwane border in kaNyamazane or in rural villages further afield.

So the cross-racial sharing of municipal revenue is confined to about 20,000 white residents of Nelspruit "proper", 1,000 coloured residents of Nelsville and 1,000 Indian residents of Valen- cia Park. Would Nelspruit have stuck to its equitable policy if it had to contend with the vastly different population pattern created by the inclusion of Nelspruit's black workers and consumers?

While conceding that it is easy to speculate, Mr van Rooyen ventures that "even if kaNyama- zane had been included I'm sure we could have worked out something."

He adds that the view in some quarters is that the kaNgwane border should not be a barrier to sharing Nelspruit's revenue more widely.

"In consultations with the ANC and the kaNg- wane authorities we still have a situation where they feel that there should be some way of distributing Nelspruit's income to kaNyamazane because they also contribute to Nelspruit."

his capacity as an MP, but "at no
time did Mr De Pontes act on my
instructions, nor anyone else you
mention."

"My policy towards people who
approach me in respect of arma-
ments or military equipment has
always been to refer them to the
appropriate section of Armscor I
do not follow this up. I have no
knowledge of what De Pontes al-
legedly told people, nor do I per-
sonally know the various people
you mention."

A spokesman for the Foreign
Minister says that Botha met Palazzolo
once, in East London, at a reception after a
public political meeting on April 29 1987.
Palazzolo was not involved in any of the
negotiations or discussions the Minister con-
ducted in regard to the release of Albertini.
Whether Palazzolo had a part in other dis-
cussions, the Minister does not know. The
French envoy was not Stroozas-Mougin,
who the Minister says he does not know, but
Ferdinand Marcel René Wibaux.  

RATES CRISIS

Switching control

The Soweto civic associations want the Jo-
hannesburg and Roodepoort municipalities
to take over the management of the huge
township — presently running at a monthly
deficit of R10m.

The Soweto, says spokesman Cas Coovadia,
are prepared to agree to an interim increase
in tariffs and to encourage those who are not
paying to begin doing so — if the Transvaal
Provincial Administration sets a time-frame
to phase out the unpopular black local au-
thorities.

Interestingly, the civic are negotiating
the issue independently of the Civic Asso-
ciations of Southern Transvaal (Cast). They
have consistently been more inclined than
Cast to negotiate a single municipal frame-
work for Soweto and Johannesburg.

Services in most PWV townships are in
danger of collapse because of unpaid bills.

Nine townships are without electricity. The
TPA is presently negotiating the payment of
services with 76 of 82 black local authorities
in the Transvaal. Boycotts of service charges
are still being experienced in about 50 local
authorities, according to Transvaal MEC
Olaus van Zyl.

The three Soweto town councils of Dob-
sorville, Diepmeadow and Greater Soweto
collectively owe Eskom R100m. In all, Es-
kom says, about 40 local authorities have
defaulted in payments for electricity since
September last year and now owe more than
R200m.

Says Eskom's Bongani Khumalo, "Eskom
is not empowered to write off accumulated
debt. Any solution to the issue of non-pay-
ment will have to include some provision for
the recovery of arrears."

Johannesburg management committee
chairman Ian Davidson tells the FM that the
city council had not yet been approached by
the civic with their proposal, and, therefore,
could not comment. However, his Roode-
poort counterpart Dave Treleven says the
issue would be discussed this week by the
management committee and representatives
of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Cham-
ber.

Coovadia says Johannesburg and Roode-
poort could take over the running of Soweto
in terms of the new Interim Measures for
Local Government Act. He says the civic
want the black local authorities to be dis-
solved and their staff to fall under Johannes-
burg and Roodepoort.

Something similar has begun in Alexan-
dra. Services to the township, in terms of a
new agreement, are now under the Central
Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.
Eskom will supply electricity directly to con-
sumers in Alexandra. However, the Alexan-
dra Town Council remains in existence.

Zebulon Tlhabe, deputy mayor of Diep-
meadow Town Council, said the three So-
woeto councils would be discussing the ser-
dices crisis this week. They are not keen on
Johannesburg and Roodepoort taking over
Soweto's services, but would prefer to follow
Alexandra's lead and fall under the Wits
RSC, according to Tlhabe.

Tlhabe blames the continued non-pay-
ment of electricity on the Soweto Civic Asso-
ciation. He dismisses residents' claims that
bills often reach them months late with erro-
nous consumption figures; the council uses
a private contractor to mail the bills. He
claims civic officials have removed elec-
tricity bills from private mail boxes and de-
stroyed them. The civic reject this allega-
tion.

The civic claims 360 000 "registered but
not necessarily paid up" members from
Soweto's estimated 2.5m population. Coovadi-
a says residents will not agree to final tariff
increases until social workers have deter-
mined how much residents can afford to pay.

This is ridiculous, and rational ways of
avoiding similar payment crises in future are
being examined. Eskom has installed more
than 40 000 "budget electricity controllers"
— meters with prepaid cards — "ranging
from informal houses to upmarket white sub-
urbs." The meters are similar to those used
for gas and electricity in Britain, but are only
installed in new dwellings.

Eskom expects the use of these meters to
account for 4% of domestic sales this year.

Uitenhage is an example of how this crea-
tive approach can work. Volkswagen, the
major employer in the small eastern Cape
town, was keen that kwaNobuhle, the main
township from which it draws employees,
should be electrified. The car company got
involved in negotiations with Eskom and a
utilities company called Kwanolec was
formed with a 51% shareholding by Eskom
and 49% from local employers. To avoid non-
payment disputes, Kwanolec opted for the
meter system.
CAST steps up efforts to isolate councillors

By Raizer Nyatsuma
Political Staff

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has decided to double its efforts to "eradicate" black local authorities and management committees.

CAST president Moses Masekiso and publicity secretary Sam Ntuli told a press conference yesterday that CAST's conference on local government and housing at the weekend had resolved to call on community members to intensify campaigns for the resignation of black councillors and management committee members.

The conference called for the isolation of town councillors "in all spheres of life."

Mr Ntuli said the conference came out strongly in support of negotiations on local government, land allocation, development, housing development, the supply of electricity and public transportation.

The conference recommended that white local authorities take over the supply of social services to adjacent townships and the administration of these townships until nonracial local governments had been formed.

CAST said white municipalities, which had a sound fiscal base and "efficient administrative capacities", should take the blame for the deterioration of services in adjacent townships.
TPA under fire for stance on squatters

A ROW has broken out between the Soweto City Council and the TPA over the resettlement of the 1 500 people in the troubled Mshenguville squatter camp.

At least six people died in the reputed Inkatha stronghold at the weekend, prompting Soweto mayor Oscar Maseko to declare it a "crisis area" and call for 24-hour police protection for its residents.

Soweto council PRO Mojaile Maseki yesterday accused the TPA of "not applying its mind" to the urgency of providing land for the resettlement of the residents of Mshenguville.

TPA spokesman Magda du Toit in turn called the accusation "utter rubbish" because, she said, the council had failed to stop more people from flocking to the area when the original residents were moved to Orange Farm in 1989.

There were no more stands available in serviced areas and the identification, acquisition and development of more land for squatters required money and time, Du Toit said.

Maseko said that since fighting had broken out in the area in July, the Soweto council has done all in its power to stop the violence. "On the other hand we have held several meetings with top TPA officials for more than a month to provide land, either at Doornkop or elsewhere, for the permanent resettlement of all Mshenguville families."

Maseki said all the council was getting from the TPA was promises.

Meanwhile, Inkatha secretary for the West Rand Humphrey Ndlovu dismissed allegations that Mshenguville was an Inkatha stronghold, saying the area was occupied by people of mixed political affiliation.

"We don't go about creating strongholds, but people themselves go out and seek Inkatha membership," he said.

Ndlovu denied allegations that his organisation was involved in the fighting at Mshenguville.

But he welcomed the council's moves to bring order to the camp and said his organisation had been holding talks with other groupings to resolve the issue.

Post mortem to determine
Scrap black local authorities - Cast

By IKE MOTSAPI and Sapa

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal have decided that black local authorities should be dissolved and a new national body formed to negotiate the new energy legislation.

Cast said this after their conference in Johannesburg at the weekend.

It said it would negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and white councillors for solutions to the crisis in local government.

Cast would also adopt a unified strategy for negotiations on the future of local authorities, rather than the ad hoc method currently employed by the various civic groups.

It was also decided to call for the scrapping of the National Energy Act, and the setting up of a national forum of civic groups to include other interested parties to formulate a new national energy policy.

Former Nigerian head is to visit South Africa

FORMER Nigerian head of State General Olusegun Obasanjo will almost certainly meet President De Klerk when he visits South Africa next week for talks with prominent politicians and business leaders.

Obasanjo, a member of the Commonwealth's Ennent Persons Group which toured South Africa in 1986, will lead a group of 16 Nigers on a two-day visit to the country at the invitation of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa).

The group, arriving on Tuesday next week, is to meet ANC president Nelson Mandela and arrangements are being made for meetings with President De Klerk, Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha, and representatives of political organisations such as Azapo, the PAC, the Inkatha Freedom Party as well as the South African Council of Churches.

Idasa executive director Dr Alex Boraine described Obasanjo as a key actor in the shift towards democracy in Africa.

He said the visit was particularly significant in terms of extending and strengthening South Africa's relations in Africa. - Sowetan Correspondent
Sun power helping to light the streets

*Published: Ken Oosterbroek

Life ring sun... a solar-powered streetlamp beam in

The invention of the light is one of the greatest single contributions to humanity. The ability to see in the dark has been a necessity since the earliest times. Ancient civilizations used fire to light their homes and streets, but the advent of electricity brought a new level of convenience and safety. Now, with the rise of solar technology, the possibility of using renewable energy to power streetlights has become a reality.

The solar-powered streetlamp is a revolutionary invention that uses the sun's energy to illuminate streets and sidewalks. The system consists of a solar panel that converts sunlight into electricity, which is then stored in batteries. When the sun's energy is not available, the batteries provide power to the streetlamp, ensuring that it remains lit throughout the night.

This innovation has many benefits. First, it reduces the reliance on fossil fuels, which are a major contributor to climate change. Second, it saves money for cities and towns by reducing their energy costs. Third, it improves safety by providing better lighting on dark streets and sidewalks.

The solar-powered streetlamp is a testament to the ingenuity of human beings. It shows that by using the power of the sun, we can create a more sustainable and safer world. As the technology continues to improve, we can expect to see even more solar-powered streetlamps lighting our streets and sidewalks.

By Louise Burgess

The Michigan Report
Nel in a bid to resolve Atteridgeville crisis

THE new Atteridgeville administrator, Mr Martiens Nel, met with the management committee of the Pretoria City Council to try and resolve the rent crisis in the township.

Nel and the deputy chairman of the management committee of the council, Mr Cor Uys, announced yesterday that a firm of consultants would assist the administrator to develop a new strategic management plan.

Nel took over as administrator of Atteridgeville on September 1 after the term of his predecessor, Dr Ernie Jacobson, expired at the end of July.

The rent crisis, which prompted the council to discontinue bulk electricity supplies to the township on July 22, is still continuing.

"The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint the new administrator with events to date and to discuss a possible new approach in order to resolve the ongoing refusal of the majority of Atteridgeville residents to pay their accounts, which resulted in the local council being unable to meet its financial responsibilities," the statement said.

The Pretoria council said it would only consider restoring power when the township had paid the account in full or came...
a rethink leads to violence in camp
A move towards unity

THE greater Benoni area yesterday moved closer to creating a nonracial local government with the signing of an agreement appointing the Benoni Town Council to provide electricity to Daveyton township.

The agreement was negotiated in the Greater Benoni Forum by the Daveyton and Benoni councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Daveyton Interim Committee and Eskom.

A similar arrangement for Wintervale was expected to be concluded soon.

According to a joint statement from the town clerks of Daveyton and Benoni, Mr DJ Erasmus and Mr DP Erasmus, the GBF's objective was to create a single nonracial local government for the greater Benoni area.

The agreement gave the Benoni council powers to administer an electricity supply network and to collect accounts for essential services for Daveyton residents.

The town clerks said all arrears and service charges incurred before November last year would be written off.

"'From that date until August 31 this year, people who are in arrears are liable to pay the amounts owed."

The agreement also provided for the transfer of rented houses to their tenants.

"'A method of transferring the rented houses is to be negotiated in the Greater Benoni Forum,'" the statement said.

"'Legal, social and financial aspects of the method of transferring those houses will also be considered.'"
Row over new council posts

TANIA LEVY

THE Johannesburg City Council has accused one of its unions of trying to discourage people from applying for 59 new senior posts it advertised last week.

In a 'cautionary statement' placed in two newspapers yesterday, the Johannesburg Municipal Employees' Association said that filling some of the proposed posts which were filled by JMEA members could lead to an unfair labour practice.

Management committee's acting-chairman Eddy Magid said in reaction that the council believed there was no unfair labour practice on its part and encouraged all interested parties to apply.

Town clerk Graham Collins said the council was not considering taking any legal action against the union at this stage.

Magid said in a statement that the city council was engaged in a reorganisation exercise which any progressive employer would take to meet the challenges facing local government now and in the next century.

He said the council had consulted all of its unions, including the JMEA, about the proposed posts and their grading.
Four held in Natal over arms

POLICE at the weekend arrested four men in the Table Mountain area of the Natal Midlands, seizing weapons and ammunition.

The men, all in their mid-20s, are alleged to have had in their possession two AK-47 rifles with 97 rounds of ammunition, a 303 rifle, a homemade shotgun and four other homemade firearms, ammunition of various calibres and a flare - Sapa

TPA’s no to wage increase demand

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has rejected the National Education and Health Workers Union’s demands for a wage increase.

TPA acting director-general Dr Piet Steyn issued a statement in reply to a memorandum by Nehawu last Friday demanding recognition of the union and a wage increase proportional to the inflation rate for all health workers.

Steyn said a partial salary increase was granted to health workers in April this year. He pointed out that the union formed part of a forum created by the Commission for Administration (CFA) which is currently negotiating the nature of future collective bargaining processes between the TPA and Nehawu.

Additional matters addressed in the statement include: A commitment by the TPA to consult the union over any proposed retrenchment of workers, the non-victimisation of Nehawu members for their membership and the continuation of discussions on the right to peaceful protests.
Local authorities face new threat

THE transfer of essential services to white municipalities is the latest weapon civic organisations are using against black local authorities.

Among resolutions adopted at the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal's first policy conference at the weekend, the civics decided white municipalities should take over the supply of essential services and administration of townships.

Civic bodies have been involved in running battles with councils and have been striving to render them ineffective.

It now appears that they have found the right strategy.

The Soweto Civic Association started the ball rolling when it proposed that the Soweto council should be relieved of its right to supply electricity to the estimated two million residents in the townships.

Hot in pursuit was the Daveyton Internal Committee, which held a public meeting to discuss the transfer of electricity from the local council to the Benoni council.

The Alexandra council has also been relieved of its right to supply electricity and, since July 1, power has been supplied directly by Eskom.

But all was not smooth sailing for the civic bodies. The Greater Soweto councils, composed of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto, were initially reluctant of transferring what they termed "their responsibility to the people of Soweto" to another organisation.

Diepmeadow council had a hosted meeting and chairman of their management committee, Mr Frederick Phiri, told councillors that the Greater Soweto councils "vowed not to relinquish responsibility to the people".

The councils, however, later agreed in principle that the Central Transvaal Regional Services Council should be entrusted with the responsibility of supplying power to the people.

The SCA maintained all along that the council was unable to administer electricity and therefore it should be transferred to the CWRSC.

In Alexandra the council did not even contest the transfer of power to the CWRSC. The mayor, Mr Prince Mokoena, accused Alexandra Civic Organisation of being unable to get people to pay their tariffs and service charges.

In response ACO's president, Mr Moses Mayekiso, said there were numerous issues which led to people not paying.

The council has been unable to send electricity bills to residents and the number of payment points was insufficient to cater for residents to pay their bills.

The battle also took a new turn when councils and civic bodies engaged in negotiations and signed accords which were effectively meant to end the rent boycott.

After months of intense negotiations, the Soweto Peoples Delegation and Soweto City Council signed an accord which called for, among other things, the payment of services, the transfer of rented houses to the residents and writing off of rent arrears.

Alexandra council and the ACO, led by Mayekiso, also signed an accord which effectively ended rent boycotts and called for the writing off of arrears and the transfer of rented houses.

The Alexandra Accord led to the formation of a joint negotiation forum, which is composed of the Randburg, Sandton, Alexandra councils and ACO.

For the East Rand, Benoni council will take over the administrative functions of supplying electricity and services to the two townships of Watville and Daveyton as from September 1.

According to a joint statement from the parties involved in reaching the decision, the account of a typical Daveyton resident, based on metered consumption of 466 kilowatt units and 15 kilolitres of water, including sewage and refuse removal, would be an estimated R97 a month.

The civics' umbrella body, Cast, during its conference on housing and local government, promised to intensify the campaign to oust councillors and management committee members of the Indian and Coloured townships.

Mr Sam Nuli, secretary-general of Cast, said the conference resolved to finally "eradicate" black local authorities and management committees.

"The civics and communities should generally intensify the campaign by isolating councillors in all spheres of life such as political activities including boycotts of their businesses and other suitable measures to pressure them to resign," Nuli said.

Nuli said the resolution does not give recognition to white municipalities but was adopted because the WLAs have access to resources, viable fiscal bases and efficient administrative capabilities that can provide services to the deprived black areas.

"White municipalities also have to take the blame for the deteriorating services in the black communities," he said.

However, Alexandra's mayor and national organiser for Ucasa, Mokoena, shot down Cast's vision of "eradicating" councils.

"When these people talk about pressuring councillors to resign, they actually mean petrol bombs. If they had control of their masses, there would not be councillors around.

"Civics should divert their energies into pressuring the people to pay for the services which are rendered to them. It is a pity that they put their trust in a white man to do the job."
Local authorities face new threat

The transfer of essential services to white municipalities is the latest weapon civic organisations are using against black local authorities.

Among resolutions adopted at the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal's first policy conference at the weekend, the civics decided white municipalities should take over the supply of essential services and administration of townships.

Civic bodies have been involved in running battles with councils and have been striving to render them ineffective.

It now appears that they have found the right strategy.

The Soweto Civic Association started the ball rolling when it proposed that the Soweto council should be relieved of its right to supply electricity to the estimated two million residents in the townships.

Hot in pursuit was the Daveyton Interim Committee, which held a public meeting to discuss the transfer of electricity from the local council to the Benoni council.

The Alexandra council has also been relieved of its right to supply electricity and, since July 1, power has been supplied directly by Eskom.

But all was not smooth sailing for the civic bodies. The Greater Soweto councils, composed of Diepkloof, Dobsonville and Soweto, were initially reluctant to transferring what they termed "their responsibility to the people of Soweto" to another organisation.

Diepsloot council had a heated meeting and chairman of their management committee, Mr. Frederick Phiri, told councillors that the Greater Soweto council "would not relinquish responsibility to the people".

The councils, however, later agreed in principle that the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council should be entrusted with the responsibility of supplying power to the townships.

The SCA maintained all along that the council was unable to administer electricity and therefore it should be transferred to the CWRSC.

In Alexandra, the council did not even contest the transfer of the CWRSC. The mayor, Mr. Prince Mokoena, accepted the Alexandra Civic Organisation of being unable to get people to pay their tariffs and service charges.

In response to ACO's president, Mr. Moses Mayekiso, said there were number of issues which led to people not paying.

The council has been unable to send electricity bills to residents and the number of payment points was insufficient to cater for residents to pay their bills.

The battle also took a new turn when councils and civic bodies engaged in negotiations and signed accords which were effectively meant to end the rent boycott.

After months of intense negotiations, the Soweto Peoples Delegation and Soweto City Council signed an accord which called for, among other things, the payment of services, the transfer of rental houses to the residents and writing off of rent arrears.

Alexandra council and the ACO led by Mayekiso also signed an accord which effectively ended rent boycotts and called for the cancellation of arrears and the transfer of rental houses.

The Alexandra Accord led to the formation of a joint negotiation forum, which is composed of the Randburg, Sandton, Alexandra councils and ACO.

For the East Rand, Benoni council will take over the administrative functions of supplying electricity and services to the two townships of Watville and Daveyton as from September 1.

According to a joint statement from the parties involved in reaching the decision, the account of a typical Daveyton resident, based on metered consumption of 666 kilowatt units and 15 kilolitres of water, including sewage and refuse removal, would be an estimated R97 a month.

The civics' umbrella body, Cast, during its conference on housing and local government, promised to intensify the campaign to oust councillors and management committee members of the Indian and Coloured townships.

Mr. Sam Ntsho, secretary-general of Cast, said the conference resolved to finally "eradicate" black local authorities and management committees.

"The civics and communities should generally intensify the campaign by isolating councillors in all spheres of life and political activities including boycott of their businesses and other suitable measures to pressure them to resign," Ntsho said.

Ntsho said the resolution does not give recognition to white municipalities but was adopted because the WLA has access to resources, able fiscal bases and efficient administrative capabilities that can provide services to the deprived black areas.

"White municipalities also have to take the blame for the deteriorating services in the black communities," Ntsho said.

However, Alexandra's mayor and national organiser for Ucasa, Mokoena, shot down Cast's vision of "eradicating" councils.

"When these people talk about pressuring councillors to resign they actually mean petrol bombs. If they had control of their masses, there would not be councillors around," Mokoena said.

"Civics should divert their energies into pressuring the people to pay for the services which are rendered to them. It is a pity that they put their trust in a white man to do the job."
The term "safeguard local autonomy" has been pushed around a lot in recent years, particularly in the context of local government reform. It is often cited as a key principle in debates about how to balance central and regional powers. However, the concept of "autonomy" can be interpreted in many different ways, and there is often debate about how it should be applied in practice.

Some argue that local autonomy is essential for democratic governance, allowing local communities to make decisions that are more relevant and responsive to their own needs. Others contend that too much autonomy can lead to inefficiency and a lack of coordination across different regions.

The challenge for political leaders is to find a balance that allows for meaningful local decision-making while also ensuring that policies are consistent and effective at a national level. This requires careful consideration of the specific needs and circumstances of each region, as well as a willingness to engage in constructive dialogue and compromise.

In recent years, there have been several high-profile cases where local autonomy has been at issue, including debates over education policy, healthcare provision, and environmental regulation. These debates have often been characterized by strong emotions, with proponents of local autonomy arguing that they are preserving the integrity of their communities, while critics suggest that they are prioritizing short-term interests over long-term sustainability.

Ultimately, the question of local autonomy is complex and multifaceted, and requires careful consideration of a wide range of factors. It is a topic that will likely continue to be debated for years to come, as policymakers seek to find the right balance between central and local authority.
Soweto accord on brink of collapse

THE Greater Soweto Accord seemed on the verge of collapse yesterday as the TPA and the three Soweto councils said they might be forced to go it alone in trying to resolve the area's financial crisis.

The announcement by Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations Olaus van Zyl came on the eve of a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting today.

An agreement between the Johannesburg City Council and the cash-strapped councils could be announced at the meeting, sources said yesterday.

The Soweto Accord, signed last September by the TPA, the city councils of Diepsloot, Dobsonville and Soweto, and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), ended a five-year fest boycott and wrote off R16m arrears.

It provided for the payment of an interim monthly tariff of R3 for basic services and a metered tariff for electricity.

The accord stated that none of the five principal parties could act unilaterally but since then the townships have fallen into arrears yet again, and the TPA and the three councils seek to increase the tariffs while the SPD demands that the running of services should be handed over to the Central Witwatersrand HSC or the city councils of Roodepoort and Johannesburg.

The SPD has complained that the councils have failed to run the services efficiently and have failed to meet provisions of the accord. It has also maintained that the four other signatories could not reach agreement without its input.

The councils are reported to owe Eskom more than R120m and a recent meeting of the Metropolitan Chamber was told that the townships faced a collapse of essential services unless money was found urgently.

Van Zyl said in a statement yesterday that the financial situation was serious, and that the SPD kept on "moving the goalposts." It had been agreed at the signing of the accord, he said, that service charges should be increased to ensure the continuation of services to residents, the three Soweto councils have no other choice than to continue their urgent examination of the possibility of increasing the interim service charges and to consider the implementation of higher tariffs once the inquiry is completed — preferably with the co-operation of all parties, but if this is not possible, on their own," Van Zyl said.

Meanwhile, a Johannesburg City Council source said yesterday that an announcement would be made at today's Metro Chamber meeting regarding an agreement on financing between Johannesburg and the Soweto councils.
# Emergency services to be privatised

**THE BENONI TOWN COUNCIL last night voted to privatise its fire and ambulance service.**

The council believes it will be Africa's first emergency service to be privatised.

Management committee chairman Dame Taljaard said the privatisation would save the council and its ratepayers about R10 million in the next five years.

The decision had not been taken lightly and the privatisation committee had deliberated for almost six months, he said.

Benoni's Fire Chief Stephen Barber said the council would contract out its fire and ambulance service to a private company, which would be bound to maintain the standard of service at no extra charge to users.

Fire and ambulance staff would be kept on by the company, which would lease Benoni's fire station from the council.

Town clerk Denys Conedie said the agreement also marked the first time a local authority would own shares in a private company.

Shares would be split between the council, First National Bank, the Fire and Emergency Services Holding Company and the company's employees.

---

## Judge orders boxer not to harass family

**INTERDICT proceedings launched against former boxing champion Gerrie Coetzee after he allegedly threatened to have the wife of a Randburg boat dealer raped by a hit squad, were settled in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.**

An order interdicting Coetzee from assaulting, harassing or threatening Ronnie Arenson and his family was granted yesterday by Mr Justice Pleumon by agreement of both parties.

Arenson in turn agreed his company, Waterworld, would return a boat Coetzee had lodged as part deposit on a boat he had ordered from the company.

The boat will be returned when Coetzee has paid R4 600 for costs incurred during the transaction.

The Randburg boat dealer initially obtained an interim interdict against Coetzee two weeks ago after the former world heavyweight boxing champion allegedly threatened him and his wife.

Coetzee had until yesterday to show cause why the interim interdict should not be finalised.

---

## Official 'people's court' opens today

SA's first official "people's court", to be called a community dispute resolution centre, will open its doors in Alexandra township today.

A Community Dispute Resolution Committee, official said the opening would, however, be low key.

"A formal launch will take place within a few weeks after we have found our feet," she said.

The centre, in Wynberg near Alexandra, will deal with minor community disputes and will be the first of its kind in SA. The committee has said it would be the forerunner of similar centres in other townships.

The committee, formed by the Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, has trained 12 people who will mediate in disputes.

Alexandra Civic Organisation president Moses Mayekiso has said the negative reaction of Alexandra people to the "white" judiciary, as well as rising crime, had prompted his organisation to work towards establishing community-oriented courts.

The Justice Department has said the establishment of the dispute resolution centre has much in common with its desire to make the administration of justice accessible to all.

---

## Bail granted

**In an affidavit, Arenson said Coetzee had threatened to "sort him out" and have his wife raped by a hit squad. He then reported the threats to police.**

Arenson said he, his wife, two-year-old son and two-month-old daughter then left their home under police escort to live elsewhere.

Security guards were hired to protect his home and business premises.

He said he and Coetzee had negotiated a deal for the purchase of a new boat which was to have been imported from the US.

Coetzee gave the company two boats as a trade-in, one of which Waterworld valued at R25 000, Arenson said.

He added that it was a term of their contract that the deposit on the new boat would be forfeited if the deal fell through at the instance of the purchaser.

Arenson said the deal fell through after his company had incurred expenses of R7 500 and Waterworld had kept the R25 000 vessel.

---

**In an affidavit, Arenson said Coetzee had threatened to "sort him out" and have his wife raped by a hit squad. He then reported the threats to police.**
Rent accord in balance

JOHANNESBURG — The Greater Soweto Accord seemed on the verge of collapse yesterday as the TPA and the three Soweto councils said they might be forced to go it alone in trying to resolve the area's financial crisis.

The announcement by Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations Mr Olaus van Zyl came on the eve of a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting today.

The Soweto Accord, signed last September by the TPA, the city councils of Diepkloof, Dobsonville and Soweto, and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off R516m arrears.

It provided for the payment of an interim monthly tariff of R23 for basic services and metered electricity.

The councils are reported to owe Eskom more than R120m and a recent meeting of the Metropolitan Chamber was told that the townships faced a collapse of essential services unless money was found urgently.

Mr Van Zyl said in a statement yesterday that the financial situation was serious, and that the SPD kept on "moving the goalposts". He had been agreed at the signing of the accord that service charges should be increased.
THE task of slating the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is enviable. It holds together a frustrated and controversial body, once hailed as the possible solution to the problems of urban government, but now with more problems than it can handle.
The chamber was welcomed at its birth in April this year as the place where former enemies would constructively debate a future non-racial local government system.

The brave initiative also demonstrated the participants' commitment to solving the problems in the bankrupt townships and an attempt to improve services and quality of life.

Dr Slabbert conceded this week, however, that the chamber was experiencing "teething problems." But there has been expected, he said, and there were no quick solutions. He had never thought it would be easy, he added.

His statement came as no surprise to Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal chairman Moses Mayekiso, whose organization has spoken out strongly against participation in the chamber.

However, six of Cast's affiliated have joined the chamber, despite condemnation by Cast's executive.

There has been dissension within the Cast membership on the role of the Metropolitan Chamber and its viability — indicating that there is no united view within Cast on local government solutions.

But, as far as Dr Mayekiso is concerned, the chamber has not worked, it might never work — and it might as well be dissolved.

However, Dr Slabbert said he was not going to quit and run. There were plans afoot to deal with the problems, he said.

First, the chamber had generated expectations that it was capable of improving the quality of life for the people of greater Soweto, said Dr Slabbert.

It would also negotiate a new local government system which would be ratified by chamber members.

But the chamber was under enormous pressure to deliver the goods. By not doing so, frustrations were being created, said Dr Slabbert.

Serving people's needs had become a growing crisis, he said. Over two million people in Soweto were in danger of having their electricity cut.

Services were still not being paid for — despite an agreement between the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the councils of greater Soweto and civic bodies that residents should suspend their rent and services boycotts.

**Tariffs**

Mr Mayekiso contended that residents were unwilling to pay the tariffs if services were not delivered by black local authorities which should reorganize.

Dr Slabbert said a Catch 22 situation had arisen. People were only prepared to pay higher tariffs if services improved, but these could only improve if higher tariffs were paid.

The chamber was working on devising interim structures acceptable to all participants that would provide better services, he said.

Besides being as yet unable to alleviate the service and financial crisis of the greater Soweto townships, the long-term aim of the council to negotiate a non-racial local government was not in sight.

At last month's chamber meeting, the Soweto People's Delegation demanded that the councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow, which have joined the chamber, dissolve.

This suggests that the historic anachronism between the councils and the chambers have not been resolved through the chamber's formation and that the councils still view the councils as obstacles to elevating the service crisis.

Dr Slabbert said he never thought that the mere existence of a chamber would resolve historic anachronisms. But the chamber had succeeded in setting up working groups to tackle the problems in the townships and parties were engaging in debate on practical issues, he said.

Mr Mayekiso holds a "told you so" attitude to a problem of which he is glad to have stayed clear.

**Flawed**

He believed the chamber could never work because participating bodies were rushed into joining the chamber without the necessary research being carried out. They had little idea of what it was all about.

Dr Slabbert conceded this point. There had been no time for people to understand things perfectly. It was part of the exercise of negotiation to establish transitional structures, he said.

The chamber was a flawed instrument, but it was the only one available, he said.

Mr Mayekiso said the chamber had failed because its members represented racially defined constituencies which were antagonistic to each other.

He maintained this problem could not be solved if councils and civic organizations in sub-regions such as Alexandra, Sandton, Randberg and Modderfontein reached an agreement and formed a non-racial interim structure to administer the region.

However, an immediate solution would be for white local authorities to take over the administration of services in the townships, he said.

Dr Slabbert said he had to work with the existing structures. There was no legal mechanism available for the dissolution of racially based authorities.

He pointed out that Fransman FW de Klerk was not going to dissolve racial structures before negotiations. The important thing was the commitment to pursuing future non-racial structures, though negotiations.

But Cast will not be part of this problem — and will only participate if certain conditions are met.

**Quarrel**

Mr Mayekiso wants a national conference of civic, political parties, trade unions, and the government to draw up basic principles and guidelines for a new system of local government.

Dr Slabbert said there was no quarrel with holding a conference, but for the moment, the daily crises of dealing with bankrupt black local authorities still existed.

Anyone who thought negotiations at a national level would immediately resolve the problems at local level was mistaken, he said.
Land sought for council housing

THE Johannesburg City Council is looking for land to house thousands of low-income people queuing up to register for council-owned houses.

The council's executive director for health and housing, Dr Nicky Padayachee, said yesterday the municipality was looking to the Independent Development Trust (IDT), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), government and even the World Bank to fund the low-income housing scheme.

Thousands of blacks seeking to apply for council-owned houses in Johannesburg are queuing daily outside the council's housing division offices. Padayachee said that since last week numbers had grown from 300 a day to 2,700 a day.

The total number of applicants up to yesterday was about 10,000.

"The scheme is open to people who earn less than R1,200. Council houses are for disadvantaged people, people who cannot afford to buy houses." Previously houses were allocated on the basis of race, but now they are given on the basis of need," Padayachee said.

The council had written to government and the own affairs housing departments informing them of the scheme and asking whether it was allowed to accept applications from all population groups for council-assisted housing. He said a reply was expected soon.

"At the moment we are looking at all available land for low-cost houses. We feel that poor people should be housed as near as possible to the inner Johannesburg area, and not placed 80km away where they have to spend a lot of money on transport."

"Local authorities have no tax base, so we will apply pressure on the IDT, the DBSA and the central government to finance the scheme." We will go as far as the World Bank to get those funds," he said.

The council has a housing stock of about 30,000 units. These are in white, coloured and Indian areas. Only these race groups qualified for housing until the council's decision to open its accommodation to all races.

At present there are no empty houses. Blacks would be able to occupy council housing as current occupants bought their own homes and moved out, Padayachee said.

He said the council was consulting with experts on how to draw up the fairest possible waiting list.
Benoni council to privatise services

THE Benoni City Council is to privatise its fire and ambulance services.

In terms of the decision taken at a meeting on Tuesday night, Benoni will become the first council in Africa to privatise these services.

The council said privatisation would result in a saving of R15 million to the council and ratepayers over the next five years.

Management committee chairman Mr. Dane Taljaard said the decision had not been taken lightly.

The city's committee on privatisation sat for almost 15 months to ensure the services remained the same for Benoni residents and that it would be profitable for the city.

"Both requirements have been met and I am pleased that Benoni has once again shown itself to be an innovative, creative city," said Taljaard.

The current fire chief and driving force behind the campaign, Mr. Stephen Barber, said it would be "business as usual" for residents.

Shareholding in the private company will be split between the Benoni City Council, employees of the private company, First National Bank and the Fire and Emergency Services Holding Company.

- Sapa
New body mooted to run Soweto, Reef

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

An historic plan by Johannesburg to establish an interim metropolitan government — to take over essential services for the central Witwatersrand region and to run Soweto — was welcomed by other councils, civic leaders and the Transvaal Provincial Administration last night.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson proposed that the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber and the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council be combined to streamline political decision-making with a restructuring of metropolitan authority and local authorities.

He proposed that the new body contract the white council to take over the administration of Greater Soweto and the provision of water, electricity and sewerage to the entire region.

"The first element of our proposal entails marrying the legislative powers and financial muscle of the RSC with the participative legitimacy of the chamber," Mr Davidson said, addressing the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber last night.

A new form of interim local government could be in place within six months.

Although some reservations were expressed by members, the proposal was referred to the chamber's constitutional committee for urgent debate.

The chamber was formed to negotiate the establishment of nonracial, democratic metropolitan and local government structures.

Mr Davidson said the proposal had been presented to Government Ministers, including Minister of Constitutional Development Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

Cyril Ramaphosa, ANC secretary-general and spokesman for the civic associations, described last night's events as "most historic" and asked for speed in creating an interim body.

Olaus van Zyl, Transvaal MEC for institutional development and negotiations, said "We (the TPF) believe that we need to get the ability of Johannesburg involved in Greater Soweto as soon as possible."

Mr Davidson said "The situation on the ground demands that we take a drastic step. Our region is vital to the economy of our country and we cannot allow, nor afford, the collapse of local government and the services it provides."

"I must make it clear that such an effort by the developed local authorities must not be seen as a bailing-out of the black local authorities, or as stepping into the breach in respect of service charges."

"We cannot accept or allow the perpetuation of non-payment for services rendered."

Mr Ramaphosa agreed with Mr Davidson that a holistic approach was needed to resolve the problems in the townships.

"We would like to say, from the civics' side, that we welcome this intervention from Johannesburg."
Heated words as township tariff increases debated

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Soweto councils and the province took a step back from unilaterally imposing higher service tariffs last night when they agreed in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber to try to link tariff increases to a programme of restructuring local government.

The agreement to tie structural change and tariff payments came in the wake of the Johannesburg management committee's tabling of proposals for the complete overhaul of town and township local government.

The chamber endorsed a proposal by Soweto Cynic Association spokesman Cyril Ramaphosa that its constitutional working group should immediately work out a programme of action, which would outline the steps to be taken both on the restructuring and the tariff recovery front.

The aim, Mr Ramaphosa said, was to ensure the two processes continued in close parallel.

Time limits

After heated debate, TPA representative Oluse van Zyl conceded that the authorities would make "one last but try to resolve this (tariff) issue" in conjunction with other parties to the chamber.

He agreed to Mr Ramaphosa's proposal but imposed tight time limits. The programme of action would have to be drawn up within the course of next week, he insisted.

Furthermore, this programme had to provide for talks on tariffs to be resumed within the same week.

Otherwise, said Mr van Zyl, "we have no other choice but to consider other steps."

Various Soweto councillors made it clear that these steps would include "going it alone" in raising tariffs. Said Diepmeadow management chairman Frederick Phiri: "We'll be better off than we are now with all these negotiations that have taken so long."

Present tariffs were set a year ago during the negotiation of the Soweto Accord. Even with full payment they could not realise more than 20 per cent of Soweto's costs. At present only about half the residents pay...
Long wait for a cheap home

By Zingisa Mkhuma

Most low-income black people who form long queues outside the Johannesburg City Council offices daily, hoping to rent council-owned houses, are married with families but have never owned houses before.

Since vacant Johannesburg council houses were made available to all racial groups, three weeks ago, the council has processed more than 10,000 applications a day, officials have reported.

People start lining up as early as 3 am. Some spend the night there, even though council offices only open at 9 am.

To qualify for council housing, people have to earn less than R1200 a month.

The council has 30,000 housing units available in white, coloured and Indian areas but none are vacant.

Yesterday it was reported that the council was looking for land to house thousands of low-income people who had registered.

Eunice Nkwane (28) shares a shack in Meadowlands with her husband and child.

"I hope my husband and I will be allocated a house as I am sick of staying in someone else's backyard," she said.

Unemployed Vugu Mlambo (31) said, "I have been on the Soweto Council's waiting list since 1986 and I know there are thousands on that list. At least here the list could be shorter and I hope to get a house soon."

When The Star visited the area, many people were not aware there were no houses available at present.

Xohiswa Masekupa, a divorced mother of two, said she was among the first to arrive at the council offices.

She joined the queue at 3 am and waited six hours before obtaining a form which she had to fill in and bring back.

"For Soweto mother of six, Esther Ngcobo, the day spent queuing was worth the day's wages she may lose."

"I hope my husband and I will be allocated a house as I am sick of staying in someone else's backyard," she said.

Unemployed Vugu Mlambo (31) said, "I have been on the Soweto Council's waiting list since 1986 and I know there are thousands on that list. At least here the list could be shorter and I hope to get a house soon."

When The Star visited the area, many people were not aware there were no houses available at present.

Xohiswa Masekupa, a divorced mother of two, said she was among the first to arrive at the council offices.

She joined the queue at 3 am and waited six hours before obtaining a form which she had to fill in and bring back.

"For Soweto mother of six, Esther Ngcobo, the day spent queuing was worth the day's wages she may lose."

"I hope my husband and I will be allocated a house as I am sick of staying in someone else's backyard," she said.
New body for Rand?

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: The Johannesburg City Council last night proposed the creation of an interim metropolitan authority for the Central Witwatersrand area combining the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber and the Central Wits Regional Services Council.

Introducing the plan to the Chamber last night, Johannesburg management committee chairman Mr Ian Davidson said that through this structure, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort would get involved in the provision and administration of services in Greater Soweto and Alexandra.
Commission divided over Wage Act for domestics

THE National Manpower Commission is divided on whether to recommend inclusion of domestic workers under the Wage Act.

Recommendations to extend labour legislation to domestic workers are contained in a 19-page report to be published in the Government Gazette today. The report has been handed to Manpower Minister Elton Louw for consideration.

Main recommendations are that domestic workers be covered immediately by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act and the Labour Relations Act. The Workmen’s Compensation Act and the Unemployment Insurance Act should also be extended to domestic workers.

Although it was recommended that domestic workers be included under the main labour laws, specific amendments had to be made to provide for the special circumstances.

Members who felt that domestic workers should not be included under the Wage Act - which determines minimum wages for employees not covered by negotiated wage agreements - recommended instead that there should be wage guidelines.

These should be non-binding and drafted by the Wage Board or similar institutions. Wages could be recommended according to area, worker competence and training and employers' financial ability.

Members who recommended that domestics should be included under the Wage Act, said that the Wage Board was a forum for debate, argument and the presentation of evidence on whether there should be minimum conditions of employment, including a minimum wage.

Inclusion under the Wage Act would allow the Wage Board to investigate wages and other conditions of employment in the domestic sector.

The board would take account of relevant factors and could recommend minimum wages for different areas. Manpower Minister Elton Louw would, however, retain a discretion as to whether to give effect to the recommendations by making a determination.

The commission was also split on a contract of employment for domestic workers. One group supported the view that provision should be made in the Basic Conditions of Employment Act that no domestic workers may be employed for longer than three months without a written contract. The contract should be signed by both parties, be available for inspection, and both employer and domestic worker should have a copy.

Other commission members felt that no statutory compulsion should exist.

It was recommended that domestic workers be entitled to 12 weeks maternity leave, as provided by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

The commission decided to investigate whether female employees in all sectors should be guaranteed their jobs back after pregnancy.

AIDS drive to get R5m

DAME LUCY

NATIONAL Health and Welfare Minister Nita Veiter announced yesterday the allocation of R5m to a six-month AIDS communication campaign and a further R1.5m to a children's lifestyle training programme.

The allocation of more resources was “essential” because over 500 people a day were becoming HIV-infected.

AIDS Unit head Dr Manda Holmshaw said the campaign would feature an African approach.

‘Explosive’ township crisis warning

PRETORIA — An explosive financial crisis was developing in black townships despite spending by regional services councils, Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman John Griffiths said yesterday.

Griffiths told a public administration conference at the Human Sciences Research Council the growing crisis could lead to a total breakdown of services and could contribute to problems with health services.

He warned that SA could enter an era of potentially uncontrollable inflation, a “squeezed” balance of payments and an even more bloated public sector if the authorities went for quick-fix solutions to buy a political goodwill.

Griffiths said accelerated urbanisation had placed extreme pressure on infrastructure and services. Part of the interim solutions required the involvement of white local authorities in providing administration and technical assistance for joint provision of services.

Joint administrations would be even better, he said.

In the PWV area, 40 000 to 50 000 hectares would be needed for housing by the year 2000. About half of this would be needed to meet the current backlog.

It was accepted SA had to provide housing for more than 200 000 families a year between now and the end of the century.

Griffiths said identification of land was being hampered by statutory and inflexible policy and planning documents.

He said the plethora of bodies involved in urbanisation should be rationalised into one department.
Eskom sues Soweto council

JOHANNESBURG — Eskom has started proceedings to sue Soweto City Council, which owes the electricity producer R131 million.

The council, which buys from Eskom and in turn supplies the councils of Diepmeadow and Dobsonville, is in the grip of a financial crisis and faces a collapse of essential services.
Soweto faces summons over debt

ESKOM has started proceedings to sue the Soweto City Council, which owes the utility a R14m debt. The council, which buys bulk electricity from ESKOM and in turn supplies the other Greater Soweto councils of Diepmeadow and Dobsonville, is in the grip of a financial crisis and faces a collapse of essential services.

Soweto’s City Council yesterday said that it had been summonsed by ESKOM and stood to lose its R14m electrical equipment attached if judgment against it was obtained.

ESKOM distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said that ESKOM had been served on the council and had failed to pay the debt.

He said: “We are hoping for a friendly resolution of the problem. We could find a solution in the form of an agreement on an agency basis or an arrangement through the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.”

The three councils, with the TFA and the Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD), are principals in the Greater Soweto Accord which ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off its R51m debt last September.

Since then the councils have fallen into arrears as residents failed to pay for services, and the financial crisis that ensued is still a subject of debate at various forums, including the metropolitan chamber.

The councils and the TFA want interim tariffs increased, while the SPD demands that, since the supply of services was poor and the billing and metering faulty, the provision of supply should be transferred to the Central Wits RSC or to the municipalities of Johannesburg or Roodepoort.

At a chamber meeting on Wednesday, the Johannesburg City Council proposed establishing an interim metropolitan authority, which would see to the provision and administration of services on a regional level. The proposal was referred to the chamber’s constitutional working group for urgent discussion.

Deepmeadow town clerk Jan de Jager said the three councils had on Wednesday signed an agreement transferring the running of the area’s electricity supply to the RSC. But he said even that transfer would not remove the need for higher tariffs.

Dobsonville mayor McFarlane Phenethi said residents of his township were paying for services and did not want anything to do with calls for rent boycotts.

“Just when their electricity gets cut off, they blame my council, even when it could be from a fault in the source of supply, Soweto,” he said.

Soweto City Council PRO Mojaleta Mosetsi could not be reached for comment yesterday.
Shape up, TPA tells Tembisa

The TPA has warned Tembisa City Council to put its finances and administration in order or be relieved of its functions.

Transvaal MEC for local government, Burger Lategna, said in a statement yesterday that the Administrator had found the council’s finances had “become unsound”.

The Administrator has decided to direct the Tembisa City Council to take the necessary steps to remedy the situation within specified periods.

“If the council fails to take the necessary steps to restore the position within these periods, the Administrator may take further action,” Lategna said.

Lategna said the council had not yet submitted estimates for the 1991/92 financial year, although these should have been in by May 18.
New residential dawn will turn...

**Jo’burg into a ‘people city’**

**FRANK JEANS**

AS the city council moves ahead with its grand plan for the revitalisation of Johannesburg, it is now taking a serious look at the main ingredient which will make it all work — people.

The Eloff, De Villiers and Frederick streets enclave is pinpointed as the scene of a new residential dawn for Johannesburg — the beginning of a massive population build-up to serve the capital-intensive commercial and retail expansion.

‘Unprecedented’

In a recent interview, Councillor Eddy Magid, chairman of the City Council’s Planning and Development Committee and deputy chairman of the Management Committee, said:

"The whole act is coming together and to see the development work now in progress in Johannesburg, one can only conclude that the CBD has not seen any evidence of a recession. The ongoing programme of development is unprecedented."

Emphasising the need to see the residential component as vital to the success of the overall plan, Mr Magid pointed out the council is considering the establishment of blocks of flats soon which will be the "forerunners to similar undertakings in the city".

He also pledges the council to avoiding bureaucratic bogdown so as to get action now for the development of homes. And in line with this attitude has been the streamlining of the council’s Planning Department, where plans are now being approved on average in 10.5 working days.

Incentives, too, for the property owner and developer must inevita-

ble follow and the entrepreneur "looking for specific advantages from the council" to get residential projects on to site should contact Ian Symon, executive director of Planning and Development.

"The major commercial developments such as Bank City and Turbex Square will create thousands of new job opportunities downtown so that the town has never been better for new residential development close to the workplace," he added.

Bank City alone will be home to an office army of 5,000 and this number will swell to an estimated 10,000 with the coming on stream of other prime property assembles, Turbex Square and Sage Properties’ retail and office venture which straddles Eloff Street and between De Villiers and Pritchard Streets.

**Perimeters**

The latter goes through council this month and construction is due to begin soon.

Adding to the new look will be the re-emphasis on pedestrianisation, with Kerk and Eloff, Plen and Small streets all coming into car-free areas and buses re-routed around perimeters of the city.

There will be the pedestrian link, too, with the newly-planned Kassie bus and taxi terminus which, along with its commercial component, will cost R650 million.

The billion rand spread will involve, for the first time, what has long been mooted by property enthusiasts — the "air link" with Braamfontein.

Consistent with the council’s policy to deck the rail lines from Queen Elizabeth Bridge to End Street, the council has agreed in principle to the R600 million conference and trade centre to be put together by Rail Communicator Services, Transnet and the Harrison Street Consortium.

**LIDCHI’S 2 DAY PERSIAN CARPET SALE**
Doornkop sites still selling

SITES at Doornkop, the Transvaal Provincial Administration's controversial site-and-services scheme near Dobsonville, are still being sold by Johannesburg developers.

This is despite an ongoing investigation by the TPA into the alleged improper allocation of sites by private developers.

City Press investigations have also revealed that hundreds of Doornkop sites have been allocated through private developers and large companies for staff housing.

The TPA made Doornkop sites available at R5 100 on a 30-year lease for homeless, low-income people. Sites were supposed to be allocated only to families earning less than R600 a month and who had their names on council housing waiting lists in greater Soweto.

This week, at least two private developers were still selling houses and

The developers ignore the TPA regulations and market the houses, despite being told not to by the TPA.

City Press reporters, posing as employers looking for low-cost staff housing, were this week offered building contracts, including sites, by Genesis Homes and Micro Homes.

According to TPA records, all Doornkop sites have been allocated and no further sites are available. About 2 000 sites have not been occupied.

The TPA is currently conducting an investigation into the allocation of all empty sites at Doornkop. The investigation has already taken about two months and is likely to take several more.

Each stakeholder has to be contacted either by telephone, letter or personal visit and asked the reasons why he or she has not yet occupied the Doornkop site they have been allocated.

The TPA will decide next week what to do with unoccupied sites, or sites which were allocated to people who did not meet its criteria.

Meanwhile, the TPA has made an urgent appeal to anyone who has been allocated a site but who has not yet occupied it to contact the Doornkop administration office.
Helping hand offered for money crisis

Lousie Bickers and Anne Cottington deal with the financial crisis

The Johannesburg City Council has put forward a plan to assist residents who are financially strained by the current economic crisis. The scheme, known as "Helping Hand," will provide financial aid to those who qualify based on their financial situation. Applicants will need to submit documentation proving their financial need, and the Council will assess each case individually.

The program aims to provide immediate relief to those facing financial difficulties, ensuring they can cover their basic necessities. The Council encourages all residents who believe they qualify to contact their local council office for more information.

"Helping Hand" is part of the broader efforts to support the community during this challenging time. The Johannesburg City Council remains committed to ensuring the well-being of its residents and is dedicated to providing support where it is needed most.
Eskom sues 20 black councils over arrears

By Louise Burgers

Eskom has obtained judgments against 20 black local authorities for the R235 million it is owed for electricity in the Transvaal and OFS, but will not ask the councils to pay up while negotiations are in progress.

On Thursday, Eskom began proceedings to sue Soweto City Council for the R131 million it owes in electricity arrears.

For several months, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the TPA have warned that the Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville town councils were on the verge of financial collapse as funds were exhausted because people were not paying.

Eskom PWV distributor manager John Bradbury said people had to realise Eskom was in a difficult position.

"We have an obligation to our stakeholders, as a creditor, to secure our position. We have issued summonses and will get a judgment against the Soweto Council."

The CWRSC said the summons against the Soweto council would not affect its bid to take over bulk supply of electricity to Greater Soweto.
Plan to resolve township crises

THE quest to resolve the crisis in black local authorities, particularly in Reef townships, has been boosted by proposals submitted by the Johannesburg City Council.

Presenting the proposals, Davidson said the Metropolitan Chamber was formed to realise certain specific objectives through negotiations and that those objectives were set out in the constitution of the chamber.

"We cannot allow structural change towards a new metropolitan and local government system for the region to proceed in a haphazard way or for a fragmented fashion," Davidson said.

Outlining the principles to govern the new structure, he said any interim step towards a final dispensation should contribute towards:

- Stabilising the transitional process;
- Improving delivery of services;
- Rationalising and streamlining of political decision-making in the region, and
- Restructuring decision-making into a two-tier structure comprising a metropolitan authority and local authorities.

"It must be a balanced package and we must be prepared to accept the constitutional implications involved," Davidson said.

He believed that negotiations about any interim proposal had to address elements such as:

- The subject of the transfer of houses;
- Negotiations with the Government on money owed to governmental institutions;
- Direct financial assistance by the TPA and the Government to the region;
- The contributions of Eskom and the Rand Water Board, and
- The contributions of the region through possibly an increase in Regional Services Council levies.

The proposals submitted by Davidson have three main elements:

1. The introduction of a Metropolitan Borough Council in Soweto and Alexandra;
2. The establishment of a Regional Services Council (RSC) with the function of the RSC being to advise the Metropolitan Borough Council on matters of importance to the region;
3. The removal of the Rabochie Volksraad (RVR) and the creation of a new provincial council for the region.

The proposals were submitted to the Johannesburg City Council and the Regional Services Council for consideration.
Rumours spark a rush for council housing

THEO RAWANA

IN THE past two weeks about 30,000 people have applied for accommodation in houses owned by the Johannesburg City Council.

Many of the thousands of blacks queuing daily at the housing division mistakenly believe they will get the low-income housing at the expense of coloureds and Indians.

People interviewed in the queues said they had been told by "people who know" that coloureds and Indians in such areas as Noordgezicht, Newclare and Rosettenville would be evicted to make room for blacks.

However, the council's health and housing committee chairman Marretta Marx rejected the claims as malicious rumours meant to "unsettle" the council's low-cost housing drive.

The queues started after the council decided to consolidate its three, racially-based, housing waiting lists into one.

The council's health and housing executive director Nicky Padayachee said last week the scheme was open to people of all races who earned less than R1,200 a month.

He said the council had 30,000 units in white, coloured and Indian areas for low-income people, but there were no empty homes at present. Applicants would be able to move in only as previous occupants moved out.

But many of the applicants were under the impression space would be made available for them through evictions.

Joyce Ndlovu, a nurse at Soweto's Lesedi Clinic, said: "I heard it from people who were told by their union that we would be moved into houses from which coloureds and Indians had been kicked out."

"People are told all sorts of things and the wrong impression is always created," she said.
Talks on services deadlocked

By ISAAC MOLEDI

A MEETING which was to resolve electricity problems in Spruitview ended in a deadlock last Friday and was postponed to October 14.

Both the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Katlehong town council rejected a R100 flat services rate suggested by the Spruitview Ratepayers Association.

Senior TPA official Mr Olaus van Zyl recommended the SRA study the implications of the proposed rate on Spruitview’s financial situation in light of a report submitted to the meeting by Katlehong town council.

The report indicated that more than R1 million had been spent on providing services.

Van Zyl said for about 1370 households in Spruitview, the flat rate would not be enough.

He suggested that the SRA and Katlehong town council appoint one accountant each who would work with the city treasurer and Auditor-General to check irregularities in the community’s accounts.

If irregularities were found, a secret commission of inquiry would be set up to investigate.

However, SRA chairman Mr Jabu Njonane cautioned that, until the problems of irregularities and misappropriation of money by Katlehong town council were solved, Spruitview residents would continue paying R100.

He said his association would exempt residents from any liability which might arise from arrears as a result of the flat rate.
Many councils sitting helpless

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Many local authorities are sitting without official guidelines on exactly how to implement VAT — and some smaller municipalities do not have the resources to deal with the new tax.

Johannesburg deputy city treasurer Lucas Opperman said there was still confusion among local authorities on how to implement VAT.

"There is a fair measure of confusion, especially in smaller places. It has been a major nightmare changing our computer programmes."

"Some smaller councils will not be able to handle it."

Approved

Mr Opperman, who also chairs the Institute of Municipal Treasurers' VAT Committee, said official guidelines for local authorities on VAT still had to be approved by the Department of Finance.

He said that some local authorities did not have the resources to change everything over to deal with VAT, and had been told that they would have to do their accounts manually.

Last-minute meetings between municipal authorities are still taking place this week.

Mr Opperman could not say how many thousands of rands have had to be spent to change computer billing systems, accounting and stores systems, and other departmental procedures.

"A major factor has been the time that officials have had to devote to applying and overseeing the implementation of VAT."

All major services provided by municipalities are subject to 10 percent VAT from September 30 electricity, gas, water, refuse removal and sewerage.

Mr Opperman said that for other services, municipalities now had to determine which were making a profit — and thus be subject to VAT.

Services which were heavily subsidised would be exempt. This meant the taxation of minor services would differ from one municipality to the next.

In Johannesburg, municipal parking garage tariffs, the sale of council housing stock, townships development, and goods at the fresh produce market would now all be subject to VAT.

Charges for parking meters, swimming pools, caravan parks, and dog licences would be exempt.

A municipality which, for example, made a profit or broke even from its caravan park levies, would have to charge VAT.

In Johannesburg, October rates accounts will show VAT on refuse and sewerage. However, VAT on electricity, gas and water charges will be registered only on November accounts, as those services are billed in arrears.
There's no gloom down in Lowveld

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

WHITE RIVER — The Lowveld is blooming in spite of gloomy economic times because it has a healthy agricultural base, a vibrant tourism industry, good industrial relations and high quality people, according to Lowveld Regional Development Association (LORDA) chairman Leon van Rensburg.

Delivering his annual report at LORDA's 36th annual general meeting at White River at the weekend, Mr van Rensburg said Region F, of which the Lowveld formed part, had more than doubled its contribution towards the total well-being of South Africa from 1970 to 1999.

The region had the lowest unemployment rate and personal income was among the country's highest.

In the past five years, more than R140 million had been spent on tourism.

And with a prosperous future predicted in this field, the Lowveld was looking forward to a tourist boom.

"Rather than adopt a wait-and-see attitude, Lowvelders have, and continue to strive for, a let's go and get it together viewpoint."

He extended an open invitation to the KwaZulu-Natal government as a stakeholder to co-operate with LORDA in co-ordinating development of the Lowveld.
Civics and lenders to hold bond talks

THEO RAWANA

Transvaal civic associations and financial institutions would hold a conference in Johannesburg on Monday to thrash out the issue of bond repayments, Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekuo said yesterday.

Mayekuo said the lending houses, which had been thrown into a panic and claimed incorrectly that Cast had called for a boycott of repayments, should know that they had a social responsibility to provide home finance that would meet the needs of the community.

Mayekuo caused a scare earlier this month when he said black people, finding it difficult to repay their bonds and to get co-operation from the lending houses, might be forced to look at options which could include a national bond boycott.

He said his organisation did not call for a boycott but said residents might be forced to consider it.

He said pockets, sit-ins and other mass action would be considered to make the financial institutions “unworkable” until they responded positively.

Mayekuo told a Press briefing in Johannesburg yesterday Cast had called for the conference in an attempt to highlight the housing crisis and work out a strategy to alleviate the problem of access to funds.

Mayekuo said Standard Bank, United, First National, the Perm and Allied had confirmed they would attend Monday’s conference. It was awaiting responses from other financial institutions.

Cast secretary-general Sam Ntuli said some financial institutions had withdrawn financing facilities for housing in the townships due to a “silent” bond boycott which the finance houses “assumed” Cast had called for.

He said the civic associations had called for a national housing policy, saying the housing crisis needed a Marshall Plan.

He added the De Loe Commission initiated by government would not be accepted by Cast and called on government “not to do it alone”.

Ntuli said the results of the commission should not be used to advise government, but rather tabled at a forum of all parties concerned, including civic associations, financial institutions and trade unions.

Mayekuo said that while Cast did not condemn the financial institutions for withdrawing finance due to losses through non-payment, they had a major role to play in the new SA and had made “massive” profits.
Boycott: councillors’ actions under fire

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

Vaal Triangle Regional Services Council (RSC) chairman Gustav du Toit has criticised the actions of three Vanderbijlpark town council representatives after they boycotted the RSC’s monthly meeting in Vereeniging this week.

Their failure to attend resulted in the lack of a quorum and the meeting had to be postponed.

According to Mr du Toit the three councillors — Gerhard Smith, Vanderbijlpark’s management committee chairman, Nic Bohme and Eben Potgieter — left the council chamber just as the meeting was about to start and assembled in the foyer.

Mr du Toit said that after the meeting was adjourned, two of the councillors, Mr Smith and Mr Potgieter, joined other members of the RSC for refreshments in the mayor’s parlour.

Condemning their behaviour, he said postponement of the meeting had led to a delay in execution of certain projects.

Mr du Toit said it was a pity that certain representatives used “apparent party politics” as a reason to disrupt the RSC’s activities.

The three concerned are all members of the Vanderbijlpark town council’s CP caucus.

Commenting on the issue, Mr Smith said he and the two other councillors did not attend the meeting because of dissatisfaction with one of the most important items on the agenda.

This was a report on the joint forum of the Vaal Civic Association, in which the principles of one town council with a single tax base was to have been discussed.

Mr Smith said that the National Party (Mr du Toit is a member of the NP) and the TPA were, in conjunction with the Vaal Civic Association, laying the foundation for the ANC principle of one town council with a single tax base.
‘Apartheid city’ sent back to architects

The plans for the development of a city of 3.5 million people in the Rietfontein area ran into trouble this week after objections to the creation of another “apartheid city”, Central, by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. Vic Milne said yesterday.

The land set aside for the development lies between Soweto, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging and Alberton.

A meeting of the chamber, held in Johannesburg on Wednesday night, sent the issue back to the joint technical committee for full details, Milne said.

“Because the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) objected to the creation of another Soweto, the proposal was sent back to the committee, after which it will be brought before the chamber for reconsideration.”

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said the civic body proposed that all activity on the development cease because it saw the project in the “apartheid city” context.

“The argument was that existing suburbs should be developed instead of creating a new city in the middle of nowhere, where there were no prospects of jobs.”

SCA secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday: “The whole idea is still apartheid mentality. There is no indication where the people will get work, and they will be far from transport.”

Plans to develop the area were announced by Transvaal MEC John MAVUSO in August last year.
Municipal union may oppose restructuring

THE Johannesburg Municipal Employees' Association (JMEA) will decide this week whether to take action to oppose the Johannesburg City Council's latest restructuring move, which could leave a further 23 officials redundant.

JMEA vice-president Piet Botha said the union was in touch with officials whose posts had been abolished. The association would establish how many officials wanted to demand their reinstatement.

The JMEA would take the matter to the Industrial Court arguing, on the officials' behalf, that the council was guilty of an unfair labour practice in filling posts which were substantially the same as ones filled by existing officials.

Twelve officials have so far been made redundant and the future of a further 11 is undecided.

The council has abolished 68 posts and created 42 new ones in their place.

About 19 officials have applied for jobs elsewhere.
Neighbours help run
Alexandra’s affairs

SANDTON and Randburg yesterday formally took over the running of certain technical and financial services in Alexandra which the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) will finance to the tune of R800 000 in the next 10 months.

Randburg assumed responsibility for Alexandra’s financial administration, including rent collection, while Sandton started providing refuse removal, technical assistance, fire and ambulance services and training for personnel.

This follows Sandton’s approval this week of the contents of an agreement which allows the two white councils and the RSC to bail out the beleaguered Alexandra Town Council for at least the next 10 months.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said the agreement had arisen out of the Joint Negotiating Forum on which the Alexandra council and the Alexandra Civic Organisation were central players.

Randburg approved the agreement last month.

Its management committee chairman André Jacobs said the agreement would have to be formally enacted by Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough, but the councils’ assistance had formally started yesterday.

He said Randburg would employ an extra eight or 10 people to help run Alexandra’s financial administration and their salaries would be paid by the RSC.

The agreement had become possible with the passing of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act, which made it legally possible to merge local authorities and their service provision.

Jacobs said he hoped the agreement would set a precedent for partnerships between other white councils and their black counterparts.
Ley Invaild

R25 Million
Four East Rand areas join hands

East Rand Bureau

The amalgamation of Germiston, Katlehong, Bedfordview and Palm Ridge is official with the passing of a proposal at the Germiston City Council's monthly meeting.

It was opposed by the five Conservative Party councillors.

It was decided that revenue from services would be ploughed back into the four areas — with the exception of 5 percent from rates and taxes and profits from electricity in the industrial areas and central business districts of Germiston and Bedfordview.

The office of the mayor will be in Germiston.

Mario Vali (CP) said the new settlement should be reconsidered because it would mean the "downfall" of Germiston.

Management committee chairman Leon Louw said Germiston was spearheading the amalgamation process of local authorities.

The four areas had depended on each other for years, he added.
Mandela awarded ‘freedom’ of Boksburg

WHAT do Nelson Mandela, Gerrit Coetzee, P W Botha and Andries Treurnicht have in common?

They have all been granted the freedom of Boksburg. ANC president Mandela is the latest — and that's unofficial.

The ANC and the Save Boksburg Committee will fulfill a long-standing pledge on Monday night when they grant Mandela the "unofficial freedom" of CP-controlled Boksburg.

To the fanfare of a marching band and drum majorettes, Mandela will receive a ceremonial key, a scroll and a framed poster reading "Mandela the Freedom of Boksburg Awaits U".

A spokesman for the Save Boksburg Committee said the granting of the freedom of the city to Mandela would be a step towards eradicating discrimination.

Boksburg's CP mayor T J Ferreira described the event as "a laughing matter", saying Mandela could just as well be given freedom of the world — it would still not be official. "But with him ruling over (President F W) de Klerk the way he does, it might be passed through Parliament."

Boksburg NP leader Chris Smith said he had nothing against Mandela, but said there was no value in granting him freedom of Boksburg unofficially.

Coetzee was awarded the freedom of Boksburg in 1983 after he won the world heavyweight boxing title, but later returned the honour after a dispute with the town council over business rights on his smallholding. He said last night he approved of the honour for Mandela, who is also a former boxer. CP leader Treurnicht declined comment.
Council owes R25m to residents — Azapo

THE Atteridgeville Town Council must have to repay local residents more than R25m following successful legal action by Azapo, the organisation said yesterday.

Action challenging the legality of tariff increases imposed by the council from April 1988 was brought by Azapo member Thabo Shuma — represented by the Legal Resources Centre — in March 1988, Azapo said in a statement.

Shuma had submitted that the increases were not properly advertised. Judgment passed by the Appeal Court in favour of Shuma last Friday meant that increases implemented in April 1988, April 1987 and January 1986 were illegal, Azapo Central Transvaal region secretary Kabelo Sebza said yesterday.

After Mr Justice Stafford had declared on June 17 1988 that increases implemented in 1988 and 1987 were null and void, the council filed a notice of application for leave to appeal, but withdrew the notice in February 1989, Azapo said.

"Thereafter, increase No 3 (January 1989) came into effect with a special levy which was reflected in the January 1989 accounts," the organisation said.

"We took the council to court and on August 29 1989, the court ruled in favour of the council concerning the 1989 increase.

"The organisation launched an appeal in September 1989, leave to appeal was granted and the actual appeal started in the Appellate Division in January last year.

The matter was heard before the Appellate Court on September 10 1991 and on September 27 judgment was passed in our favour," Azapo said.

It said since the only lawful increases were those introduced in March 1988, the council owed the 11 000-odd Atteridgeville householders all the extra payments they had made, which Azapo put at more than R25m. Azapo said yesterday its accountants were still working out exactly what was owed.

Atteridgeville administrator Marten Nel could not be reached for comment.

A TPA spokesman said the province could not comment because an extract of the judgment had not yet been received.

The township, which owes the Pretoria City Council about R5.78m for electricity, water and sewage removal, this week had the electricity supply reinstated after a two-month cut-off. This followed provision of surety by the Pretoria RSC.

---

Cosatu clarifies statement

COSATU spokesman Neil Coleman said yesterday the federation wanted to clarify that it had not called for a national economic negotiating forum to replace the National Manpower Commission, as may have been implied in yesterday’s Business Day.

He said Cosatu would rejoin the commission if it was restructured to perform the function of a negotiating forum, representing all major parties. It was presently merely an advisory and unrepresentative body and Cosatu’s withdrawal followed a failure by government to implement an agreement to restructure the commission on that basis.

He said Cosatu was not proposing that the commission should deal with broad economic issues. It should perform its function directly in relation to labour legislation. However, it hadn’t become apparent that there was a need for a separate forum involving unions, employers and the state to discuss constructively economic and labour issues which included its creation and retrenchments.
Freedom of Boksburg for Mandela

ANC president Nelson Mandela will receive the freedom of Conservative Party-controlled Boksburg at a glittering "alternative" ceremony on Monday. Mr Mandela will be given the honour in recognition of his struggle against apartheid, a spokesman for the Save Boksburg Committee said yesterday.
CAST rejects new township bosses

Municipal Reporter

The Civic Association of Southern Transvaal has dismissed the appointment of white administrators for Alexandra and Kagiso as a non-event.

CAST vice-president Kgabani Mosunkutu yesterday said nothing had changed as black local authorities were still intact.

MEC Claus van Zyl said in a statement this week that the regional services council chairman of the areas in which Alexandra and Kagiso were situated would take over from councillors who had not bowed to pressure from extra-parliamentary organisations to resign.

The councillors would retain their positions, but would relinquish all decision-making powers to newly appointed administrators, C.A. du Bruyn and John Griffiths.

Mr van Zyl said this would ensure the continued provision of essential municipal services.

Mr Mosunkutu said the civics had repeatedly called for the resignation of all black councillors:

"This is no event at all. We don't want apartheid cities. The black local authorities must be scrapped and the councillors must resign.

"In the interim, all services must be taken over by the white councils until there is a new dispensation because they have the expertise, the finance, and our people have been contributing to them for years."
A man who hated councillors and courted host of enemies

SAM Ntuli was a man with a mission. He aimed to wipe black local authorities off the map. His efforts to drive black councillors to mass resignations were not futile.

Many resigned, some, such as former Drakensberg mayor Tom Mooy, ending up working with him after being politely “chased.”

But Sam Ntuli, the general-secretary of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST), knew the dangers of his kind of work. Often he talked of death. He knew there would always be someone waiting to kill him. Last Sunday he fears became reality.

He was gunned down in Tokwe, while on community duties, by men who are believed to have been armed with AK-47 assault rifles.

It was an end he knew he had been courting for some time, not least of all since developments last November Mr Ntuli (81) had been making things extremely difficult for councillors. He had just sent shockwaves into black communities by spearheading a “reign now” campaign, which was to be supported with festive-season marches on the homes of councillors reluctant to relinquish power.

The marches were organized to take place between Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. Councillors had to resign by November 30 or face the consequences.

On December 14, with two weeks to go before the marches began, the town council of Ngama, near Pietermaritzburg, rescinded them.

Mr Ntuli reported at a press conference later that day: “It now means 151 of 253 councillors have heard our call. It’s encouraging.”

But Mr Ntuli’s wrath did not stop there. Soon, in an interview with the Saturday Star, he said of the councillors who had not yet resigned: “Their businesses will be boycotted, (along with) anyone seen in their company.”

Orchestrated

“We must alienate these people,” Mr Ntuli said. He said the aim was to ensure maximum success for the CAST campaign.

In January, Mr Ntuli took the Alberton Town Council when, with the help of colleagues in the Tokwe Civic Association, orchestrated a consumer boycott of white-owned businesses.

Mr Ntuli arrived 10 minutes after the blast and immediately blamed Tokwe. “This will go on way after my view,” he said defiantly.

In April, on the eve of the signing of the blueprint for the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, Mr Ntuli reasoned for the councillors again to come to the fore.

There was violence in the township and he declared: “Councillors have become the actual source of violence against our people.”

He then announced that civic associations would no longer be allowed to sit with councillors, even at meetings of the Metropolitan Chamber. The councillor was later to delay and seriously threaten the future of the chamber.

On April 29 Mr Ntuli convened another sit-in he said, in an exclusive preview with the Saturday Star, that the much-talked-about self-defence units should not be seen as a “flash-in-the-pan” show. He said, “If you have five years, defence units had been in place currently, ready to be activated.”

Clampdown

He added that “secret residents’ groups” had retained “sleepers” since 1985 as a result of former President F W de Klerk’s clampdown on political activities.

He claimed that CAST had more than 5000 defence units, but refused to elaborate on how they operated or where training was offered. “The issue is sensitive,” he said.

When the question of taking part in the Metropolitan Chamber brought about interest, Mr Ntuli worked hard to keep the matter out of the press.

Although he resisted, he has revealed that he had resigned from CAST, Mr Ntuli calmly denied knowledge of it.

Last week Mr Ntuli raised eyebrows at banks and building societies when he said black people might resort to bond boycotts if those institutions failed to address land and housing problems.

He said such institutions had to consider the needs and nature of consumers’ communities. “Financial institutions must educate consumers on housing bonds,” he said, before licking at its “hard to afford” repayment terms.

His eight-month pregnancy wife, Leah, said of him. “He spent his time attending meetings or conferences, we never really had our time to gather.”

“He knew he was going to get killed. He had said it quite often, especially recently, but avoided talking about it whenever I asked. Maybe he didn’t want to hurt me.”

His colleagues in the Tokwe Civic Association said Mr Ntuli had recently complained about strange cars that had been following him.

And last Thursday, at a service of a memorial, his widow, who is a health worker at Natal Provincial Hospital, said Mr Ntuli spoke about his dreams for his own life.

“He had a penmanship,” and a Tokwe community leader.
Movement cast giant shadow

THE emergence of the black local authorities, forced upon black communities during the dark days of apartheid, were always doomed to fail.

And with the brutal stifling of political activity by the Government for decades, a revolution in the black communities gained momentum.

No wonder that last September, at the height of the countrywide townships rent and services boycott, individual civic associations found it difficult to deal with their own areas in isolation.

Unity

Eventually 38 township representatives met last summer and thrashed a plan to form a civic association for the southern Transvaal.

The result, aimed at national unity, was the formation of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal.

Its immediate aim was to intensify the rent boycott until black councils "urgently" looked into the grievances that had led to the boycott.

High rentals, untarred roads, inconsistent refuse removal, evictions before notification, closed-door policies of many councils, corruption and nepotism within the councils...all these were part of a long list of complaints.

Residents' disillusionment was soon to be used in CAST's subsequent calls on councillors to resign.

Born during trying times, CAST, which was not to be politically affiliated, soon grew in leaps and bounds.

Admirable mayors, many of whose claims to democracy and "serving our people" insulated logic and intelligence, failed to anticipate that their master, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, was going to abandon them.

For when CAST's prominence could no longer be ignored, the TPA opted for negotiation with the movement.

Councils which had not joined were to realise they had lagged behind the true political times.

When these councils felt the heat of isolation, many started preaching "Talk, talk, talk".

It was too late.

CAST, dominating the scene, began dictating to the TPA as to who could be at meetings and who could not. Many councillors were not welcome.

And when CAST persistently called for their resignation, it was taken seriously. Those who refused did so under extreme hard-heartedness. By now, they knew they were unpopular.

Said a councillor, who bowed to pressure and resigned: "We felt snubbed by the TPA when it held discussions with the civic associations in our absence."

Many of their colleagues cited intimidation as their reason for resigning. Others apologised and publicly declared their support for CAST.

Two months after CAST's emergence, 237 of the 622 council seats in the Transvaal were vacant. Also, 24 of the 92 councils were not operating normally. Province-appointed administrators were running 19 black local authorities.

Crisis

To sum it up, by November last year the crisis in local government had become major.

Now, CAST's main aim — forming a nonracial local government — is on the verge of fulfilment after the signing of the blueprint for the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

But at the end of the day, the formation of CAST and its growth in popularity is unlikely to be forgotten by political commentators, historians, the public and, above all, the councillors.
Mandela gibe earns rebuke for mayor

The Save Boksburg Committee (SBC) yesterday dismissed as irrelevant the mayor’s hostile attitude towards the honorary Freedom of Boksburg bestowed on ANC president Nelson Mandela.

Reacting to mayor Tom Ferreira’s remarks that the town of Boksburg would not bestow the freedom of the town on “jaibirds” SBC secretary Henry Jeffreys said the committee had no regrets in making the award to someone who was not only a national leader but a highly regarded international leader.

“Boksburg’s Town Council, of which Mr Ferreira is the mayor, is not representative of the majority of the people of our town. In fact the Conservative Party in Boksburg represents a minority — they are not even representative of whites in the city.”

Responding to Mr Ferreira’s claim that the National Party had more members in Reiger Park than the ANC, Mr Jeffreys said the meeting to honour Mr Mandela attracted 4000 people and the last NP public meeting at the same venue drew less than a 100 residents.

“The CP’s control over City Hall in Boksburg is temporary. There is no doubt in our minds that we will sit in City Hall within the next three years and officially confirm Mr Mandela’s freedom…”

Mr Jeffreys said threats by Boksburg businessman Danie Binneman to take those responsible for honouring Mr Mandela to court did not merit comment. Mr Binneman claimed yesterday he had collected R5500 from local businessmen “to take those responsible to court”. — Sapa.
Severance deals cost city R14-m

Almost R14 million will be spent by the Johannesburg City Council on severance packages for 27 council directors and middle-management officials who have opted for redundancy or early retirement.

A total of 42 posts were scrapped in the restructuring drive to streamline the city council into effective business units.

City treasurer Willie Siebert said yesterday that R6.3 million would be paid out to 23 officials aged between 55 and 55 who had all opted for redundancy and refused alternative posts offered, at their present salaries, with the council.

Bonuses

An additional R6.3 million will be paid to the 23 in service bonuses — these could be up to an extra five years’ pay, depending on how many years’ service with the council they had.

About R1 million will be paid to three top directors who earlier this year opted to take the option of early retirement in the light of the council reorganisation.

This is apart from the excellent pension benefits and payouts from the municipal pension fund.

The three top men are director of health Dr Hillard Hurwitz, city engineer Dave Read and parks director Paul Loubser.

Mr Siebert said the 23 officials, 11 of whom did not reapply for their positions and 12 who did not get the jobs they applied for, had all indicated they would be taking the redundancy option.

They, however, had until Monday to reapply for alternative positions they had been offered.

Mr Siebert said the savings the council would achieve with the new structure, which they hoped would be more efficient, would “even things out”.

“Some of the money would have been paid out anyway because some of the officials were near pensionable age.

“The new function heads are looking at cost savings. The chairman of the management committee is adamant that we all produce savings in our departments. The message is very clear to all of us,” Mr Siebert said.

The total cost of the restructuring (excluding the severance pay) exercise is R3.3 million for this financial year.

This amount includes the creation of the three new posts for directors of sport, culture, and commerce and industry.
Cheers turn to jeers for DP

There's a mood of gloom in the
Newport News School Board
Room, as the Board give the
Ok to a new DP contract

By Debra C. Pratt

The Newport News School Board, on
Monday, voted to approve a
five-year contract for the
DP, effective July 1.

The contract, which was
negotiated by the Board
and the DP's negotiating
committee, includes a
3 percent raise in the
first year, followed by
2 percent raises in the
second and third years,
and 2.5 percent raises in
the fourth and fifth years.

The contract also includes
a provision for a
performance bonus, which
will be determined by
the Board's evaluation
of the DP's performance.

The DP, however, was
unhappy with the
contract, and a large
crowd of DP supporters
attended Monday's meeting
to protest.

The DP's negotiating
committee said they were
unhappy with the
contract because it
didn't include a
guaranteed end to
the strike.

The Board, however,
said they were
unhappy with the
department's
carelessness.

The Board also
approved a
resolution
calling for
the DP to
improve its
performance.

The DP, however,
said they were
unhappy with the
resolution.

The DP's negotiating
committee said they were
unhappy with the
resolution because it
didn't include a
guaranteed end to
the strike.

The Board, however,
said they were
unhappy with the
department's
carelessness.

The Board also
approved a
resolution
calling for
the DP to
improve its
performance.

The DP, however,
said they were
unhappy with the
resolution.

The DP's negotiating
committee said they were
unhappy with the
resolution because it
didn't include a
guaranteed end to
the strike.

The Board, however,
said they were
unhappy with the
department's
carelessness.

The Board also
approved a
resolution
calling for
the DP to
improve its
performance.
Council to probe theft allegations

BY RONNIE MORRIS

The city council's executive committee (Exco) is to investigate a report completed four months ago that council employees sold council property worth thousands to scrap yards — and why the report was not submitted to Exco.

The Sunday Times yesterday said council security department officials had taken no action after watching municipal workers delivering stolen items to six scrap yards.

A report on the alleged thefts was completed in May, but no arrests or disciplinary steps had yet been taken.

Yesterday, Mr. Louis Krener, acting chairman of Exco, admitted that Exco had not seen the report and said he would launch an immediate investigation as to why it had not been submitted to his committee.

Mr. Krener denied that a secret deal had been struck between the city council and unions to make prosecution of thieves impossible.

Mr. Krener also denied that the council had taken a "soft line" on theft or fraud to the police or the Attorney-General in terms of the Audit Ordinance.

Mr. Suitie Manie, president of the SA Municipal Workers' Union, said yesterday that a very complicated set of procedures had previously been followed in cases of theft of council property.

"These procedures had been interpreted differently by various officials," he said. "This resulted in innocent people being arrested and then found not guilty, he said."

As a result, the union had made representations to the council to simplify the procedures and make them fair and understandable to everybody and ensure consistency in their application.

Mr. Manie admitted there had been a six-month moratorium to the application of the arrest procedures to enable the procedures to be simplified.

Mr. Ted Doman, city council public relations officer, said the negotiations which led to the new procedures took place in discussions with the town clerk, heads of departments, the director of personnel, Samwu and the SA Association of Municipal Employees.

Councillor Mr. Arthur Wiesenburg said it was "absolutely appalling" that council officials had taken it upon themselves to formulate policy "when that should have been done by the council."
Township Services on Fragile hopes for the future.

...
Joburg's commitment to change

DIVERSITY OF INTERESTS

For years, the city of Johannesburg has been a melting pot of cultures and ethnicities. The diversity of the city's population has been a source of strength, offering a rich tapestry of traditions, languages, and beliefs. As the city continues to grow and evolve, efforts are being made to preserve and celebrate this cultural richness.

The Johannesburg City Council has recognized the importance of diversity and is committed to creating a more inclusive and equitable city. In recent years, the council has launched several initiatives aimed at promoting diversity and fostering a sense of community among its residents. These initiatives include cultural festivals, community events, and programs designed to support local artists and cultural heritage projects.

The city also recognizes the role of education in promoting diversity and inclusion. Schools and universities in Johannesburg have been encouraged to develop curriculum that reflects the city's diverse population and promotes understanding and respect for different cultures.

In addition to these efforts, the city of Johannesburg has also taken steps to ensure that its services are accessible to all residents. This includes providing translation services, developing multicultural trainings for city employees, and establishing partnerships with community organizations to provide support and resources to underrepresented groups.

With its commitment to diversity, the city of Johannesburg continues to strive for a more inclusive and equitable future. By celebrating the richness of its cultural heritage and promoting understanding and respect for diversity, the city is working towards creating a city where all residents feel valued and welcomed.
Rand Water Board
to upgrade services

THE Rand Water Board is set to embark on a capital spending drive worth between R800m and R1,6bn in a two-year programme to upgrade services.

At present the board is spending about R120m annually on maintenance and minor upgrading. However, board CEO Vincent Bath said yesterday that it was now necessary to look at providing additional purification and pumping plant, and upgrading of the pipeline and reservoir distribution network.

Bath said that work would have to start in 1993 to have the plant completed by 1995. For the most part, funding would come from the Rand Water Board's capital market loans. The board sources about 50% of its funding requirements on the capital market.

He said total expenditure had still to be decided as, depending on growth rates over the next few years, supply would have to be enhanced by between 600 megalitres and 1 000 megalitres daily. Supply is currently peaking about 8 000 megalitres daily, with capacity of about 4 000 megalitres.

As a result of VAT and the water levy, the board pushed up its base-cost to 71c/kL this month, compared to 63c/kL last month. That cost, according to latest figures from the National Utility Services (NUS), jumps to an average of 217.5c/kL for the Johannesburg consumer — the highest price in SA.

Second most expensive is Pretoria where water costs are 116c/kL, followed by Durban at 114.5c/kL, Cape Town at 110c/kL, Port Elizabeth at 92.6c/kL and East London at 84c/kL.

According to NUS marketing director Peter Cornelius a steep rise in water costs is also on the cards over the next few years, taking into account the effect of VAT and any increase in contributions to the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. Water from the project is due to start flowing in 1997.

Water Affairs water resource developmen
duty director-general "Tiny" Krige confirmed that FWV users were already paying a 10c/kL levy to finance necessary work on infrastructure by the board, and that the levy was increasing at a level of 2c/kL annually plus escalation.

Krige said according to latest estimates, water from the Vaal would have to be augmented not later than 1998, at which time the additional cost to the consumer would be about 25c/kL to 30c/kL excluding purification or articulation costs.

The increased cost of supplying water to consumers was reflected this year in an average 13.6% rise in the price of water, the fourth highest increase in NUS's survey of 14 industrialised countries. The national average of SA water prices is now 122.37c/kL, still the cheapest in the world other than Canada and Norway.

NUS figures show that the Australians pay the most for their water, about 415.22c/kL, while the UK pays an average of 227.95c/kL and the US 130.22c/kL.

---

International water prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1991</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>96c</td>
<td>104c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>230c</td>
<td>265c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>247c</td>
<td>270c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>170c</td>
<td>170c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>228c</td>
<td>234c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>214c</td>
<td>217c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>213c</td>
<td>213c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>103c</td>
<td>102c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>404c</td>
<td>404c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>92c</td>
<td>92c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NUS
Homelands in bid to forge links

GAZANKULU, Lebowa and the Transvaal Provincial Administration met last week to discuss political co-operation, according to a joint statement released in Pretoria this week.

Gazankulu Chief Minister Hudson Ntsanwisi, Lebowa Chief Minister Nelson Ramadike and Transvaal Administrator Dane Hough said general consensus had been reached that orderly and good government was essential.

Sapa
Reef councils decide on their own pay rises

TOWN and city councils on the Reef have voted themselves increases averaging 30% after Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough recommended that they put up their own salaries.

Spokesmen for Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort confirmed they had decided to implement the maximum increases suggested by Hough, including back pay to January.

Johannesburg's top councillors are now getting 70% of an MP's salary and this could increase next year.

In August Hough recommended a phased-in pay increase which by 1990 would bring the allowances of large city mayors and management committee chairmen in line with salaries paid to MPs.

Johannesburg City Council treasurer Willie Siebert yesterday confirmed that the council had decided to increase councillors' allowances by R277 a month.

Mayor Elsbel Kretzmer and management committee chairman Ian Davidson have been paid about R9500 each in back pay to January and their allowances have been raised to R6300 a month. They previously earned R4000 a month.

If the council decides to fully implement Hough's recommendations, their salaries will be increased again in January next year to equal 85% of an MP's pay.

Siebert said councillors' allowances had not been adjusted since July 1983, so the increase amounted to about 10% a year. This year's increase would cost the council an additional R252 000.

Sandton town treasurer Ken Roelofsz said the increased allowances would cost Sandton about R140 700 a year.
Soweto council rejects RSC takeover

THE Soweto City Council, which is facing legal action over its R131m debt to Eskom, has rejected a plan for the Central Witwatersrand RSC to take over electricity supply from itself and the other two greater Soweto municipalities.

The rejection follows the RSC's acceptance this week of a Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber proposal that assumes, on an interim basis, the service from the cash-strapped councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto.

The two other councils, which get their electricity supply through Soweto, have accepted the takeover proposal.

The RSC had appointed Eskom as sub-agent to render the service on its behalf.

The three councils were recently reported to be in such a bad financial state that they faced a collapse of essential services.

Eskom has summoned Soweto for unpaid debts of R131m, and the utility's distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said it had until today to lodge a defending affidavit.

Soweto council spokesman Molefi Moseli said yesterday his council had rejected the arrangement because Eskom was going ahead with legal action against it, while at the same time talking to the RSC.
Plan to merge four Rand towns comes under fire

Wilson Zwaane

THE plan to amalgamate four southeast Rand towns into a single nonracial local authority came under fire from the Cosmo Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday.

Southeast Rand Co-ordinating Committee (Sercom) member and Bedfordview town clerk Anton Kruger said Bedfordview, Germiston, Katlehong and Palm Ridge were expected to merge within six months.

"The amalgamation, as far as I know, is the first of its kind in SA," Kruger said yesterday.

But Cast president Moses Mayekuo said in a statement yesterday that the amalgamation of the four towns into a single local authority would worsen rather than improve the problems that exist in black residential areas.

"We see this move as an attempt to reverse the gains achieved in Alexandra, where the provision of electricity has been transferred to the white municipality without rewarding the half dead (black) councillors," Mayekuo said.

Sercom, which recommended the merger of these four towns earlier this year, said in a statement this week that "all the present councillors of the four local authorities will become members of the amalgamated council."
33.3 pc increases for
municipal councillors

Staff Reporter

Town and city councillors on the Reef will receive phased-in allowance and salary increases of up to 33.3 percent over the next 18 months, and ratepayers' representatives interviewed today said they deserved it.

Northern Areas Group chairman Tony Challenger said if residents expected efficient local government, they should be prepared to cover the costs incurred by their elected representatives.

The pay increases were recommended by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough who suggested they be phased in by 1993, thereby bringing the allowances of large city mayors and management committee chairmen in line with salaries paid to MPs.

Johannesburg City Council treasurer Willie Siebert said that Johannesburg councillors' allowances would increase by R377 a month, costing the council an extra R250,000 every year.

He was not able to supply exact figures of the salaries received by Mayor Elliot Kretzmer and management committee chairman Ian Davidson.

According to Sandton town treasurer Ken Roeslof, this is the first pay increase that councillors had received since 1988.

The mayor of Sandton, Ernie Saks, is currently paid R4,606 per month, and by January of 1993, his successor will get R6,579. The same applies to the chairman of the management committee.

Sandton councillors now receive allowances of R1,020 and by 1993 will receive R1,645.

The changing nature of local government meant that these increases were quite justified, Gail Daus, chairman of the Sandton Federation of Ratepayers' Associations, said.

Fair

"Soon or later this sort of position is going to become a full-time job and, although some people might think it immodest, if we want quality local government we must cover councillors' costs."

Randburg has also adopted the administrator's proposals, and local ratepayers' say this is fair, in the case of councillors who do their job.

"Ideally, though, we should have full-time councillors who devote all their time to the needs of ratepayers," said Val Klein, chairman of the Federation of Randburg Ratepayers' and Residents' Associations.
CAST slates joint councils

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal has rejected the amalgamation of white and black local authorities, especially where these mergers are pursued without consulting township residents' associations.

CAST president Moses Mayekiso said his organisation was "unimpressed by attempts by the white-led East Rand Co-ordinating Committee to unite the local authorities of Germiston, Katlehong, Bedfordview and Palm Ridge."

Not only was the move undemocratic — since residents had not been consulted — but it would prolong the life of "unpopular and corrupt black local authorities".

Mr Mayekiso said the Germiston-centred merger was very different from the co-operation negotiated between Sandton and Alexandra, since provision of electricity to the township had been taken over by Sandton "without reviving the half-dead councillors."

It also contrasted with agreements reached through the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber for the regional services council to take over the supply of electricity to Greater Soweto.

"We hail this development as a positive product of genuine negotiations."

CAST would continue to press for white local authorities to take over township services during the phase of political transition, "not because we recognise them as legitimate but because they have the resources and skills accumulated through our taxes."

This position implied that black local authorities should go, said Mr Mayekiso.

"CAST challenges the TPA to dismiss these councillors immediately. The time has come to use wages and allowances, spent on councillors, to provide for facilities and the development of our people."
Violence costs R16 000 a victim

It costs an average of R16 000 to treat one victim of unrest or violence, according to the Transvaal Administrator, Mr Danie Hough.

The thousands of frightened residents who occupy hospitals after fleeing from unrest situations placed an additional burden on the already overstretched TPA hospitals and personnel, he added.

Hough made the comments during the official opening of additions – at a cost of R4,9 million – to the Vereeniging Hospital.

Two new surgery theatres were installed, and extensions made to the X-ray and central sterilisation departments. The additions were completed in February.

South Africa now has one nurse for every 484 people – while the ideal balance, as set by the World Health Organisation, should be one nurse for every 416 people.

Sparkle

He called on young women to join the nursing profession: "We need your diligence, enthusiasm and sparkle in our health services."

-Sapa
Move to revitalize city centre

A planner says: "Let's pool ideas to save central Johannesburg," HELEN GRANGE reports.

A DRAMATIC plan is afoot to unite Johannesburg's politicians, businessmen and community in a single "agency" committed to combating city violence, improving standards and revitalising the troubled city centre.

The plan is to be launched at a two-day workshop beginning on November 24 — a Sunday, so that the community can attend.

The initiative has already begun with behind-the-scenes negotiations between the city council and prominent business and community leaders.

The plan has been welcomed by city leaders, and it is hoped that the proposed agency — a partnership between the city council, business interests and the community — will go some way towards creating a more attractive central business district and stimulating economic regeneration.

Urban planner Dr Diana Mayne, the consultant behind the plan, who has worked on revitalising cities overseas, has listed violence and security as the most urgent problems to be addressed by the agency.

Other immediate problems are the flight of businesses and investment from the city centre, residential deterioration and the lack of amenities.

"Newtown, for instance, could become a cultural and festive district and act as a sparkplug to central city revitalisation," said Dr Mayne.

Apart from stimulating growth and development, there was a need for a shared vision, she said.

The agency could also become a forum for the resolution of conflict.

Co-operation

Commenting on the initiative, Johannesburg City Council management committee chairman Jan Davidson said the council could not deal with the city's problems alone.

He said the council needed the co-operation of the private sector.

"Partnerships between the public and private sectors have worked extremely well in some American cities — for example, Atlanta, which was completely turned around,"

Johannesburg civic leader Cas Coovadia is a key player and is on the interim steering committee established to organise the workshop, which aims to secure agreement on issues and priorities and to arrive at an agenda for remedial action.

Said Mr Coovadia: "The council has done little, if anything, towards addressing deep-rooted problems such as obstructive by-laws and exploitative landlords.

"We are all for such a partnership in principle."

"However, if it means the public sector having the monopoly and simply getting their decisions rubber-stamped by the community, we would be averse to such a partnership,"

"...Nigel Mandy, former chairman of the CBD Association, said the initiative was the fruit of long-term proposals by city planners which aimed to engender a unified approach to the complicated problems of downtown Johannesburg."

"I fully endorse it," he said.

Stanley Areenson, current CBDA chairman, has also welcomed the proposals.

Anglo American Property Services, managing director Gerald Leisner said the idea had come "at the right time. It could achieve much of what we who use the city have been asking for."
Security now top issue for most Reef councils

Staff Reporters

The need for additional security in crime-plagued Reef towns and cities is now a top priority among councils investigating various protection measures for residents and business premises.

The Johannesburg City Council has made an annual R20 million pledge towards security and the councils of Sandton and Midrand have launched crisis control centres and hugely successful blockwatch schemes. Randburg may soon introduce a joint-protection force with the SAP along the lines of the hobby-on-the-beat.

Private security companies last week offered northern suburbs' councils 24-hour total security for suburbs at a cost of between R10 and R15 a household.

On the West Rand, where 306 people were murdered in the first six months of this year, councils have stepped up traffic police patrols in the suburbs.

The Randfontein council has introduced more regular car patrols of all areas on a 24-hour basis, a spokesman said.

Krugersdorp has patrols working in shifts in residential areas and Roodepoort is looking very seriously at the possibility of stepping up patrols.

Town Clerk Div de Villiers said the council felt very strongly about the issue and would start the patrols as soon as funds permitted.

Spokesmen for the three Vaal Triangle town councils of Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Meyerton agreed that private security patrols were probably the answer and that these councils would now seriously consider these measures.

A Meyerton municipal spokesman said extra security could be seriously considered, provided the service rendered were good and if ratepayers were to contribute towards it.

Local residents would also have to be sounded out on the issue.

There were 14 murders in the Vaal Triangle between January and September this year and more than 5,000 burglaries.

On the East Rand, where 241 people were murdered in August and September, councils have done little to step up security, and those contacted by The Star revealed no future plans.

In Pretoria, the crime rate is far lower than on the Reef — and residents ascribe it largely to the effectiveness of neighbourhood watches.

A recent survey showed that about 43 percent of Pretoria’s citizens — black and white — felt neighbourhood watches best contained crime.

Only 13 percent of those interviewed relied on the police and individual security for controlling city crime — Afrikaans-speaking individuals contributing only 8 percent and blacks 26 percent to this average.

Pretoria management committee chairman Pieter Smith revealed that the Pretoria council had not placed security at the top of its list of priorities.

“We are fortunate not to have the same level of crime as on the Reef, so there isn’t really a demand for us to address security. At one stage, the question of city police was raised, but we felt the SAP handle their duties very well in the city.”
New administrators

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday appointed two top officials as administrators for four townships in the Vaal Triangle.

Mr JB Cournuck, former mayor of Vereeniging, has been appointed administrator of Sharpeville and Bopatong, while Mr HC Immelman, former mayor of Germiston, has been appointed administrator of Sefokeng and Bophelong - Sape.
Implementation of policy

Since the responsibility for homeless people was delegated to the four provinces in 1987, it has continuously been the policy of the Transvaal Provincial Administration to identify, and acquire land suitable for low-cost housing in particular.

The TPA is aware of the enormous housing need that exists in the Transvaal, and therefore established formal towns for informal settlement where erven of approximately 200 to 260 square metres are sold or rented to individuals.

With the establishment of these towns, the TPA is creating an opportunity to allow any person, irrespective of how poor he is, to own land and to improve it according to his means. This is the basic principle underlying the policy of the TPA.

The owners are then permitted to erect unconventional dwellings on their stands. Only basic services are rendered, and facilities are provided in these towns in view of the financial position of the people.

The towns are laid out according to normal town-planning principles applicable to all township establishment, with provision for sites for schools, sports grounds, churches and other social amenities. The financial means of the occupants of the towns, are also taken into consideration in planning the different facilities.

As far as possible, these towns are planned in collaboration with the residents, and they are administered in such a way that the community is uplifted as far as possible.

It must be stressed, however, that the provision and allocation of erven to the homeless must take place in an orderly fashion. If uncontrolled overcrowding were to be permitted, it would make it impossible to lay out the town and to render essential services such as the provision of water and toilet facilities, to prevent serious epidemics and illnesses, and to upgrade the towns in the course of time.

In fact, the illegal occupation of land by large numbers of people, devils planned development and the whole upgrading process. Although the TPA understands the need of the homeless people, illegal occupation of land and erven cannot and will not be tolerated.
Squatter auxiliary units

Squatter auxiliary units are being established at the moment to investigate reported instances of squatting immediately.

These units are geared to assist the landowner, the squatter, or any authority to address the squatting problem.

It is the responsibility of every member of the public to report any case, or suspected case, of illegal occupation of land to the nearest municipal office or police station. These authorities will immediately refer all reported cases of squatting to the nearest provincial squatter auxiliary unit, which will be in attendance 24 hours per day.

The units will insist that landowners and local authorities themselves, take action and will only intervene when necessary.

A landowner and a local authority will still be held responsible by the Administrator for the addressing of illegal squatting on their land or in their area of jurisdiction.
The NPRS will lead multi-sectoral partnerships with international, national, and regional stakeholders. The regional development manager (RDM) will work on extensions of the regional program, technical staff in the various regions will implement the coordinated, transnational program. The key objective is to ensure that the implementation is coordinated and aligned with the strategic goals of the program. This requires a comprehensive approach to address all the challenges and opportunities associated with the program.

Progress

URBANISATION

Page 30
ALTHOUGH the Transvaal Provincial Administration caters for the lower-income group only, nearly 70 percent of all the black families in the RSA reside in the Transvaal and therefore the TPA has developed into one of the major township developers in the country.

In the past three years, the TPA has developed or assisted in the development of Orange Farm (near Vereeniging), Zonkizizwe (East Rand), Ivory Park (Midrand) and Doornkop (northwest of Soweto).

At Ivory Park, 13 172 stands were allocated to families in one year. These people came from the backyards of Tembisa and Alexandra and also from the Midrand and Sandton areas. At the moment, approximately 70 000 to 80 000 people are living in Ivory Park.

At Doornkop about 6 000 stands were allocated to people who were mostly from backyards in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville.

In June this year, about 11 218 stands were occupied at Orange Farm and 3 640 houses were built there with funds from the National Housing Commission. Another 25 655 stands are in the development and allocation stage in the Orange Farm and Druzeek areas. The provision of these stands will enable about 36 900 families to obtain their own stands and live in this area.

At Poortjie, near Ennerdale, nearly 2 500 stands will be developed in this financial year. The development potential in this area is excellent and in future about 41 000 stands could possibly be developed. This would be subject to the availability of enough funds to acquire the land and to the availability of enough water.

In the East Rand, at Zonkizizwe, 6 800 stands are now developed and in future a further 5 800 stands could be developed.

By just looking at these developments, it is quite clear that one of the TPA's highest priorities is the timeous identification and development of suitable land for low-cost housing.

Future success in the development of more towns for informal settlement will be determined by the cooperation of all people and organisations. Illegal occupation of land in the development phase will to a great extent hamper the TPA's attempts to address the urbanisation problem. An example of this was the invasion of land in Ivory Park during July this year.
Objectives

IN STRIVING after an ideal urban structure, the TPA pursues the following objectives within the parameters of certain guidelines:

* To harmonise places of residence and work in respect of distance, travelling time and location,
* To retain agricultural land of high potential for agricultural purposes,
* To protect valuable construction materials and mineral deposits,
* To promote the establishment of communities of a viable size with regard to the social and economic aspects,
* To locate different land uses in harmony with each other, mixing reconcilable land uses to a greater degree,
* To promote mass transport in terms of higher densities,
* To protect areas of ecological, aesthetic and recreational value,
* To make optimum use of existing infrastructure in respect of services, roads, railway lines, etc.,
* To combat water and air pollution through carefully planned urban development,
* To effect higher residential densities, affordable standards of service and infrastructure, to promote a healthy economic base for every town, and to implement all these as far as possible.
Ratepayers in Witbank have accused the Witbank town council of mismanaging the town's finances and have threatened to take legal action. "We have already been sacked by the Conservative Party but we will not go away," said Ratepayers Action Committee chairman Corrie Burger. "We are determined not to pay the enormous increases in taxes and rates." The council has been accused of overcharging for services and failing to provide adequate maintenance. "We held meetings with the council and tried to get them to cut costs and increase efficiency," said Burger. "We are not fools and we know they are not overspending." The council has defended its record, saying it is committed to providing good services to ratepayers. "We are working hard to provide good services and we are not overspending," said a council spokesperson. The conflict has escalated and the ratepayers are considering legal action.
The Community Development Branch of the TPA

The regional offices are situated in Pretoria, Germiston, Potchefstroom and Witbank. The Chief Directorate: Physical Planning and Development of the branch is divided into five directorates, each with its own purpose and functions, and they address urbanisation as follows:

- The Directorate: Physical Planning is responsible for the development of suitable land for urbanisation and the planning involved with it.
- The Directorate: Land Use Control is responsible for the control of land usage, which includes township establishment.

Mr. John Musuza, MEC for Physical Planning and Development

Mr. Denis Fourie, Administrator, Transvaal

Work area of regional offices

1. WITWATERSRAND
2. PRETORIA
3. PIETERSBURG
4. POTCHEFSTROOM
5. WITBANK

REFERENCE:
- Independent Black States
- Megalopolis District Border
- Regional Office Border
URBANISATION

WHAT IS A SQUATTER?

A SQUATTER is regarded as somebody who occupies land and property unlawfully.

According to the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, 1951 (Act 52 of 1951), illegal squatting is prohibited.

Furthermore, no person may enter, or remain on, or in any land or building without the permission of the owner or the lawful occupier of such land or building, whether such land is enclosed or not.

Backyard dwelling is not in itself regarded as unlawful.

Informal residential areas or settlements that were officially approved and where residents occupy informal houses on allocated sites, are not regarded as squatting areas.

Squatter areas consist mostly of poor families who are seeking better living conditions.

In the development of formal towns for informal settlement, the Government is addressing the needs of the poor in providing even with affordable services where the people may upgrade their homes and the standard of services in the course of time.

Government policy

SQUATTING as a worldwide phenomenon has become synonymous with accelerating urbanisation.

The period after 1986 is characterised by the presence of large numbers of people in urban areas. It is believed that a large intra-urban movement of people is taking place and that the majority of the people who are now visible, were already staying in the areas.

According to the latest sources, 56 percent of the black community are already urbanised and it is expected that 75 percent will be urbanised by the year 2000.

This means that more than 10 million people will have to be provided with living space in the near future.

This figure reflects the magnitude of the problem and the enormous demand it will place on the country and its resources.

In order to manage and deal with squatting efficiently, it is necessary that the Government's policy be stated clearly.

The objective of the Government is to manage urbanisation effectively to prevent squatting. In striving to achieve this objective, the Government accepted the following policy guidelines:

- That a landowner's rights be respected and that these rights be protected against any unlawful infringement,
- That land be designated to accommodate squatters lawfully in an orderly fashion — this means, for example, that provision or even with basic infrastructure is established in the area, where an individual may erect his own structure according to his needs and means, and
- That where illegal settlement occurs, orderly resettlement be undertaken after consultation with those involved.

The prevention of squatting is not only the responsibility of the central and provincial authorities. Local authorities must accept that land has to be made available for low-cost housing to prevent squatting.

Local authorities are called upon to share the responsibility for the provision of land and the rendering of services to low-income settlements with the other authorities in future.

It is also believed that the private sector has an important role to fulfil by also providing for the needs of the lower income groups in the different communities.

Co-operation between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the private sector may enhance the Transvaal's ability to address its housing need.

This may also serve to be the advantage of the country as a whole.

POPULATION OF THE PWV-COMPLEX 1990—2010

(Million)

Source: Dept of Planning and Prov. Affairs
'Civics still want power for people'

By Nomavenda Mathana

The civics are still trying to destroy local authorities and hand over power to the people. This was the message delivered by Moses Mayekiso, president of the Alexandra Civics Association (ACA), on Saturday.

Launching "Operation Khanysi" at the second congress of the ACA held at the Alexandra arts centre, Mr. Mayekiso outlined what "Operation Khanysi" would involve:

- Intensifying the fight against black local authorities
- Addressing homelessness and land development
- Health issues
- Transport and developing a culture for liberation
- Combating crime

He hailed Alexandra's people's courts, blaming the Government for not protecting the residents and said Alexandra people had no choice but to protect themselves.

"We had to devise a system to combat crime in the townships. We had to create an Alexandra justice system."

Residents must look to the ANC and MK for defence, as well as creating their own defence structures, he said.

In a democratically-run meeting conducted mainly in African languages, as well as English, delegates from the 12 areas of Alexandra township were active at question time.

Dominant issues were violence and homelessness.

Reminding the meeting of Alexandra's culture of resistance, Mr. Mayekiso said even though the Government had responded to the ACA by incarcerating the leadership, residents did not give up.

Taking the meeting back to 1986 and the six-day war where over 44 people died, he said: "The Government then introduced the state of emergency because it could not deal with the people's power."

Mr. Mayekiso was confident that "Operation Khanysi" would soon go national.
Transvaal will spend R7.7m on hostel upgrading project

MOVES were afoot to upgrade 36 Transvaal hostels, Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) spokesman Magda du Tont said at the weekend.

Du Tont said although no upgrading had yet taken place, TPA and Provincial Affairs and Planning officials were touring all the hostels "to see for themselves what the state of the hostels is".

"As soon as the needs of the hostels have been assessed, the TPA will put its upgrading strategy in place," she said, adding that some of the hostels would be converted into family units.

The upgrading of hostels is part of government's scheme to inject R1bn into socio-economic projects.

Economic Co-ordination Minister Dawie de Villiers recently announced that R1bn of the money would be allocated to the upgrading of the hostels.

The Provincial Affairs and Planning Department confirmed at the weekend that the plan to upgrade hostels had been endorsed by the cabinet.

In terms of the plan, Reef and Vaal Triangle hostels — the flashpoints of violence over the past 14 months — were among the Transvaal hostels which stood to be upgraded with the R7.7m received by the province.

The Cape received the biggest share of R16.6m while Natal and the Free State received R4.6m and R2.2m respectively.

Du Tont said because not all the hostels fell under the jurisdiction of the TPA, the administration would have to allocate funds to individual local authorities for the upgrading of their hostels.

She would not say how much each municipality would get, saying "that is still under discussion".

Among Reef hostels which will be upgraded are Mapetla, Nhalinyane, Napoleon, Doornfontein, Thokoza, Sebokeng, Vosloorus, Kriel, Tembisa, Denver and George Gogh.

But Thokoza Hostel Dwellers' Association chairman Zakhele Mlambo said all plans to upgrade hostels were doomed to failure "unless such plans are negotiated with the people concerned — the hostel dwellers".
Water cut threat

By ISAAC MOLEDI

RESIDENTS of Ratanda in Heidelberg may have their water supply cut on Friday.

The township's mayor, Mr MH Mokosane, said in a statement yesterday that the Ratanda Council owed the Heidelberg Town Council R142 000 for water supplied in July, August and September.

He said the Heidelberg Council had threatened to cut the water supply unless the money was paid by tomorrow or an advance payment of R14 000 was made to secure an additional seven-day water supply.

This move comes after a council meeting on October 5 attended by community organisations, the African National Congress and Inkatha Freedom Party failed to resolve the issue. A flat rate of R20 a month had been suggested as an interim measure.
of no confidence debate
Hit back, says Moss
Fratpack's chance to

Proposed
NP facing rift in motion

SA, Egypt
ESKOM to act against council

ESKOM would not suspend legal action against the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m. Eskom distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said yesterday.

Morgan was responding to a statement by Soweto Council spokesman Mpolela Moselane that Soweto had rejected plans for the Central Witwatersrand RSC to take over electricity supply from itself. This was because Eskom was going ahead with legal action against the council while at the same time talking to the RSC.

"We have less chance of handling this in a sober manner if we are under such pressure," Moselane said.

Eskom could withdraw while discussions were ongoing, he said.

Morgan said Eskom had no intention of suspending the legal action against Soweto because it was the utility's policy to "secure its rights as a creditor" by taking legal action against debtor authorities.

"We have taken legal action against 22 local authorities. Summonses served on the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m still stand," he said.

The RSC accepted a central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber proposal last month that it should assume, on an interim basis, the service from the cash-strapped councils of Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville.

The RSC had appointed Eskom as a sub-agent to render the service on its behalf.

The three councils were recently reported to be in such a bad financial state that they faced a collapse of essential services.

RSC deputy CE Nantes Botha said his council had asked Soweto to come forward with proposals on what the takeover contract should look like.

"We have not yet received any response," he said.

SAPA reports that rent defaulters in Soweto shangane, outside Pretoria, will have their water cut off today at a crucial meeting between the Department of Development Aid and the local civic association.

The residents, who were allowed to pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50 for the past three months while the two parties negotiated an increased rent and service tariff, had until last Friday to pay up.

Department of Development Aid housing officer Tuya Kuman said only 35% of residents had paid their rents for October.

However, no action against the defaulters had been planned.

A decision would be taken at today's meeting, he confirmed.
Trust to go ahead with Eurobond issue

THE Independent Development Trust (IDT) is to go ahead with its proposed $100m Eurobond issue, IDT chairman Ian Steyn said yesterday.

This is despite unresolved discussions between the IDT and the ANC over the proposed issue. The two had agreed not to comment on the discussions other than to say they were proceeding, he said.

He did not give details about proposed dates for the issue which is being lead-managed by J P Morgan Bank, although uncertainty surrounds J P Morgan's role in the issue should the ANC not back it.

The issue has been plagued by contradictory statements about the ANC's stance on the issue.

The IDT went on its investment roadshow in late October, apparently with the full backing of all the major players including the ANC.

However, the ANC later said it was against the issue. ANC deputy president Walter Sisulu followed this with a speech in which he said the misunderstanding could be resolved.

Sources said the IDT had decided to go ahead with the issue with or without the ANC and would not delay its issue and allow other borrowers to make it to the market before them.

City council takes over coloured health services

THE Johannesburg City Council is set to take over certain primary health care services traditionally provided by the House of Representatives, Representatives' Health and Welfare Department chief director Dr Eric Jarodien said yesterday.

Jarodien said the parties would sign an agreement in Johannesburg today.

He said the House of Representatives had asked Johannesburg to undertake services on its behalf but had stipulated that these had been rendered on a nonracial basis and "according to need".

Another proviso was that primary health care services in Johannesburg would be coupled to an aggressive literacy campaign to make services more effective, he said.

House of Representatives regional offices in Johannesburg and the City Health Department had identified sites or centres in Johannesburg to be used as pilot projects, Jarodien said.

The centres, which would be operated on a nonracial basis, would be equipped with computer-driven literacy programs.

The linking of primary health care to computer-based literacy training would be a first for South Africa, he said.

A council spokesman said the move was in line with recent statements by National Health and Welfare Minister Rina Venter that more primary health care services should be rendered by local authorities.

Venter signalled last month government was moving towards ending the duplication of health services created by the own affairs system.

She said the fragmentation of health services had to be eliminated but added that this would have to be done within the limitations of the present constitution.
Civics to speak 'with one voice'

WILSON ZWANE

TOWNSHIP civic organisations were about to set up a national umbrella body following the removal of obstacles, National Interim Civic Committee (NICC) general secretary Sethembiso Radebe said yesterday.

He said problems, such as a lack of funds and the "unpreparedness" of many regions, had been holding up the launch of a national civic federation.

"All those problems have been resolved and the launch will definitely take place in February next year," Radebe said.

The NICC would facilitate the launch.

The national body was bound to have an impact on local government negotiations as it would enable township civic organisations to speak with "one voice", he said.

It would provide civics with a forum where they could exchange strategies and develop a coherent policy on local government issues.

The foundation for the federation was laid at a conference held in Bloemfontein in May.

The conference was attended by civic delegates from the Transvaal, eastern and western Cape, Border and Free State.

In another development, Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) general council was expected to elect a new general secretary tomorrow to replace slain Sam Ntuli.

Ntuli died in a hail of bullets in the East Rand township of Thokoza two months ago.

---

THE remaining 103 Bophuthatswana political prisoners are likely to be released in batches over the next few months, a Bophuthatswana government source said yesterday.

Although there was no formal agreement that the prisoners would be released in this staggered fashion, the source said it was likely that they would all be free in a matter of months.

About six weeks ago the first batch of 18 political prisoners was released and three weeks later a further 18 were released. The source said there were signs that another group would be released soon.

President Lucas Mangope, who faces opposition from conservatives in his cabinet on the issue, said at the time the first batch of prisoners was released that consideration would be given to releasing the remaining prisoners over time.

It was thought at the time that the process would take considerably longer than is now envisaged.

The release of the prisoners is the main stumbling block holding up the lifting of EC sanctions against SA.

The Danish government vetoed an EC decision to lift some sanctions because SA political prisoners were still behind bars.

About 20 of the prisoners, most of whom took part in an abortive coup attempt, are engaged in what appears to be a rotational strike, the source said.

One of the prisoners, Bushy Molefe, was in a serious condition although he had recently been removed from the intensive care unit.

The source said the release of the prisoners to some extent depended on their own actions. Hunger striking prisoners would not be released because this was not considered "good behaviour".

---

Bid to set up Thokoza peace committee

THE PAC and Azapo have refused to join a peace committee to be set up next week in Thokoza.

The committee will be formed under the national peace accord and was proposed last weekend at a conference convened by the Alberton Industries' Association.

Azapo president Pandelani Nefo said Azapo would have nothing to do with structures set up under the peace accord.

A PAC official said since the PAC was not a signatory to the accord, it would not join the committee.
ABOUT 50 000 residents at Ratanda, Heidelberg, were without water for the third day yesterday.

The Heidelberg Town Council cut the township's water supply last Friday because residents had not paid their accounts.

Residents are now getting water from two tankers on a local farmer's borehole.

A spokesman for the town council said the local civic association had insisted on a monthly payment of R10 for all services. Not all residents were, however, paying this amount and only about 22 percent of the town's projected income was being generated every month.

The spokesman said Ratanda owed Heidelberg about R113 000.

Meanwhile, the township was still receiving electricity from Bokom despite an arrears account of nearly R2 million.

The spokesman said nearly 4 000 people had settled in Ratanda during the past year and many were unemployed. Meanwhile, the mayor of Mbekweni near Paarl in the Cape, Mr Mzimkhulu Mnyatana, says the Paarl municipality had to cut the electricity supply to the entire township for the second time this year because residents had failed to pay their accounts.

He said his council owed the Paarl municipality more than R300 000 and the municipality had no alternative as the residents had failed to keep their promise to pay arrears.

Mnyatana said switching off the electricity had come at a time when his council was busy repairing vandalised meter boxes in preparation for a switch-on if residents decided to negotiate. - Sapa.
Electricity cut off in Munsieville

By ISAAC MOLEDI

RESIDENTS in Munsieville have been without electricity since last Thursday, after the council failed to pay its debts to Krugersdorp.

The electricity supply was previously cut in February due to a services boycott. It was reconnected for a month on July 4 after the West Rand Regional Services Council made a guarantee to Krugersdorp and after the Munsieville Civic Association made an assurance that all consumers would regularly pay an interim flat rate for electricity based on average household consumption.

Residents

A statement issued by the Munsieville council disclosed that between July and October it only managed to pay R77,250 of the R172,926 owed for electricity consumed by residents.

Since the community has not endorsed Fakom's decision to take over the bulk electricity supply, Krugersdorp Council resolved to terminate the supply. "Munsieville town council administrator Mr WA Greyvenstein said."
Heidelberg Farmer helps township after water cut off
THE Soweto City Council had finally agreed to the takeover of electricity supply by the Central Wits RSC, the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber's monthly meeting was told in Johannesburg last night.

The proposal came from the chamber four months ago when it was disclosed that the finances of the three greater Soweto councils — Diepkloof, Dobsonville and Soweto — were in a state of crisis and essential services were on the point of collapse.

Soweto was the only council that was still objecting to the takeover, the others having consented to it last month. The Soweto council, a bulk-buyer from Eskom which in turn supplied the other two councils, was reported recently to be facing court action from the utility because it owed it R131m.

Metchamber GE Vic Molne said last night Soweto had agreed to the handover of the running of electricity, on condition that the RSC took over all its electrical department employees.

Molne said after the meeting that a meeting of the Greater Soweto Principals would meet "soon" on the question of the RSC absorbing Soweto employees.

About 30 placard-carrying residents of Emmerdale coloured township caused a stir when they walked into the chamber while the meeting was in progress yesterday.

The members of the Emmerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, who are engaged in a dispute with the Johannesburg City Council over the "poor state of the houses" in their township, requested to read a statement to the meeting.

Metchamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert refused to let them do so, saying the meeting was not a Johannesburg council meeting.

He allowed the protesters to leave their memorandum with chamber officials and they left quietly.

The memo requested the chamber to mediate on Emmerdale's behalf and get the Johannesburg council to meet its residents within 48 hours.
Will this proposal solve the 7-year impasse?

By SÔPHE TEMBA

WILL proposals by the Regional Services Councils to take over essential services from insolvent black local authorities solve the seven-year boycott impasse?

The Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) has resolved that essential services be transferred to non-white municipalities.

But the question is if the RSCs or the black municipalities become the bosses of the townships, will they be able to get the residents to pay the townships' electricity debts, which total billions of randes?

Bankruptcy

By not paying rent, residents have caused several local authorities serious financial problems and many are on the verge of bankruptcy. The government has granted a bridging finance to the municipalities.

Soweto alone is believed to owe Eskom R131 million and the debt is gradually increasing as less than 50 per cent of Soweto residents are paying for their water and electricity.

Recently the government warned that if consumers continued to avoid paying for services, local authorities would no longer be able to provide those services.

Councillor adamant

But the Soweto Civic Council is adamant and will not easily agree to hand over essential services to the RSCs or the Johannesburg City Council.

This was made clear by Soweto's newly elected mayor, Alfred Nyalitha, and his deputy, Oscar Maseko.

Maseko said "Unless the RSC is prepared to explain how it intends running the supply of these services to the community, and whether it will take over the employment of the department's employees, particularly the electricity department, then there is no way the council will agree to the handing over."
Temporary jobs

THE DiepMeadow Council is inviting unemployed men to apply for temporary jobs.

Applicants will be paid R7 a day for the manufacture of bricks, installation of infrastructure, construction of ablution blocks and construction at Bapedi Hall.

Applicants should be resident in DiepKloof and Meadowlands and should hold no other job.

Pensioners will not be considered.

Town clerk Mr JF de Jager said applicants should report at General Camp, DiepKloof, tomorrow at 8am. Identification and proof of residence are required.

---

187(1)[2]
Lessons from a Brazilian City

30 years ago Sao Paulo was the same size as the PWV region is today, writes James Clarke.

The Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging region will probably reach a population of 18 million by 2010. In just 18 years it will be as big as the world's biggest city is today.

What is life going to be like?

More specifically, is there a metropolis which has gone the same way and which might have some lessons for us?

Yes — Sao Paulo, Brazil. That's where.

In the 1980s Sao Paulo was about the size the PWV is today — getting on for eight million. Now it has 18 million people.

Anybody who has been to Sao Paulo, a huge, hot, slightly scruffy metropolis spread over an undulating landscape — on the same parallel as Pietersburg — will have been struck by its similarity to Johannesburg, except for its enormous size.

Its general fabric is low-to-medium-rise but the scene is punctuated by enormous eruptions of highrise buildings, some much grander than any we have.

From the air one sees favelas — squatter camps — sprinkled like brown sugar along the periphery and occasionally huddled in tight little enclaves nearer the centre.

It is a modern city, most of its buildings are well under 100 years old though there's a chapel built in 1554. Car exhaust gases cook in the sun and burn the eyes, but not as badly as in Mexico City or Athens.

Town planner Alan Mabin, of the University of the Witwatersrand, in an unpublished paper says that although Sao Paulo is not the perfect comparison for the PWV it is probably the best there is.

His paper coincides with a vital conference at The Carlton Hotel next week to which experts and ordinary citizens have been invited to exchange views on the future of Johannesburg's rapidly changing CBD.

Mr Mabin says that for a compelling image of the results of processes similar to those now taking place in the PWV region, Sao Paulo provides something quite extraordinary and well worth examining.

For example, only 55 percent of the people have "reasonable services.

The PWV has certain advantages, it is much bigger in area and currently much lower in density than greater Sao Paulo.

"Sao Paulo has historically demonstrated the unsurprising truth that most of the poor in Third World cities live in poorly serviced peripheral localities, and have to take long and expensive journeys on usually inadequate public transport to get to jobs." They also live far from recreational and cultural facilities.

What Mr Mabin finds significant is the way the poor are moving inwards nearer the city centre.

He says four types of accommodation have predominated for the poor:

- **Favelas**: About 1 million people live in the favelas within Sao Paulo municipal area which accommodates 11 million of the metropolis's 18 million people. Favelas are squatter settlements much like our own. Significantly, squatter numbers are declining.

- **Irregular subdivision**: The authorities are turning a blind eye to irregular (and mostly illegal) subdivisions knowing that thus at least gives former squatters a sense of tenure. Most of the favelas have existed more than 10 years and "most are now fairly secure if still often strictly illegal." Result: two thirds of favelas housing are nowadays brick-built.

- **New highrise buildings for middle class** — highrise blocks — "each grouping seemingly on the scale of the whole Berea-Hillbrow-Braamfontein complex" — are sold on sectional or condominium title at prices similar to those in South Africa. Under Sao Paulo's policy Lone Hill would probably have been highrise.

- **Corteco development**: Corteco development describes the tenements and "slumyards" which have recently developed in and near inner city areas where property values slumped as the middle class moved out.

Mr Mabin says free standing houses are affordable only for the very rich.

"Sao Paulo's pollution levels, its middle class scurrying from highrise apartment to highrise office, its crime rate, and undrinkable water may make an unhappy prospect for most PWV residents who presently enjoy genteel urban services and facilities.

Mr Mabin describes how the rise of "social movements" and labour unions brought pressure to bear on the planning authorities. They also persuaded the authorities to involve the population in planning.

"More importantly, the populace not only commenting but defining the very nature of the problems foreseen in planning began.

There developed, he said, "a gigantic public conversation" on present problems and future needs.

Out of it arose a progressive party called "Munitora" — "mutual help" — this was more than self-help. It involved collective involvement in labour on the part of the direct beneficiaries, supported by materials grants and skilled labour hired by the city.

"Munitora" seems some specific lessons for the PWV. For example, improving conditions for the PWV involves using community action and building its own capacity to address its own problems.

Certainly the political and administrative pressures which the democrational restructuring will bring at every level (except those which may actually be more appropriate to a country like South Africa) will be social in character and it would be foolish to dismiss the fact that it would have an impact on some communities.

The PWV is small compared with Sao Paulo. It has a situation very different from that of Sao Paulo. More people are at risk of social cohesiveness and stability.

Mr Mabin sees some specific lessons for the PWV. For example, improving conditions for the PWV involves using community action and building its own capacity to address its own problems.
Four black councils run up R106m bill

THEO RAWANA

The councils of Soweto, Dube, Dobsonville and Alexandra would collectively owe the Johannesburg City Council and Central Wits RSC more than R106m by the end of the financial year, the RSC meeting was told in Johannesburg last night.

RSC chairman John Griffiths said the councils owed R34.6m for water and various other services and R10.8m for bulk sewage services by September 30 this year.

"On the assumption that these four councils would continue to be unable to pay their accounts, the amounts owing to Johannesburg City Council and the RSC for these services are expected to total approximately R106.4m by the financial year-end on June 30, 1992," he said.

"This sum far exceeds the provision of R34m which the RSC has made for operating expense assistance for this financial year," Griffiths said.

He said the black councils were being asked to agree to the rescheduling of some of their budgeted infrastructural and social projects in order to provide the necessary funds.

"This does not affect the further R41m which the RSC has provided for assistance towards payment of the four councils' bulk electricity accounts," Griffiths added.
Midrand slams TPA's Ivory Park decision

THE Midrand Town Council has attacked the TPA's decision to settle Ivory Park squatters near its up-market suburb of President Park as "short-sighted and irresponsible."

In an effort to resolve the issue, the council was to lead a delegation of residents to the office of Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough, management committee chairman Dave Hidden said yesterday.

Smallholders living on the 4ha plots priced between R250 000 and R500 000 have been complaining that the TPA is intent on "chasing the whites" out of the area, according to reports.

"The TPA has fallen behind in the provision of land for housing in this area and is now trying to squeeze thousands of additional people into the development at the expense of planned school and business sites," Hidden said.

He said the council was angry over the TPA's insensitivity in approaching the challenge of land for urbanisation. The administration was sowing seeds for future conflict.

The TPA had not honoured undertakings it made when it first established Ivory Park. It had failed to provide clinics, schools, tarred roads for taxis and a police station for the 85 000 people of Ivory Park in the 12 months of the area's existence, he added.

Community Development director-general Len Dekker confirmed that the council had requested to meet Hough. The administrator would make a statement only after the meeting with the delegation, he said.
Sandton City set to get a R350m facelift

SANDTON City is to be upgraded and expanded at a cost of R350m, which includes the construction of a R133m five-star hotel.

Liberty Life Properties director of shopping centres Gavin Main said yesterday that the 18-floor, 230-room hotel would be situated on the corner of Fifth Street and Alice Lane. Managed by Southern Sun, it would be linked to the existing Sandton Sun and Sandton City complex by a skywalk.

The refurbishment and upgrading of shopping and office facilities would account for R85m. Expansion of the retail area by 23,000m² or 25% would cost another R133m, Main said.

"Apart from the R85m being spent by owners, tens of millions of rands will be spent by tenants upgrading their stores," he said.

The creation of a further 23,000m² of retail space and parking would increase the tradeable area of the centre to 116,000m². The centre would be expanded in the southeast at the corner of Rivonia Road and Sandton Drive.

Construction is expected to begin next April, with completion in late 1993.

"The hotel will conform to the best international standards in every way. We expect strong growth in the national market in both the business and leisure sectors. International tourism will grow due to SA’s political acceptance and corresponding increased foreign investment," Southern Sun Group MD Ron Stringfellow said.
Campaign to cut rates

Philip Zokwa

Representatives of Johannesburg ratepayers' associations last night agreed to launch a campaign to force the Johannesburg City Council to revise its recent rate evaluations.

At a meeting in Highlands North, representatives of ratepayers' associations agreed to demand the resignation of the council's management committee should it fail to respond appropriately to their proposals.

They agreed on the following proposals, to be put to the council on Tuesday:

- The current valuation roll must be scrapped and replaced by a valuation based on realistic property values.
- Pending the formulation of an approved valuation roll, the levy of assessment rates should be based on the valuation roll that was effective until July this year, but should include an increase in rates of 10 percent.
- The council should obtain a maximum profit of 10 percent on the provision of electricity.

The proposals were initiated after public meetings with city councillors had failed to resolve the controversy over the increases which came into effect with the new valuation roll on July 1.

According to the representatives, the property values reflected in the valuation roll are excessive.

Former city valuer Dr John McCullough, who compiled the initial proposals, said the valuations were based on "astronomical" market prices for scarce individual stands.

The representatives, including chairmen and committee members of ratepayers' associations of the city's east, west and north suburbs, will put the proposals to their members in the near future for ratification.
'Kick in pants' forces DP to polish image

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The "kick in the pants" the Democratic Party received from ratepayers in Johannesburg has forced the party to immediately introduce steps to repair its tarnished image.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said yesterday.

At a crisis caucus meeting of DP councillors on Wednesday night, Mr. Davidson was given an unanimous vote of confidence in his leadership of the party and as management committee chairman.

Mr. Davidson said the party recognised that a serious lack of communication had led to the backlash against the DP in the Houghton Killarney municipal by-election last week in which independent Sam Moss won the seat with an overwhelming majority.

Reasons given by ratepayers for their dissatisfaction with the management committee were escalating crime, rates increases, the John Pearce affair, the Civic Spine, and Civic Theatre expenditure.

To try to win back the "faith and trust" of residents, Mr. Davidson has set up a committee to investigate methods to curb crime and has also promised better communication channels.

"Our image became tarnished because of a lack of communication. There is absolute agreement in the NP and DP caucuses in the council that what we are doing is right, but the how - our style - is wrong," Mr. Davidson said. The party had to come up with initiatives to bring people back into the mainstream of government after the shock election defeat.

Security would be an absolute priority.

The DP had taken note of the clear message sent out by voters. "We did what we believed was necessary - possibly we were a little insensitive. When we took over the management committee, we were faced with raised expectations. What we inherited was an enormous mess and we realised we had to take a number of unpopular decisions.

"This is a typical mid-term situation where the governing party gets a kick in the pants. It's to our credit that we took our eye off the political ball and did the right thing, despite knowing that our decision would be resented," he said.

"We have come from a position where we were following, floundering, raked by acrimonious political debate - to a city which has taken the lead in local government. Now we must not be seen to falter."

Ian Davidson... our style is wrong
Council ordered to repay interest to man in arrears

By Jo-Anne Collinge and Mceke Thole

In an unusual twist to the tale of unpaid service bills, the Appeal Court recently ruled that the Mamelodi Town Council should pay R103,38 to a man whose service payments had fallen substantially into arrears.

The amount pertained to interest which had been charged by the council on the overdue service bills owed by Modjaph Johannes Setseh, the appellant in the case.

Mr Justice H J O van Heerden found that the council was bound by law to fix interest at a level approved by the Administrator.

Since the Mamelodi council had not obtained the specified approval, it was not entitled to charge interest at all.

Mr Justice van Heerden also found that in any event, from early 1990 a general ruling had been made which covered the entire province, she said.

But lawyers at the Pretoria Legal Resources Centre, which assisted Mr Setseh in bringing his case, believe thousands of householders in various townships might be in line for repayment for service charges over a substantial period.

In his judgment, Mr Justice van Heerden made it clear that there was a distinction between commercial interests and ordinary residents when it came to determining interest.

"There is much to be said for the argument put forward by counsel for the appellant that there is a perfectly good reason why the legislature intended that a local authority should charge interest on arrears at the rate approved by the Administrator, and only at that rate, the reason being that such an authority is established for the benefit of residents of its area and that it is not a commercial institution," the judge said.

In addition to ordering the council to pay the R103,38, the judge also ordered it to pay costs.
Karl McConnaughton and David White have been invitations to the conference. Mr. McConnaughton identified the Metropolitan Area as a key area that should be addressed. Mr. White emphasized the need to concentrate on solutions for the CBD, but also recognized the importance of the peripheral areas.

There are no easy solutions, but we should approach the problems with a creative and innovative mindset. The conference is an opportunity to discuss and identify potential solutions.
Sandton nod
for building
worth R20-m

By Jacqueline Myburg

"A new building housing a library, council chamber and art gallery is to be constructed in the Sandton CBD by July 1993 at a cost of more than R20 million.

Sandton Town Council last night approved sketch plans and cost estimates for the massive development.

This means that a substantial part of the construction can take place in the current financial year.

In accepting the plan, the council acknowledged the importance of having as much of the work completed in the present financial year "in view of the budgetary constraints that the Department of Finance wishes to impose on the council's capital expenditure in the next financial year."

Another proposal, for the construction of an underground parking garage at a cost of R12.6 million, was referred back to the management committee.

Reservations were expressed about the construction of the civic building, but the proposal was unanimously approved.

Peter Jardine had said he thought the construction was premature, considering the changes facing local authorities.

"It's as if it's an opportunity to spend money before someone grabs it to spend on something basic," he said.

Several other councillors, however, said the planned building was overdue, particularly the library.

Excavation and construction of the new civic building, which will face the new Town Square, is due to start in February next year.

The project should be completed by June the following year.

The plans passed by the council last night were a revised version of a proposal which came before the management committee in May and was rejected because of the high cost..."
"Partnership" will address city's woes

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Delegates at the Strategic Conference on Johannesburg's City Centre have agreed to establish an agency by the end of March to address problems and development in the area.

The conference is the first inner city initiative of its kind involving the private sector, Johannesburg City Council and the community.

Key issues under discussion at the two-day workshop which ended yesterday included security, transport, housing, finance, urban decay, retail, recreation and culture, managing and marketing the city.

Civic representative Cas Corovadia said the "acid test for the initiative" will come in giving genuine empowerment to the various actors involved, particularly the community, which has to play a more central role.

A group of 18 people from the three sectors represented will form the steering committee to set up the agency, to be known as the Central Johannesburg Partnership.

The agency will deal with problems in the city centre and all high density areas such as Hillbrow and Braamfontein. All agreed that the conference had exceeded expectations and consensus was reached on fundamental principles.

Cliff McMillan, chairman of the interim steering committee formed to organise the workshop, said Johannesburg could not maintain its position as the engine room of southern Africa without the participation and cooperation of the widest range of parties.

International Downtown Association chairman Richard Bradley, who acted as facilitator, said Johannesburg's status as a world class city was undervalued.

Funding for the new agency will come mainly from the business community and issues will be dealt with on a project basis.

Anglo American Property Services MD, Gerald Lessner said big business should become involved in the funding of future action.

A more detailed document on ideas to come out of the workshops will be released next month.
Row brews over Soweto freehold area

A row is brewing in Soweto between developers, the council and the Protea South Homeowners' Association over the township's one and only freehold title area.

The Homeowners' Association claims it has been given a raw deal by developers Gough Cooper and the Soweto City Council who, it alleges, have failed to fully develop the area.

Association spokesman Mike Baloyi has accused the developers and the council of overpricing the land and not building the suburb according to specifications.

He said the supposedly elite suburb was surrounded by a squatter camp and dilapidated houses which had led to a decline of property values.

Homeowners were afraid of increased crime and health hazards.

Other grievances included the incomplete tarring of streets and roads, inadequate street lighting, too few telephones, a poor postal service and fluctuating land prices.

Mr. Baloyi said his association's meetings with both parties were in vain. Even an appeal to financial institutions to intervene drew a blank.

"Now the only avenue available to us is to seek redress through the courts of law."

"We maintain Gough Cooper and the council should keep their promise of making the suburb attractive and of high value otherwise we will take the matter to court," Mr. Baloyi said.

Unjustified

Dermond Gloster, group public relations manager for Gough Cooper, said the complaints have been directed for the most part at the wrong quarter.

"For instance we are concerned about the presence of squatters, but have no authority to interfere directly in this matter. We have protested repeatedly to the Soweto City Council about it because they are occupying land scheduled for development by ourselves. So far the council has taken no action."

"The state of the old, Protea houses in the area is also a matter for the council, rather than ourselves. Nor are we responsible for street lighting, postal or telephone services."

Complaints of buildings not being completed according to specifications were unjustified, he said.

Each house is thoroughly checked by inspectors from the building society providing the finance, before any payment is made to the company, he added.

He said: "Roads remain untarred in some sections where no development has yet taken place. No Gough Cooper houses are on sale in those areas as we only develop in phases that have been seen and approved by the council."

"As to the alleged inconsistency in the pricing of land, the price varies according to the size and position of the plot and also over a period of time, according to market conditions."

The council failed to respond to allegations in a fax from The Star two weeks ago.
Jimmy Knight said import cargo was more likely to be pilfered than export cargo. "Most of the incoming goods are hi-tech items, and tempt theft, whereas the first quarter next year.

Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) airport systems head Stuart Hackwell would not comment on allegations that Jan Smuts was

More municipalities keen to privatise emergency services

WILSON ZWANE

LOCAL authorities were showing considerable interest in having their fire and ambulance services privatised. Benoni Fire and Emergency Services MD Stephen Barber said yesterday.

Barber said the interest by the municipalities was apparently sparked by the Benoni Town Council's decision two months ago to contract out its fire and ambulance services to his company.

Barber said from the talks he had had with "a number of local chiefs", it was clear that there was a lot of interest. Some of the councils were considering emulating the Benoni Town Council, he said.

Meanwhile, the Benoni Fire and Emergency Services — a company formed by the Benoni Town Council, its employees and the Fire and Emergency Services Holding Company in September — is on the verge of rendering services to Benoni ratepayers.

The Benoni municipality is the first in Africa to have privatised its emergency services. Management committee chairman Dane Taljaard has said the privatisation would save the council and its ratepayers about R15m over the next five years.

Potato comment on this issue by Jan Jansen. Newsdesk by Cecile Hefer. Headlines and subheadings by Dennis Armour. All of Times Media Lid. 11 Diagonal St., Johannesburg.
Randburg adopts ‘open door’ policy

By Jacqueline Myburgh

The Randburg Town Council last night resolved to adopt a public participation strategy, which will include public opinion polls every three years — the first of which will be held early next year.

Although the council said it had always maintained “an open door policy”, the purpose of a formal strategy being adopted was to establish better administration through the broadening of the information basis for decision making.

The strategy was also aimed at creating a better public understanding of council matters.

The strategy includes:

- Regular discussions between these associations and the management committee or other committees.
- Urging councillors to be available for interviews with residents in their wards.
- Residents will be invited to make recommendations to the management committee and in some cases to serve on advisory committees of the council.
China Town plan for Verwoerdburg

Pretoria Correspondent

The Verwoerdburg Town Council is to relocate about 500 families from the Far East in a massive "China Town" which will cover nearly 100 ha south of Verwoerdburgstad.

A council spokesman said very delicate negotiations were underway between the principals in a development south of the town.

He said no other comment was available at this time as the matter was "sub judice".

The development company has not been named by the council.

It is believed the development will include an industrial job-creation section, a residential section and a retail and commercial section.

It is thought that it will be built near Highveld Technopark behind the new Makro.

Town councilor for Irene David van der Byl confirmed today that he had already sold 30 ha behind Makro to the development company for an undisclosed amount.

Verwoerdburg town clerk Piet Geers and other representatives who were to have flown to the Far East this year, have postponed their trip pending further negotiations with the interested parties.

It is believed the town's main attraction will be an original Chinese village.

People would be able to visit the village to enjoy authentic Chinese food, entertainment and crafts.

Development

The complex will also comprise a large industrial park where many of the residents will be employed in computer, electronic and other high-tech industrial work.

Mr Geers said the development would be a gradual one which would ultimately house about 500 families from somewhere in the Far East.

The planned immigration follows the town council's attempts last year to attract investors from Hong Kong to the Technopark.

A council representative spent about two weeks in the Far East in May last year to investigate a belief that "a number of Hong Kong investors, who were looking for alternative investments when the People's Republic of China — mainland China — took over the area at the end of the century, could be interested in investing in the town".

It is believed that earlier setbacks with the planned immigration of the families came from the request that the families be allowed to bring their own teachers and domestic servants.

It is believed the Department of Home Affairs would only grant permission for families with high-tech industrial skills to immigrate and not unskilled domestic labour.
Jo'burg offers
to host talks
on new SA
By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

As the country’s main political
players continue sensitive dis-
cussions to choose a neutral
venue for “real” constitutional
negotiations, the Johannesburg
City Council yesterday offered
the city and its municipal facili-
ties as a possible rendezvous for
the historic event.

Chairman Ian Davidson said an
invitation had been faxed off
yesterday to Fanie van der
Merwe, one of the Govern-
ment’s main negotiators and a
co-ordinator of the multiparty
talks.

Preparatory talks between
some 20 political parties will be
held at the Jan Smuts Holiday
Yeh tomorrow, while the hotel
has been mooted as the venue
for the start of multiparty talks
on December 20 and 21.

Mr Davidson said the council
was aware through the media
that the December talks would
possibly take place at the air-
port hotel.

“We would like to offer our-
selves as a venue for either that
meeting or the multi/all-party
conference itself because we
believe we have the necessary
infrastructure as a council and
as Johannesburg,” he said.

Mr Davidson said the city had
built up credibility in pioneering
the Metropolis Chamber, a forum for multiparty talks on
local government.

Through the Metropolis
Chamber, where we have been
doing what they (life national
political leaders) will be doing,
Johannesburg has built up suffi-
cient credibility and goodwill
with all parties to be able to say
we will be deemed a sufficient
neutral venue

In addition, Johannesburg of-
ered an excellent communica-
tions infrastructure
Matlala re-elected Diepmeadow mayor

The mayor of Diepmeadow City Council, Mr. Jonah Matlala, was returned to office during the mayoral elections this week. He beat rival Mr. Johannes Matlala by 12 votes. Matlala received three votes.

Matlala took over the mayorship of the area after Mr. Julius Khumalo was gunned down in May.

Thanking Matlala for his devotion in his service to the communities of Diepmeadow, chairman of the management committee Mr. Frederick Phiri said, "Even though Matlala was unlettered and uneducated, he had shown dedication and work." Matlala said he would appeal to the Transvaal Provincial Administration to provide more land.

Mr. Zebulon Thabane was elected deputy mayor.
Pretoria goes to township’s rescue

THE cash-strapped township of Atteridgeville, plagued by problems in supplying and maintaining services to its 11 500 households, is to get wide-ranging assistance from the Pretoria City Council.

Atteridgeville administrator Martiens Nel, whose council owes Pretoria R10m for electricity and other services, said yesterday the assistance was not financial, but involved supply and maintenance of services.

Nel had asked the council for urgent discussions on co-operation with Atteridgeville. He had said its problems were compounded by inability to perform administrative, technical and financial functions.

Pretoria decided this week that its transport department, which had evaluated Atteridgeville’s refuse trucks, would help repair essential vehicles, consider hiring vehicles to the township and provide driver training to five officials.

Stationery and cleaning equipment will also be provided. The sports and recreation department will advise on maintenance and management of sports and recreation areas and provide training for workers.

Pretoria will run the local electrical sub-station and train electricity personnel.

Pretoria town clerk N N Redelinghuys had recommended to his council that a working group be set up to investigate how to help, starting with the possibility of doing administrative and accounting duties on an agency basis.

Nel said yesterday about 25% of the township’s households were defaulting on payments. “By Wednesday morning we had cut off electricity supply to about 300 of these households.”
The Roodepoort City Council decided at its monthly meeting last night to appoint a special committee to discuss possible co-operation between and integration of Roodepoort, Dobsonville, Fleurhof and Davidsonville.

The council recommended that National Party councillors Dave Trejeven, Benny Kok, Dawie Laduck, P C du Plessis, and CP councillor Robbie Muider serve on the committee.

Mr. Muider said the council was aware of his political affiliation and it was ludicrous that he had been asked to serve on such a committee.

He said that although he and his party were willing to assist neighbouring towns and townships, they could not recommend possible integration now or in the future.

The council decided the appointed committee would hold discussions with its neighbours, the TPA, the Rand Water Board, and others.

After the special committee had made its findings, a future council recommendation could be that there should be proportional representation of the surrounding town and townships on the Roodepoort Council.
White councils under fire for helping black townships

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

Several white city councils are, to varying degrees, taking over the administrations of their struggling neighbouring black townships — drawing accusations that they are trying to “surreptitiously revive black local authorities.

This week, Pretoria City Council approved recommendations to assist Atteridgeville in rendering services and training township administrators. Funds for the programme would be sought from the Regional Services Council and Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The Roodepoort management committee has also accepted a proposal to take over the entire administrations of Dobsonville and Fleurhof/Davidsonville.

On the East Rand, according to the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST), an attempt is under way to “amalgamate” the Germiston, Edenvale and Palmridge town councils with the Katlehong administration.

"These moves are clear attempts at undermining our demand for nonracial city councils. The National Party is trying to short-circuit our demand for democratically elected bodies," said CAST general secretary Dan Motsoeleng.

The Conservative Party, reaching to Roodepoort management committee's decision, has called on Roodepoort's councillors to reject the proposals — or resign from the council "so that voters can have the opportunity to pass judgement on the proposals."
TPA identifies massive tracts for housing

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is believed to be on the verge of identifying about five vast tracts of land in the northern PWV region to be developed as site-and-service projects to meet massive urbanisation

This follows the controversial establishment of Ivory Park on the eastern boundary of Pretoria/Phatik and the vehement objections raised by residents and city officials. The question now is whether the Transvaal Provincial Administration's (TPA) decision to develop these areas will be met with similar objections.

Sources have indicated that the first of the sites could be available from as early as March. According to reliable sources, the bulk of these settlements will accommodate Johannesburg's northern suburbs, specifically Sandton, Randburg, Midrand and Verwoerd. The following developments are expected to be announced soon:

- It is speculated that the so-called "Norweto" or Diepsloot area is being considered to accommodate Sandton workers from Sevenfontein area. A large number of squatter shacks were recently demolished.
- Cosmo City on the outskirts of Johannesburg is also a possibility.
- Parts of Modderfontein/Limbro Park/Mia Park Trust land east of the Pretoria/Johannesburg freeway are being investigated to provide relief for Alexandra.
- Agricultural land east of Jan Smuts Road near Oliefontein is being considered as the logical extension of Tembisa.
- Land near Irene is earmarked as housing for workers of the burgeoning industrial sector in Verwoerd.

When asked for comment, TPA director of physical planning Jan Pretorius would not say if discussions about the future of these areas had taken place.

But he said that no official announcement had been made and if such an announcement was made, it would not be without the knowledge of the residents or councils in the areas.

Recently the Greenbelt Action Group, which halted the Norweto development of peri-urban land west of Modimed and applied for the area including Diepsloot to become a Local Area Committee (LAC) and for the major portion of it to be recognised as a conservancy.

The Council for Local Government Affairs (the successor to the Transvaal Board for the Development of Peri-Urban Areas) indicated at that time that Sandton, Randburg and Kruisdrift were seeking to expand their boundaries to the north.
Councillors take slight with a smile

BY JOE MDHLELA

Len Kumalo was at some point reminded by the electoral officer to limit his movements as he might just interfere with secret ballot papers.

"Needless to say that Kumalo understood his duties to be limited to taking pictures - and nothing more. By that time I was rolling over in laughter. Only a sharp accusing stare from the electoral officer reminded me of the serious business at hand.

The mayor surprised all by not objecting to being called "unlettered" and "unsophisticated" by one of the speakers. Instead he clapped his hands and nodded as if giving a stamp of approval to this seeming slight.

But it made me wonder how the councillors sort out civic matters when they can become so docile even when their characters are slighted.
"Greenbelt' residents to fight on squatter issue

RESIDENTS of the plush "greenbelt" northwest of Johannesburg are squaring up for a fight with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) over the proposed development of the area which they fear will include large-scale squatting.

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) yesterday announced it would form a civic association to prevent the TPA from developing low-cost housing and relocating squatters in the area, which lies between the Sandton-/Randburg boundaries and the Hartbeespoort Dam.

TPA MEC for Planning John Mavuso announced plans yesterday for several small low-cost housing sites in the "greenbelt", saying there was a "need of land for the settlement of low-income communities north of Randburg and Sandton".

GAG, which represents conservation-minded residents, said the area should be preserved as a "green lung" to be used for limited development and recreation.

GAG chairman Anthony Dugan said yesterday the development was "ill conceived", and accused the TPA of lacking a development strategy and practicing ad hoc "crisis management".

He said timeshare apartments and small industries were also threatening the area.

Asked why he thought the "greenbelt" should be spared the development of the rest of the PWV area, he said the "green lung" was essential for the PWV.

He said he was sympathetic to the plight of squatters, who are increasingly moving into the "greenbelt", but said it was the function of the TPA, not GAG, to properly house victims of bad policy.

He added that Randburg and Sandton councils had shown a willingness to relocate squatters currently living in the "greenbelt" Moving homeless people in small numbers to the area would not work, he said, because small squatter settlements inevitably grew into big ones.

Mavuso said yesterday the TPA would consult ratepayers' associations and "other interest groups" in the region over its plans, and added that the TPA executive committee had not yet taken any decision on the development of the area.

But he said discussions with local authorities in the area had concluded that a recommendation be made to the TPA executive committee that small concentrations of low-cost housing should be developed in the area.
Jo'burg's first step away from old SA

Negotiations for the establishment of a common voters' roll for the Johannesburg metropolitan area will begin in January if a major document on the constitutional future of the region is accepted at the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting tonight.

In what is probably the most important meeting since the Chamber was formed in April, delegates will decide whether or not to accept a proposal to elect an interim metropolitan government comprising the structure of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council, which will disband by July 1.

If the constitutional proposals are passed by all the local authorities, cities and Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) today, the process of dismantling local government apartheid structures in South Africa's major region will have begun.

It is envisaged that a final model will be in place by 1993.
Moves on inner city joint plans

By James Clarke

Johannesburg Council, community and business leaders have agreed to further talks about a new direction for the inner city, following a two-day brainstorming session attended by organisations as diverse as Anglo American and the ANC.

They have agreed on the desirability of establishing an agency for central Johannesburg representing the three interest groups and possibly others to determine priorities and action plans.

A group comprising 18 — six from each sector — will establish the agency before April.

One of the spokesman for "the community" at the two-day talks, Coovadia of Johannesburg Civic Association, said "The acid test will come in giving genuine empowerment to the various actors involved — particularly the community which has to play a more central role in decision making."

Mr Coovadia said council management committee chairman Ian Davidson said he recognised that "the city council needs input from the broader community."

Anglo American Property Service's Gerald Leissner said business was "looking for more specific action in the short term from the council — in terms of issues such as security, cleaning and maintenance — and is itself prepared to become fully involved."
PWV green belt -

'black option' threat

By Shirley Woodgate

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) yesterday warned it would resort to "the black option" if all legal means failed to convince the authorities of the need to preserve the group's 100 sq km Kareebosrand conservancy area as a recreational "green lung" for the PWV.

The threat to apply the pressure tactics of the civic associations was in reaction to well-founded speculation that at least five legal squatter camps north of Johannesburg are about to be announced by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

One is in Diepsloot, which is part of the 1986 "Norwest plan," originally intended to house 500,000 people but shelved after massive opposition from affected residents.

Other site-and-service developments are allegedly planned for Cosmo City, adjoining the farm of Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder west of Randburg, an area near to Irene, land north of Tembisa and a belt from the Islamic Trust east of the Ben Schoeman highway through Modderfontein to Linbro Park.

Mr van Tonder reportedly told Sapa that the TPA had told him the rumours concerning the area in the vicinity of his farm were unfounded.

"My farm has instead been earmarked for incorporation by the city of Randburg. There seem to be no plans afoot to turn this vicinity into any overnight squatter camp for the TPA," he said.

Late yesterday, Transvaal MEC John Mavuso announced that the need for low-cost housing in Muldersdrift, Chartwell and Rantensig would be met by "smaller concentrations spread over more areas."

But GAG chairman Anthony Duigan said "Ivory Park, where 90,000 people have been accommodated in less than two years adjoins Rahnbe Ridge and President Park in Midrand, has showed that once squatter development is allowed, it knows no boundaries."

An area bounded by the Skurweberg south of Hartbeespoort Dam, Lanseria Airport, Vlakplaats and the Johannesburg City Council-owned Diepsloot nature reserve had been declared the Transvaal's first conservancy three years ago.

About 150,000 smallholders, including several "black" kraals, now occupy the area.

The region included the "last great urban greenbelt" in the entire PWV and should be preserved for posterity, Mr Duigan said.

The action by the TPA was labelled "ill-conceived" and typical of the crass response employed by the authorities to the pressures of urbanisation.

GAG recently applied to incorporate land up to the Krugersdorp highway, and it is believed Sandton and Krugersdorp are eyeing land beyond their northern boundaries.
Jo’burg seeks court order on unpaid rent

The housing feud between the Johannesburg City Council and the Emerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association (Esca) came to a head yesterday when the city council brought an urgent Supreme Court application against the residents.

Esca spokesman Roger McCulloch said matters had reached this stage because the council demanded that residents, who had bought their houses under a deed of sale, now take transfer of the properties and pay arrears rentals or face eviction.

"But the council is asking between R27 000 and R35 000 for houses in Emerdale Extension 5 that have been valued at no more than R15 000."

Major financial institutions had pulled out of the scheme, said Mr McCulloch, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research had condemned most of the houses, recommending that some be demolished to window level and rebuilt.

"We are an established community, and we are prepared to pay the rental and take transfer of the houses," said Mr McCulloch.

"All we want is for the city council to discuss our grievances with us and value the houses more realistically — something they have consistently refused to do for the past six years."

City council management committee chairman Ian Davidson described "as absolute nonsense" claims that bonds could not be raised because of the poor quality of the houses.

"Of the 800 houses in the original development scheme, some 400 have been sold already."

On the allegation that the CSIR had found 90 percent of the houses defective, Mr Davidson admitted that CSIR tests had found certain defects.

"However, later tests by the city council showed that defects were not as widespread as reported by the CSIR."

After negotiations with the Emerdale management committee and Esca, Mr Davidson said, it was agreed that an arbitrator would decide the value of each house, and assess the cost of repairing any defects.

The cost of repairs would be deducted from the purchase price.

It was also agreed to waive the rental backlog, amounting to R4 million, if residents paid the current rent. Residents would then go through the process of applying for bonds.

If bonds were not available, residents could remain in their houses as long as rent was being paid.

"There was never any ultimatum to residents to either take transfer or be evicted. There is no way we will evict anyone who is paying his rent."

"What actually happened was that we struck a deal, and Esca reneged on the deal. There appears to be a hard core among the residents who seem to want the houses given to them."

The court hearing was postponed until January — Sapa.
Row as Ermelo raises civic centre deposit

Ermelo Town Council can charge anything it likes for the hire of its facilities, as long as it is operating according to ordinance, the Transvaal Provincial Administration said yesterday.

The council has just increased the maximum deposit for use of the civic centre to R100,000.

A spokesman for the TPA said it had no comment on the decision made by the council at a stormy meeting on Thursday, as councillors could use their own discretion in such matters as long as they operated within the law.

The decision has sparked a row between Conservative Party councillors and independents, who have warned that they will oppose the deposit increase.

CP-controlled management committee vice-chairman Hein Ments said the previous maximum deposit of R5,000 was inadequate and the figure had merely been brought in line with current costs of repair.

"The increase has nothing to do with trying to prevent all races from using the facilities or the recent court order obtained by Ermelo Mines forcing the council to admit black employees to attend a mine function in the city hall.

"It is only a returnable deposit and we may never impose the maximum," he said.

Independent councillor Frikke Beneke has dismissed Mr Ments's comments and said repairs would be covered by council insurance.

He said he would bring the matter to the Administrator's attention.

The office windows of independent Piet de Beer, who was ordered out of the chamber by mayor Barry Myburgh during Thursday's debate, have been defaced with sprayed signs reading "pig", "traitor" and "NP".
Cyril Ramaphosa 'barred' from Transvaal meeting

JOHANNESBURG – ANC general-secretary Cyril Ramaphosa was allegedly turned away from a meeting of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber at the Johannesburg Civic Centre.

Mr Ramaphosa last night “went for a normal meeting between the Soweto Civic Association and the Metropolitan Chamber and was turned away,” said ANC spokesman Mr Gill Marcus.

“He was asked for identification which he did not have. This is quite unacceptable,” Mr Marcus said.

A delegation from the Elmerdale and Surrounding Civic Association was also turned away — Sapa
A PROPOSED amalgamation with Katlehong, Palm Ridge and Bedfordview will make Germiston the first city in SA to combine the established residential areas of all population groups. In the process, it is expected to give the city a lead in establishing the new SA, drawing in overseas investors and creating an environment for industrial peace and prosperity.

At the same time, the city expects to make the transition to a changed national political structure more smoothly.

Town clerk Tienie Heyneke says: "We decided to join forces with Katlehong for practical reasons. When your neighbour is drowning, you have two choices: You can pull him out, or you can let him drag you down with him."

"Our survival is linked with that of Katlehong, and it makes sense to centralise the administration of the two areas to improve efficiency and quality."

Inevitable

He says it is inevitable that the future will see the borders of cities and regions being altered to address the inequalities in viability between black and white areas.

"Why wait until we are forced to join hands?"

"By reaching an amicable agreement now, we can develop a system, forge links and train people to be ready to meet the changes."

"Indications are that cities will be able to choose from a variety of models in determining how they will be run, and we will be better able to choose what is best if we are already friends."

Heyneke says inefficient administration and poor services are a major cause of distress and resentment within black townships.

"Someone who receives an electricity bill of R5 000 because of an administrative error isn't going to attempt to deal with it."

The administration of Katlehong is inefficient because it lacks the money and equipment to be anything else.

"By making our facilities available and helping to train staff, we can make a substantial difference to the residents of the town."

This move has met with widespread approval from industry, which sees it as a positive step toward stability and security.

"Most industrialists want to see their workforce enjoying an improved quality of life, if only because that makes them more reliable and productive," he says.

If the amalgamation comes off, the city plans to consolidate political and administrative control in Germiston, with regional offices operating in Katlehong and Bedfordview.

The proposed political body will comprise 57 councillors, made up of the existing seats in Bedfordview, Germiston, Palm Ridge and Katlehong. This body will govern the whole of the greater Germiston area.

Another resolution, however, indicates that spending will not be spread evenly across the board.

Mones collected will be spent on the areas where they have been collected, apart from a nominal initial 5% which will be fed to Katlehong.

Before its success can be assured, however, various challenges must be met.

"A potential pitfall is the need to end the rent and service boycott in Katlehong," says Heyneke.

"Arrears amount to millions. It owes Eskom R2m. "We are working as much as possible with the trade unions and the suppliers to reach some agreement over payment."

"At the same time, we need to persuade the residents to pay at least some of the money owing to Katlehong Town Council to enable it to settle its debts."

Priority

If negotiations do not come unstuck over this issue, a priority will be to improve the quality of services in Katlehong.

"Having won the residents' co-operation over paying for what they get, we will aim to bring about improvements as rapidly as possible. Linked with this, we aim to heed the cry for a balanced tax base."

"But Germiston cannot take on the load of uprooting Katlehong unaided."

Response to the proposed merger has been mixed.

Some Bedfordview rate-payers are bitterly opposed on the grounds that the merger will rob their town of its exclusive identity and cost them money.

CP councillors in Germiston have little objection to amalgamating with Bedfordview — but are resist-
TPA plans new black townships

RECOMMENDATIONS have been made to the Transvaal Provincial Administration for the establishment of low-cost communities north of Randburg and Sandton.

Representatives of the TPA have had talks with all the relevant local authorities in the area, including the Local Government Affairs Council, in connection with the proposed development.

TPA MEC Mr John Mavuso said it had been agreed that the need for low-cost housing in that region should not be met through concentrations on one two or large sites, but rather through smaller concentrations spread over more areas.

It was also decided that the different local authorities should consult with the developers’ associations and other interest groups in their area.

The TPA has, however, not yet taken any decision on the development.

The critical housing shortage has created problems in South Africa and many private enterprises and property institutions have made efforts to alleviate the crisis.

Shelter

Over the past four and half years, a total of 29,000 families have obtained housing through developers and contractors working with the SA Housing Trust, providing shelter for an estimated 190,000 people.

The building of these houses was underpinned by the provision of some 40,000 serviced stands in close co-operation with local community representatives.

However, financial institutions have been reluctant to enter the low-income market in any meaningful way.
City council in feud with Ennerdale folks

THE housing feud between the Johannesburg City Council and the Ennerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association came to a head on Tuesday when an urgent Supreme Court application was brought against the residents.

Esca spokesman Mr Roger McCulloch said matters had reached this stage because of the city council demand that residents, who bought the houses under a deed of sale, now take over the properties and pay arrear rentals or face eviction.

"But the council is asking between R27,000 and R35,000 for houses in Ennerdale Extension 5 that have been valued at no more than R15,000."

In addition, major financial institutions have pulled out of the housing scheme, which he says has been poorly constructed.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research had condemned the majority of the houses, recommending that some be broken down to window level and rebuilt.

"All we want is for the city council to discuss our grievances with us and value the houses more realistically - something they have consistently refused to do for the past six years."

Apparently previous resident committees had tried without success to elicit a response from the council, which McCulloch says is only prepared to discuss the matter on its own terms.

Chairman of the Johannesburg City Council Management Committee Mr Ian Davidson described "as absolute nonsense" the charge that bonds were not available because of the poor quality of the houses.

"Of the 800 houses in the original development scheme, 400 have been sold already."

Davidson admitted that tests carried out by the CSIR found certain defects.

Davidson said it was agreed that an independent arbitrator would decide the value of individual houses, and assess the cost of repairing the defects.

It was agreed to waive the rental backlog for the time being if residents paid the current rental. The residents would then apply for bonds. - SA Press Association
The Transvaal Provincial Administration has thrown its weight behind a recommendation that 103,000 Soweto rented houses or those under leasehold should be transferred free of charge to the occupants.

When TPA representative Olaus van Zyl announced this at the Metropolitan Chamber meeting last night, Soweto Civic Association secretary Pat Lephanya called for a round of applause.

Now all eyes are on the Cabinet to see whether it will approve what chamber chairman Dr. Frederik van Zyl Slabbert referred to as an historic move.

The free transfer will affect only older houses. But the chamber and TPA also back the idea that some 14,000 houses built in Soweto since 1962 should be offered for sale at a discount.

He cautioned that the Cabinet would have the final say and would have to consider the matter as a precedent which would have national implications - Sapa
Rand Airport triggers related development

MAJOR development is planned around Germiston Lake, Rand Airport and Germiston Golf Course, and private sector developers look forward to calls for a batch of tenders from early next year.

The city councils of Germiston and Johannesburg are putting their heads together to develop a concept that will make the most of the potential of the area.

Germiston town clerk Tone Heyneke says: "No other undeveloped area in South Africa has so much going for it."

Progress

Management committee chairman Leon Louw says: "We have made good progress in developing the concepts and expect to be able to start talking to private developers from about January."

Incorporating an airport, the largest lake on the Witwatersrand and a major section of the recreational strip running through Germiston, the area is a stone's throw from Gosforth Park race track and the Olympic-quality Herman Immerman Stadium.

It is also close to one of the largest industrial areas in SA, is a matter of minutes from Jan Smuts Airport and has unparalleled access to the freeway network serving the East Rand.

"The concept developed out of Johannesburg City Council's decision to develop Rand Airport, which is the busiest in SA.

"It soon became clear that the airport couldn't be seen in isolation and Germiston council representatives were invited to join the committee," says Heyneke.

In addition to upgrading Rand Airport and developing space to accommodate service industries, the committee is considering the development of two new hotel developments, an entertainment-oriented retail development on the shores of the lake and an upmarket residential complex around the golf course.

"It doesn't make sense for businessmen flying into Rand Airport to have to travel into the Johannesburg CBD for hotel accommodation, especially as many of them come to visit the East Rand," says Heyneke.

"We already have a Formula One hotel, which has proved successful. Now we would like to develop a second such hotel, as well as a three-to-five star operation."

Quality

The proposal is for a Formula One hotel on the underdeveloped north side of the lake, while the better-quality hotel, incorporating a conference centre, would be to the south, between the established resort area and the golf course.

These facilities will be used by a wide range of people, from sportsmen to visiting businessmen.

At the same time, the committee is looking into the prospects for the phased development of apartments on the north-west bank, between the lake and the golf course.

There is also potential to extend the resort function of the area, possibly with the introduction of an upmarket gymnasium and sports club.

Louw says he would like to see some retail development along similar lines as Fisherman's Village at Braam Lake.

"Our development plans are intended to enhance the lake while realising its full potential, but we are committed to keeping most of the land around the lake public open space," Heyneke says.

"We have yacht, fishing and motor boat clubs operating on the lake and the picnic spots, restaurants, putt putt course and miniature tram make this one of the most popular resorts on the East Rand."
Reef cities, townships seek unity

The Star-Telegram December 1991

BRIEFING
of life on the gold fields and acts as a constant threat to attempts at peaceful coexistence between white and black. Last year’s crippling consumer boycotts came as a direct result of white vigilante action.

The AWB, in particular, encourages people to take the law into their own hands to "protect" themselves from their neighbours.

The tension between white and black has an impact at all levels. Talks of a common tax base between white Welkom and Thabong, with its 250,000 inhabitants, is a major point of conflict on local government level.

The general feeling is that the cake is too small to share.

Serious rightwingers are in the process of setting up alternative social structures. A whites-only private school and whites-only residential area are already in the pipeline.

The victory heralds a bleak dawn for the gold fields and further afield. Welkom and Virginia are no different from other gold mining towns or their industrial counterparts on the East and West Rand, where racism has become a parasite feeding on economic chaos.

Victory for the Conservative Party (CP) in the Virginia by-election last Thursday came as no surprise. A prolonged economic recession combined with deeply entrenched racism gave the reformist National Party (NP) no chance.

In a 55% poll, CP candidate Kobus Beyers got 7,980 votes to trounce the NP’s Jac Kloppers (4,814). In 1989, the Nats (6,911 votes) only just managed to hold off the CP (6,864). The swing underlines the potency of the rightwing as a factor to be taken into account in the negotiations for a new constitution.

Talk in Welkom and Virginia focused on three issues: violence on the mines, economic hardship and the broken promises of the Nationalists.

Economic hardship has become a way of life on the Free State gold fields. In Welkom, unemployment among the 240,000 black community is estimated as high as 80%. Neighbouring Virginia mirrors similar statistics.

Dependent on the mining industry, shops, hotels and restaurants in Welkom have seen business plummeting to an all-time low. Business was also besieged by two harsh consumer boycotts — a direct result of simmering racial tension.

Parts of Virginia have turned into a ghost town. Rows and rows of vandalised, deserted houses characterise the suburbs of the mining sector. In less than two years, some 2,000 white miners have faced retrenchment.

Vacated homes subsequently let by the mining houses to black families were pounced on by Conservative candidate Kobus Beyers as a major rallying point Beyers, a seasoned politician, exploited every sign of racial prejudice and distrust.

The white mining community is a hotbed of rightwing activity. With the gold fields being one of the best organised AWB regions, the CP relied on their active support. The strongly entrenched White Mineworkers Union added their muscle to the CP campaign.

Rightwing militancy has become a feature...
Criminal action considered

PRETORIA - The Attorney-General will be asked to institute criminal proceedings against five members of the southwest management committee — which runs Johannesburg's coloured areas — for alleged irregularities uncovered by a provincial commission of inquiry.

Transvaal's local government MEC Burger Lategan said yesterday the province's executive committee had decided to refer "certain irregularities" concerning committee members M Mateman, V A Thomas, M A Rhamoje, S S Adams and C Jacobs to the Attorney-General.

Mateman is the wife of NP MP for Eldorado Park Don Mateman.

The executive committee appointed a commission of inquiry in 1990 after receiving complaints about the south-western management committee.

The executive committee had also decided that Johannesburg city council's management committee chairman should also be asked to "tack off" the five "about their unauthorised actions regarding the letter of 1989 advising tenants not to pay the increased tariffs."

The council would be asked to submit to the TPA a follow-up report on the housing allotment situation.

It would also be asked to dismiss the five "by applying at a competent court of law," Lategan said, and become clearer that the "transgressions of the committee members concerned were of such a nature that action should be instituted against them." - Sapa
TPA looks set to extend house ownership

THE decision by the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber to transfer about 118,000 houses to residents has resulted in pressure to extend full ownership to all Transvaal blacks.

There are already strong indications that the Transvaal Provincial Administration has accepted this principle.

The chamber this week approved a Soweto Civic Association recommendation that 118,499 rented or leasehold houses in Greater Soweto be transferred to residents. The older houses — about 104,000 — would be handed over free of charge, while others would go at reduced cost.

Transvaal MEC Olaus van Zyl told the chamber's meeting on Wednesday night that he would take the decision to the Cabinet for approval.

The chamber's decision, he said, would have "tremendous" implications countrywide. If approved by government, the move would be a major step towards granting property rights to blacks.

Civics association Cast yesterday called on the TPA to extend full ownership of all 333,000 state-owned houses in the Transvaal.

Cast deputy president Kgaps Mosunkuha said it would make no sense for the TPA, and indeed central government, to refuse to grant the same agreement to all other township residents.

Mosunkuha said the decision was a victory for people who had struggled for many years for what was rightly theirs.

The transfer of the housing stock had been one of Soweto residents' demands during the five-year rent boycott, and it grew louder after the September 1990 signing of the Greater Soweto Accord which wrote off R515m in arrears.

"As such we also appreciate the TPA's finally acknowledging the right of every individual to own a home — to purchase a house if they so wish," Mosunkuha said.
Jo’burg local govt members to face charges

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Criminal proceedings will be instituted against five members of the South-Western Management Committee in Johannesburg for alleged irregularities, on recommendation by the TPA.

Transvaal MEC for local government Burger Lategahn said yesterday that the TPA executive committee was dissatisfied with irregularities exposed in a provincial commission of inquiry into the South-Western Management Committee, which administers the so-called coloured areas in Johannesburg.

The committee members involved are Margaret Mateman, Victor Thomas (who has since resigned his position), Mark Ramjee, Steven Adams and Claude Jacobs.

The Johannesburg City Council has, been asked by the TPA to consider taking legal steps against the five members by applying in court for their dismissal.

"It became clear, upon discussing the matter with officials of the TPA after the findings of the commission were submitted, that the transgressions of the committee members concerned were of such a nature that action should be instituted against them," Mr Lategahn said.

He added that a clean administration was an absolute necessity and that the TPA and the executive committee would do everything in their power to rectify any unsound administration or maladministration found to be practiced at local government level.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson was also asked by the TPA to "kick off" the five members for unauthorised actions regarding a 1969 letter advising residents not to pay increased tariffs.

Mr Davidson said the city council took a very serious view of the commission findings.

"I have requested the city secretary to examine the findings of the commission with the view to taking very serious action. The findings cast a very serious shadow over the workings of the entire South-Western Management Committee."

The inquiry, which was chaired by retired chief magistrate J J Loeu, was appointed last year by the TPA following complaints from residents and the city council.

United Civic Association chairman Dudley Arends said he would welcome the disbandment of the management committee and the appointment of an administrator for the areas.

"We need the rot removed. We have been fighting corruption since our establishment in 1987 and are very glad that all our efforts over the years have come to fruition."

Mr Arends thanked the Johannesburg management committee for supporting the community.

The South-Western areas of Johannesburg include Coronationville, Newclare, Waterval Place, Boshand, Eldorado Park and extensions, Klippruit West, Riverlea and extensions, and Bushkoppies.
Call to prosecute five city council advisers

CRIMINAL and civil action should be considered against five members of the South Western Management Committee, Transvaal's MEC for local government, Mr Braam Latge, and this week.

The SWMC advises the Johannesburg city council on matters concerning coloured areas.

The proposed legal action concerns housing and rents in Eldorado Park.

After the findings of a commission of inquiry into the SWMC were released this week, Mr Latge said the executive committee of the Transvaal, which appointed the inquiry, believed "clean administration" was a necessity.

The executive committee resolved that:

- Matters concerning legal steps to have the five committee members dismissed.
- The chairman of the management committee of the Johannesburg city council should "tack off" the committee members about their unauthorised actions regarding a 1989 letter which advised residents not to pay increased rents.
- A follow-up report on the housing allotment submitted by the Johannesburg city council to the TPA.
- The city council should consider taking legal steps to have the five committee members dismissed.

Mrs M Mateman, Mr VA Thomas, Mr MA Rhampee, Mr SS Adams and Mr C Jacoby referred to the attorney-general for the institution of criminal proceedings.

The chairman of the Johannesburg city council said "tack off" the committee members about their unauthorised actions regarding a 1989 letter which advised residents not to pay increased rents.

A follow-up report on the housing allotment submitted by the Johannesburg city council to the TPA.

The city council should consider taking legal steps to have the five committee members dismissed.

The chairman of the Johannesburg city council said "tack off" the committee members about their unauthorised actions regarding a 1989 letter which advised residents not to pay increased rents.

A follow-up report on the housing allotment submitted by the Johannesburg city council to the TPA.

The city council should consider taking legal steps to have the five committee members dismissed.
Messina boycott ends as 3 quit

By ELIAS MALULEKE

The last three councillors of Nancefield township in Messina have finally bowed to pressure from residents and local bodies and resigned from the local authority, forcing it to collapse.

They are mayor Jimmy Chauke, deputy mayor I Singo and councillor Mashaba Thakga.

The council was accused of incompetence, maladministration and of doing nothing for the people of Nancefield.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration will now appoint an administrator in the township, a move which was hailed by residents, the ANC and the Messina Civic Association (Meca).

The resignation of the councillors also led to the ending of a two-week-old consumer boycott.

Meca spokesman Albert Luruli said the decision to call off the boycott was taken at a mass meeting on Monday after the TPA and the Messina Town Council met four of the six boycott demands.

These were the resignation of black councillors, the removal of a dumping ground in the township, withdrawal of charges against demonstrators and the reversal of plans to close a graveyard.

"The other two demands, namely the resignation of a white chief executive officer in the local council and the repeal of all restrictive by-laws, will be discussed with the TPA, and the town council as soon as possible," Luruli said.
Local authorities look to private firms to fight crime

As crime increases daily on the Reef, several security companies have proposed that they be contracted to patrol suburban streets at a small charge to the ratepayer.

The glossy presentations from the companies are at present being investigated by municipalities such as Johannesburg and Randburg – desperate to do something to curb serious crime.

Paramed is one such company which recently put forward a proposal to the Johannesburg City Council’s newly formed anti-crime committee which is investigating various suggestions to police the city’s streets.

Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said his council was also investigating using private security companies to patrol the streets.

Paramed proposes to control the crime rate in the suburbs at a cost of R15 per home by establishing a new company, to be called the Johannesburg Crime Prevention Service (JCPS).

Paramed says it would be able to put 1 000 men on the streets within 10 months in armed response units. The units would act as a back-up to police and all men would be required to become police reservists.

However, some rate-paying organisations are not waiting for their local authorities to come up with solutions and are approaching private security companies for discount security schemes.

Paramed managing director Mark Flemmer said his company had received many inquiries from ratepayers associations.

His company has entered into an agreement with the Killarney Ratepayers Association to provide security for the entire suburb.

“We are busy signing up all the bodies Corporates, which will collect the fees for us.”

“But to get everyone signed up for R15 a month is usually difficult. It is easy to do it in Killarney with 3 000 residents in a high density area.”

Mr Flemmer said there was a need for private security on a far wider scale.

Minister concerned about black councils

THEO RAWANA

THE financial problems of black local authorities, unemployment and urbanisation were areas of grave concern to the Provincial Affairs and National Housing Ministry, Minister Leon Wessels said in Soweto yesterday.

Wessels had accompanied Transvaal Administrator Dame Bough on a visit to the Soweto City Council to familiarise himself with Transvaal black townships.

"He said he had discussed these problems with TPA officials and consultancies and had met a number of people.

"What we are after is to present our impressions to Cabinet. The financial problems of the local authorities and how we deal with urbanisation have long been our overriding thoughts," Wessels said.

Asked for reaction on the recent decisions of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, which included approval of the transfer of 103,000 rented houses to residents on a full ownership basis, Wessels said the chamber's recommendations had not yet reached the Cabinet.

Soweto Mayor Alfred Nyathi asked government to help his council speed up the upgrading of hostels.

Nyathi said the 1990 Soweto Accord, which culminated in the creation of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, was the branch of the Soweto council.

Soweto, with an estimated population of 4 million people — including squatters — needed more trained personnel, and government might help financially in achieving that, Nyathi said.

Nyathi hinted that changes should be initiated from the bottom up to central government level, Sapa reports.
Pta service debt crisis is now R47-m

THE debt crisis flowing from arrear service fees in Pretoria's black townships has reached alarming proportions, with Mamelodi and Atteridgeville owing the Pretoria City Council and the Pretoria Regional Services Council a total of R47,46-million.

Results are that residents will be asked to pay higher service fees - with expected increases of as much as 35 percent - and that the RSC had "frozen" some projects planned in the two areas, as money budgeted for projects could be held back to repay loans.

A Pretoria City Council spokesman disclosed that Mamelodi owed the council R13,33-million for nine months of electricity supply, R2,92-million for five months of water supply and R3,13-million for nine months of sewerage service.

The spokesman said Atteridgeville owed the council R7,18-million for nine months of electricity supply, R1,73-million for six months of water supply and R1,77-million for 11 months of sewerage service.

In addition, the Pretoria RSC is owed R11-million by Mamelodi and R6,4-million by Atteridgeville for loans that paid arrear service fees to the Pretoria City Council in October last year, saving the two townships from bulk power cuts at the time.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Delport said neither Mamelodi nor Atteridgeville had paid their first repayment instalments of R4,2-million and R2,4-million respectively, which were due on October 31.

Representatives from Atteridgeville have been asked to agree to new "economic" service charges by yesterday. If this did not happen, the RSC said it would "seriously consider" whether to renew a guarantee for the payment of service fees to Pretoria after today.

Guarantee

Should the guarantee not be renewed, another cut in the bulk power supply to Atteridgeville could follow.

The RSC - who said the present "flat rate" of R75 a month was insufficient to pay for services - suggested Atteridgeville residents pay the same charges as residents of Pretoria, which would amount to a monthly average of R134.65 per household, if power and water are used sparingly.

A spokesman - who did not indicate what the tariffs would be - said residents had until today to submit objections in this regard.
No final decision on 13 'squatter camps'?

Staff Reporter

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has not taken a final decision on the reported arc of 13 "squatter camps" to be established in the northwestern PWV region, Administrator Danie Hough said yesterday.

All interested parties would have an opportunity to comment on the recommendation by the Community Development Branch of the TPA and make recommendations regarding the possible sites, he added. However, Mr Hough warned that existing communities in the urbanised area would have to show greater understanding and realism with regard to rapidly increasing urbanisation and homelessness.

The reported plan to establish the arc of squatter settlement around Johannesburg's white suburbs has been greeted by a storm of protest from the Civic Association of the Transvaal, the ANC, the Greenbelt Action Group, a Sandton town councillor and the Greater Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber (GWMC).

The ANC has accused the TPA of planning behind closed doors at a time when it and the Government formed part of a National Housing Forum.

Mr Hough has undertaken to take into account the interests of all interest groups, and a decision on the suggested development had been postponed until the first meeting of the TPA Executive Committee at the end of January 1992.

He said there were about 1.5 million homeless people in the PWV area, indicating a need for orderly settlement. "These people should be enabled to obtain permanency and to raise their standard of living."
Housing Minister visits Soweto

By Kasr Nyatsamba
Political Staff

Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels yesterday visited Soweto and some East Rand townships to acquaint himself with issues falling under his new portfolio.

Mr Wessels, who was a guest of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), told the Soweto Town Council the TPA had taken him to Soweto and the other townships so he could see things for himself and get to know people he would be dealing with.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough and some of his MECs, including John Mavuso, were in the entourage.

Mr Wessels, a former Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister, told Soweto councillors and council employees he had first visited Soweto 18 years ago as a student and had been to the township a number of times since then.

He said the negotiations which South African leaders were engaged in were "timeous", and expressed the hope that the talks would succeed.

"The spirit of peace and negotiations augurs well for all of us," he said.

"We have to bury the hatchet, leave the past and its baggage behind and live for the future."

Mr Wessels's first stop was Ivory Park outside Tembisa at 9 am, where he spent an hour before proceeding to Soweto.

In the afternoon he toured the East Rand townships of Vosloorus, Spruitview, Katlehong and Pola Park outside Tshwane, where he had tea with a squatters' committee. From there he drove to Johannesburg, where he had talks with the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

Soweto mayor Alfred Nyathi yesterday commended Mr Wessels for his visit to the township and said his council looked forward to a good relationship with the Minister.

Change, Mr Nyathi said, should begin at local level and continue through to national level.

He said his council would continue "to strive for the best services possible" for Soweto and to serve all the residents of the township.
ANC hits the roof at TPA's squatter plan

THE PWV region of the ANC said on Thursday it rejected the Transvaal Provincial Administration's plans for solving the housing crisis.

However, the TPA says it has not taken a final decision on the reported arc of 13 squatter camps to be established in the northwestern PWV region.

The TPA is considering establishing a string of villages, squatter camps in the PWV, are north of Krugersdorp, Randburg, Sandton, Roehoek, and other areas.

In a statement on Thursday, the ANC PWV region said the squatter locations were not designed to solve the housing problems, but to preempt the democratisation of local government.

"Thus it will lay the foundation for racially based metropolitan chambers which will ensure the creation of multiple federal, local and regional structures to reinforce white domination and privilege.

"The ANC PWV rejects this TPA unilateral urbanisation strategy and their current accelerated restructuring of local government in terms of the Interim Measures Act of 1991."

"These actions show quite clearly that the government is not committed to the creation of a non-racial and democratic society at both local and national levels."

The ANC said it rejected the creation of additional townsships away from the city centres but that they would not be economically viable and would merely increase transport costs for residents.

"The ANC PWV region, through its local and regional government commission, will seek an urgent meeting with the TPA.

"It will seek to challenge their initiative and demand that it halt its inhuman settlement strategy and enter into negotiations with the relevant democratic local and regional government structures.

"We also condemn the failure or neglect of the Government to subdue townsships that are unable to meet their electricity bills due to the abolition of single tax bases in order to force blacks to the homelands."

Rightwing leader Robert van Tonder accused the National Party administration of breaking "a holy undertaking of more than 50 years" by considering the establishment of squatter camps north of Randburg.

Van Tonder said since the "half-baked" scheme had been rumoured, the NP had lost the "little bit of support" it had in the areas "in totality.

Van Tonder has a large beef-farming concern in the area.

The Greenbelt Action Group (Gag) has welcomed the TPA move to defer the final decision on establishing an informal settlement, in Diepsloot, until next month.

In a statement, Gag said, that in a meeting with Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough, and senior TPA officials on Thursday, it was accepted that Gag would be involved in the planning and negotiation for the siting of informal settlements within the North Rand Greenbelt area from now on.

"We are pleased that the administrator and his senior officials accept that an action committee be formed to consider Greenbelt will be critical in deciding whether Johannesburg/Pretoria preserves a vital green lung for its future or destroys a natural resource than can never be retrieved," Digan said. Sapa
High rates, spending, crime tarnish for bike's image

[Image]
Vereeniging ignores threat, boycotts talks

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

Despite threats of retaliation, Vereeniging Town Council will not attend an urgent meeting of the Vaal Civic Association tomorrow to resolve the water and electricity crisis in local townships, Vereeniging management committee chairman Dr Mario Milani said last week.

Dr Milani was reacting to a statement by the Vaal Civic Association in which threats were levelled against neighbouring white town councils which fail to attend the meeting.

Contract

The meeting concerns the impending blackout in Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong and Bopatong due to non-payment of electricity accounts.

Addressing a press conference after the Vereeniging council’s monthly meeting last Thursday, Dr Milani said the council was not directly concerned with the electricity issue.

The council has a contract with Eskom which stipulates that Vereeniging supplies Sharpeville with electricity while Eskom pays the account and in turn recovers the money from residents.

The moment Eskom decided to stop paying, the council would disconnect the power supply.

Dr Milani stated that the council was not prepared to fork out one cent of ratepayers’ money to keep neighbouring black townships going.

He stressed this was not a racial decision, but that the town council’s budget was structured in such a way that it could not allow for an additional average monthly expenditure of R400 000 for Sharpeville’s water and lights bill.

Dr Milani also said that the council would not join the newly constituted Vaal Triangle negotiating forum, which is investigating the establishment of one non-racial democratic local government for the area.

“No white town council will contemplate joining the forum and accepting the liability of the chaos that reigns in the black townships today,” Dr Milani said.

“However, as the mother city of the Vaal Triangle, we are prepared to meet and talk with anyone, including the civic associations, and to be a facilitator or to offer help and advice in an attempt to solve some of their problems.”

Dr Milani said the council was not cold towards the human suffering and mystery that was taking place in the townships. But it could not understand why the black community could not get its house in order and elect the right people to represent them and their desires for a better community.
TPA unable to revive shabby Hillbrow areas

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has no authority to reverse the deterioration of residential areas and local residents must exercise the necessary control themselves, says Mr Dane Hough, Administrator of the Transvaal.

Hough was reacting to a question in an interview published in the latest issue of RSA Policy Review, an official government publication, whether the TPA intended controlling the deteriorating situation in areas such as Joubert Park and Hillbrow.

"Local governments are autonomous bodies and have the necessary powers to exert control in their own urban areas." 17/12/91

On the priorities of the latest budget for the Transvaal, Hough said R2.5 billion of the TPA's total budget of R5 billion had been allocated for health services.

"In this way the TPA wants to ensure that health services of an acceptable standard are available to particularly the less privileged people of the Transvaal." 17/12/91

In addition R1.4 billion was allocated for community services for social pensions and grants, intergovernmental grants to black local governments, subsidies to social welfare institutions and for the management of informal towns.

The settlement of squatters countrywide was stretching their resources to the limit, and the land which has already been identified was just enough to satisfy the current demand.

"All we can do is to buy informal town lands as fast as possible in those areas where the most urgent need exists and to establish towns there as soon as possible." - Sapa
Was the city centre murder?

Is Jo Pure, like the country, just in transition — or is it far worse, asks James Clarke.

By "open space" I am not talking of the Bank of Scotland headquarters on the corner of 11th August Street, which one would have thought would be a step in the right direction. The possibility of something more dynamic is there, but the building itself is a missed opportunity. What we need is a more dynamic approach to urban regeneration that takes into account the needs of both residents and businesses.

The city centre has long been in need of a facelift, but recent developments have left much to be desired. The council has been slow to act on proposals for improvement, and the current plans do not address the core issues.

The city's reputation is largely due to its history, but in recent years it has suffered from neglect. The city council needs to take a more proactive approach to urban renewal, and involve the community in the decision-making process.

Despite these challenges, there is hope for the future. With the right investment and planning, the city centre can be transformed into a vibrant and dynamic area.
Rockey St saga may go to ballot

VERA VON LERES

A PLANNED referendum on Yeoville's Rockey Street direction change involving 10,000 people would, it was hoped, set a precedent for future local government. Johannesburg city councillor Mark Sow using said yesterday.

Sow's proposal for a referendum still has to be approved by the council's management committee next month.

Considerable controversy has resulted over the recent traffic direction changes in the parallel Hunter and Rockey/Raleigh streets.

Sow said the proposed referendums was a first in that it was nonracial and would involve traders and residents. Despite this he had asked the management committee for a local referendum "so that residents and traders can decide whether to retain the new traffic directions or go back to the old arrangements."

Drawbacks to reversing the traffic directions included reviving old traffic flow problems, a resumption of heavier traffic flow through residential areas and a cost estimated at R109 000.

The project to revitalise and develop Yeoville would be completed by the end of May to give residents "a good overall picture" of the project. The referendum, if approved, would be scheduled for the end of May.

The referendum would be a first for Johannesburg in terms of promoting the idea of public participation in planning, said Sow.

Work on the Rockey/Raleigh Street Redevelopment project began earlier this year.

A number of traders opposed the road realignment, saying they had sacrificed a lot of time and money in business. However, the Yeoville Residents' Association was satisfied with the changes.
The commercial and industrial development of Aldershot Square, a 40-acre industrial development area in Midrand, will begin soon to address the imbalance of residential and commercial property and shopping facilities in the area. The project aims to create a diverse shopping and residential area in Midrand.
We'll decide soon - TPA

By ISAAC MOLEDI

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration will only decide next month whether to allocate land to squatters in 13 'sites' in the northwestern area of Johannesburg, according to Administrator Mr Dame Hough.

Hough was responding to reports that the TPA had already identified a site and-service development area for squatters in Diepsloot.

The ANC, the Greenbelt Action Group, developers and individuals have criticised the authorities for embarking on far-reaching housing schemes without consultation.

Hough said such a move could only be decided by TPA's executive committee at its meeting at the end of next month.

Proposals

Although negotiations and consultations had already taken place between the TPA and local organisations, the executive committee believed other interested parties should be given more time to submit their proposals, he said.

Among other people to be consulted are:

* Homeless people who are already settled in the area,
* The local authorities concerned, and
* Bodies representing land-owners including the Greenbelt Action Group.

Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber's physical planning committee would also be consulted, Hough said.

Although the TPA believed that people should be settled in an orderly manner as near to their places of work as possible, Hough warned that "not just any land" was suitable for housing.

During 1991/92 financial year, 14 678 even was developed and made available for housing. A further 43 904 even were presently in the development stage.

It is estimated that about 45 percent of all of South Africa's people live in the Transvaal and that just over 50 percent of all blacks live in this province.
A-G slates Jo’burg City Council over sanitation

By Louise Burgers Municipal Reporter

The failure of local authorities, such as the Johannesburg City Council, to enforce municipal bylaws made the job of promoting the law very difficult, Witwatersrand Attorney-General Klaus von Lieres said yesterday.

Mr von Lieres was speaking after he appeared on a radio talk-show during which he criticised the city council for not maintaining sanitation standards in the city.

"Local authorities — and everyone — have the responsibility to see that the law gets sufficient creditworthiness and credibility so that it can do what it is supposed to do."

He referred to Johannesburg’s filthy streets and pavements and said the lack of standards pointed to the Johannesburg City Council’s failure to enforce its sanitation bylaws.

"Through that type of acquiescence, the impression is given that some things are acceptable when they are not. The passive attitude of the city council makes my task of promoting the law more difficult."

Johannesburg management committee member Cecil Bass denied the council had a passive attitude and said they did the best they could with the limited resources at their disposal.

"To a certain extent I have to agree with Mr von Lieres in that we find it difficult to enforce all our bylaws all the time. Littering and dumping is epidemic in this city."

"We do have law enforcement officers pursuing illegal dumping, but we find it impossible to patrol a city the size of Johannesburg 24 hours a day. We don’t have the manpower."

Mr Bass said it was extremely dangerous in some cases for inspectors to fine people caught littering in the street because some had been assaulted.

"Very often when we do bring people to court, magistrates throw the cases out on technicalities and our staff are tied up for days as the legal system grinds along," Mr Bass said.

Litter piles up in Johannesburg yesterday . . . the dirty streets are a sign that the council is not doing its job properly, it is claimed. Picture: Joao Silva